

# How to Replace a Toilet: The Homeowner's Survival Guide

Replacing a toilet is a common plumbing task that any homeowner can tackle with the right instructions. This guide will walk you through the entire process, from choosing the right toilet to installing it correctly.

The first step in replacing a toilet is to choose the right one. There are many different types of toilets available, so it's important to do your research and find one that meets your needs.

Here are a few things to consider when choosing a toilet:



## How To Replace a Toilet - A Homeowner's Survival Guide by Dwayne Haskell

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- **Size:** Toilets come in a variety of sizes, so it's important to measure your bathroom space before you start shopping. You'll need to make sure that the new toilet will fit in the space and that there will be enough room to move around it.

- **Shape:** Toilets also come in a variety of shapes, including round, oval, and square. Choose a shape that will complement the style of your bathroom.
- **Height:** Toilets come in two different heights: standard and comfort. Standard toilets are 15 inches high, while comfort toilets are 17 inches high. Choose a height that will be comfortable for you to use.
- **Features:** Toilets come with a variety of features, such as dual flush, soft close seat, and heated seat. Decide which features are important to you and choose a toilet that has them.

Once you've chosen a new toilet, you'll need to gather the following tools and materials:

- Adjustable wrench
- Plumber's putty
- Hacksaw
- Toilet flange wax ring
- New toilet
- Toilet seat
- Measuring tape
- Level

Now that you have all of the necessary tools and materials, you're ready to start replacing your toilet. Follow these step-by-step instructions:

1. **Turn off the water supply to the toilet.** This is usually done by turning the valve located behind the toilet.
2. **Flush the toilet to empty the tank.**
3. **Disconnect the water supply line from the toilet.** Use an adjustable wrench to loosen the nuts that connect the line to the toilet.
4. **Remove the old toilet.** To do this, you'll need to first remove the nuts that hold the toilet to the floor. Once the nuts are removed, you can carefully lift the toilet off of the flange.
5. **Clean the toilet flange.** Once the old toilet is removed, you'll need to clean the toilet flange. This can be done with a scrub brush and some cleaner.
6. **Apply plumber's putty to the toilet flange.** This will help to create a seal between the toilet and the flange.
7. **Install the wax ring on the toilet.** The wax ring is a donut-shaped seal that fits around the base of the toilet.
8. **Set the new toilet on the flange.** Carefully lift the new toilet and set it down on the flange. Be sure to align the toilet so that the bolts line up with the holes in the flange.
9. **Tighten the nuts that hold the toilet to the floor.** Use an adjustable wrench to tighten the nuts until the toilet is secure.
10. **Reconnect the water supply line to the toilet.** Use an adjustable wrench to tighten the nuts that connect the line to the toilet.
11. **Turn on the water supply to the toilet.** Check for leaks around the base of the toilet.

12. **Install the toilet seat.** To do this, simply line up the holes in the seat with the bolts on the toilet.

If you encounter any problems while replacing your toilet, here are a few troubleshooting tips:

- **The toilet is leaking.** If the toilet is leaking from around the base, you may need to tighten the nuts that hold the toilet to the floor. You may also need to replace the wax ring.
- **The toilet is wobbly.** If the toilet is wobbly, you may need to shim it. To do this, insert a small piece of wood or plastic between the toilet and the floor.
- **The toilet is not flushing properly.** If the toilet is not flushing properly, you may need to adjust the water level in the tank. You can do this by adjusting the fill valve.

Replacing a toilet is a relatively simple plumbing task that any homeowner can tackle with the right instructions. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can save yourself the cost of hiring a plumber.



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