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Dare To Repair: A Do-it-Herself Guide To Fixing (Almost) Anything In The Home



Synopsis

This is NOT your father's home repair book! And it's not your husband's, your brother's, your boyfriend's, or the guy's next door. Dare to Repair is a do-it-yourself book for every woman who would rather be self-reliant than rely on a super or contractor. No matter the depth of your pockets or the size of your home, a toilet will get clogged, a circuit breaker will trip, and a smoke detector will stop working. It's up to you how you'll deal with them -- live in denial, pay the piper, or get real and do it yourself. Dare to Repair demystifies these home repairs by providing information that other books leave out. In Dare to Repair, you'll learn how to: Take the plunge -- from fixing a leaky faucet to cleaning the gutters. Lighten up -- from removing a broken light bulb to installing a dimmer switch. Keep your cool -- from maintaining a refrigerator's gasket to changing the rotation of a ceiling fan. Get a handle on it -- from replacing a doorknob to repairing a broken window. Play it safe -- from planning a fire escape route to installing a smoke detector. Filled with detailed illustrations, Dare to Repair provides even the most repair-challenged woman with the ability to successfully fix things around the home. Once you start, you won't want to stop.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Whether you identify with riot grrrls or Rosie the Riveter, you'll love the tackle-it-yourself empowerment style of Dare to Repair. Covering simple tasks like unclogging bathroom sinks and switching directions on a ceiling fan along with more intimidating projects such as patching holes in

drywall or creating a circuit map, this no-nonsense guide will walk you through those simple steps of maintaining, and perhaps even improving, your home. Forget about Martha and her hot-glue-gun projects--this is about drain snakes, electrical tape, and the kind of screwdrivers you can't order from a bartender. Authors Julie Sussman and Stephanie Glakas-Tenet mix goofy "Your fridge is running? Better catch it!" jokes with a very matter-of-fact tone that assumes from the start you're woman enough for the job. Sections are arranged by general category (electricity, plumbing, etc.), and every entry is accompanied by clear illustrations of items and processes. For women who live alone or are starting up a business, this is a serious money-saving guide; for those of us with roommates, there's no quicker way to impress than to whip out your toolbox and get down to business. --Jill Lightner

Owing to choice or happenstance, many women don't have men around to repair things, and even if they do there is no guarantee that the man isn't a complete bonehead when it comes to fixing things. Sussman and Glakas-Tenet, both wives of CIA employees who were never around to help with household problems, show women how to perform a number of the most common repairs, including unclogging drains and toilets, replacing electrical switches and outlets, leveling appliances, lighting pilot lights, unsticking windows, and installing a door peephole. The authors assume that the reader is a complete newcomer to home repair, so everything is explained in detail (down to what tools to use), but the tone is never condescending. The very readable text is supplemented by black-and-white drawings. This is a wonderful book that should be purchased by every public library. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

My mother was the sort of woman who could fix almost anything, or at least attempt the project. Her father was an electrician, and he taught her all about things to do with electricity. She was also good at plumbing, painting, wallpapering, sewing, cooking, baking and on and on. Baking and cooking I can do well, painting is OK, wallpapering is so so. The rest not so much. As the mother of three with no father in the house, I was at a loss on fixers. I would envy my brother or father, until my brothers moved away and my father became too one to assist. So, until my son was old enough to help, I was on my own. I took several classes but not in home repair, what I needed was the basics. I purchased this book. I have always felt if you can read you can do anything, well, almost. This is a great guide for basics in fixing. I have used it numerous times. I find the writing is clear, concise and helpful. The pictures that accompany the chapters are quite fine. They outline the process involved, and that is what is needed. I would recommend that this book or one like it be given to

every woman as a graduation gift, or as a gift anytime. Recommended. prisrob 06-06-15

I picked this book up after reading the *Dare To Repair Your Car: A Do-It-Herself Guide to Maintenance, Safety, Minor Fix-Its, and Talking Shop* which was pretty fantastic. This book is in the same vein. It's very accessible, written in a friendly style and has plenty of pictures along with explanations. I tried paging through some other books in the "Do It Yourself" genre but most were either too technical, the size of the phone book, assumed you already know all these "tricks" that no one ever showed me, or didn't have any pictures - which is absurd. It's kind of tough to figure out what a "Clevis Screw" is without a picture. This book is the real deal. I already fixed my sink and toilet more than once. It's straight forward and it covers things like toilets, sinks, bathtubs, major appliances, minor electrical, and all the stuff that's bound to give you trouble at one point or another. The authors know what they're talking about without showing it off like many of these books' authors do. I'm a guy too, so if you're one don't be discouraged by the cover or the "female-oriented" slant. It doesn't talk about feminine hygiene or anything. It's a really, really good book, regardless of whether you wear boxers or panties.

I have to say that this is a great book for anyone who has just purchased their first home. If you are in a position where you have no one to depend on but yourself, get a copy. Although, a reviewer did pan the book, stating that it gave instructions on how to change a bulb, this is not the whole truth-the bulb that they are referring to in the book, is in your gas or electric oven-big difference. It gives details on how to ignite a pilot light on a water heater safely-(which, unfortunately, I have had to do twice)- and several other things that you may not even think about until it is too late. Better to buy the book, and familiarize yourself. Do you know how to shut off your gas supply in an emergency, or repair a leaking water tank on a Sunday, or worse, in the middle of the night? Where is your toolbox? Do you even have a tool box? I admit, I didn't even consider these things before. Buying a house for the first time, most of us are knee deep in carpet samples, decorating books, and paint chips-and most of us don't focus on gas leaks, frozen pipes, broken toilets, clogged showers, or loss of hot water. Like a good scout, BE PREPARED!

I bought this book for myself but now it has become a "go-to" house warming gift for friends and family members purchasing their first home. It's written in a plain-English, easy to understand format, simple instructions and good guidance on what tools and supplies you need to assemble before you begin. I like its encouraging introduction to demystify basic home repairs and have used

it multiple times myself.

Gave this to my girlfriend as a random gift. She didn't look too surprised when I handed it to her, but then again she really isn't the type to go and fix things herself. I'm hoping to change that, and it looks to be working, albeit SLOWLY. She's asking for her own pink tool set now which seems like a good start. I'm sure she'll read the book in its entirety someday and put it to good use, but as of now she's too fixated on gym and Zumba. She did mention that the book was entertaining and she liked it. I took a glance at it and noticed that it's well written and entertaining. There are pictures there explaining the who, what, where, when, why, and how of projects or repairs. It's actually broken down into a decent structure so if you need to access something right away you're able to without much hassle. Aside from this book being directed at women, a guy could actually find themselves useful helping the wife or girlfriend around the house fixing things if they didn't know where to start.

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