



New Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual

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The most complete and authoritative home repair manual ever published, this book is the yardstick by which all other books on do-it-yourself are measured. The definitive guide to home repair, maintenance, and improvement. Over 4,000 illustrations.

New Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual Details

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From Reader Review New Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual for online ebook

Kenneth Thompson says

how do read this book?

Foxtower says

This book provides possible solutions to many problems around the home, or in my case, the farm. I enjoy the clear illustrations with labels that help me understand the principals and helped me communicate my needs at the hardware store. Many of the techniques and materials discussed are hopelessly outdated and often not even available, though I've often learned that the "new and improved" methods in the modern home improvement stores are often just more expensive and not really any better.

The principals illustrated are sound. For example, after the mason I hired left me with leaky chimney flashing, I removed the "new and improved" mess he made and adapted the flashing system recommended in this book. Using locally available lead instead of ridiculously expensive copper as presented in this book worked fine, and since I understood the principal of the system the problem was solved, much to the masons embarrassment!

Nathanial says

tables with labels, step-by-step photographs (with lots of close-ups of hands wielding tools), and technical lingo galore.

Ashley says

Love love love this book! Thanks to Dad and Karen for the fabulously helpful manual on all things home related...

Halina says

This book really gives you almost everything you need to know.

Ij says

This is a great book for DIYers. I have owned the book for over thirty (30) years, and still use it. I am sure

there is a newer version and also plenty of on-site information.

James Lan says

washing machine

Chris says

1.5 stars. This book isn't very helpful for those of us who are completely unhandy and unfamiliar with the basics - I think caulking got a couple sentences at most. I've had far better luck getting the sort of detailed info I need from googling. (Apparently painters tape is the secret to professional looking caulking - I'm glad I found that tip, or I'd probably be sitting in my disastrously caulked tub in tears right now.)

Kate says

i don't really have the new copy. i have the old one. it is super-fantastico.

Katherine says

Have the hardbound version full of images and drawings. This looks complete but not for a modern house.

Karin says

All through my childhood, I can recall my father using this manual to build, repair and fix things around our houses from NY to IL. We had what I think is the original printing from 1973. When I bought my first condo in 1993, there were many times that I almost purchased one for myself, but just never did. Imagine my delight when I came home from work one day about a year ago and what was sitting on top of a bunch of stuff that someone left by the recycle bin? Yep, you guessed it - a prized - almost mint condition - 1973 copy! Score!!!! Needless to say, I recommend this manual for all homeowners!

Chava says

This manual teaches about plumbing, electricity, and how to repair things. Most useful, however the part I like the best is the how to make stuff chapter at the back of the book. Need a sofa, kitchen table with chairs, rolling file cabinet, tea tray, brick barbecue? The book tells you how to make these things and more, and has instructive photographs. It's amazing!

Personally, I couldn't master even the tea tray, but I enjoy imagining I could. None of the projects feature a lot of ornamentation; the designs are very clean, like the sort of furniture one would find in a Frank Lloyd Wright house. Very nice!

Nick says

My favorite!

Tricia says

The one section I needed iddn't feel like it gave me the information that would be useful, but otherwise it seemed very comprehensive (though perhaps not as good a fit as Collins). Some sections seemed a bit like they were babying too much while others were pushing me to rewire my entire house. The CD seemed a bit pointless and very slow moving with not enough detail.

Kevin Kosters says

Found it to be nothing more than nostalgic. Contents were often unhelpful and better information can be found online.
