Home Improvement / Home Repair Index

- **10 Tricks to remove that Stuck, Seized, or Stripped Bolt/Nut** - Stuck hardware occurs when a bolt or nut gets corrosion between the threads and they won't budge. Many times this leads to breaking the bolt off and having to drill and retap the hold or trying to remove it with a bolt extractor.
- **411HomeRepair** - Answers and tips on home improvements and selecting contractors.
- **5min Life Videopedia** - Instructional videos and DIY projects.
- **About.com: Home Repair** - Directory to home repair sites. Offers appliance parts for washers, dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, ranges, stoves, and more.
- **AJ Madison** - Appliances.
- **Allplans** - Thousands of house plans by top designers and architects.
- **American Woodworker** - How to woodworking, wood working projects, tools and equipment.
- **Apartment Therapy** - Connect people to the resources they need to improve their living spaces.
- **Appliance Parts From PartSelect** - The easy way to find the right part for your appliance.
- **Appliance411** - Appliance purchasing, service and repair parts information center.
- **Appliances Connection** - Shop online for home appliances and kitchen appliances.
- **ASIhome** - Home theater, telephones and intercoms, home security, heating and cooling, outdoor and garage, lighting and appliance control, home networking, whole house control, tools, books, projects.
- **Ask the Builder (Tim Carter)** - Home improvement tips and weekly newsletter.
- **autokitchen** - A comprehensive cabinet, appliance and accessory based CAD design application that features thousands of textures and finishes. Highly detailed floor plans, drawn to scale with measurements will show how the floor space is being used, whilst elevation drawings will show how the wall space is being used. With autokitchen both of these design elements are produced to Architect standard, either as black on white line drawings or as colour shaded 2D layouts. HD 3D rendered images are of premium quality and not only show how the finished project will look, but as close to real life as possible.
- **Benjamin Moore** - High-quality paints and finishes.
- **Baker's Chem-Dry** - Carpet cleaning San Francisco Metro area. Fast drying in 2 hours or less. Environmentally friendly cleaning solutions, safe for your family and pets. Location: 1664 Market St. (between Page St & 12th St), San Francisco, CA 94102. PH: (415) 347-3286.
- **Berenson** - Decorative hardware, cabinet knobs, cabinet pulls, appliance pulls, cabinet latches, cabinet handles.
- **Berkey Filters** - Provides water bourne contamination removal thru water filters used worldwide.
- **Better Homes and Gardens (BH&G)** - Home repair remodeling, kitchen planning, landscaping.
Bob Vila - Resource for all your home improvement projects.
Brett’s Bathtub Resurfacing Co. - Bathtub, tile, sink refinishing.
BSC Culinary Resource - Appliances, kitchen plumbing, culinary education.
BuilderDirectory - Find home builder, home improvement, contractor, floor plans, manufactured and custom homes.
Building and Construction Codes (SF) - Codes currently in effect in San Francisco, California.
Building Codes Online (MAD CAD at McGraw Hill) - A subscription based reference database containing building codes, knowledge-based design solutions and guidelines. Access collections of building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, fire, and maintenance codes from BOCA, SBCCI, ICBO, ICC, and NFPA.
California Building Code - Also see City and County of San Francisco: Codes.
Canadian Home Workshop - Magazine inspiring woodworkers and DIYers with project ideas and plans, shop tips and techniques, and practical renovation and home maintenance information.
Canadian Homebuilders’ Association (CHBA) - Voice of Canada's residential construction industry.
CG Appliance Express - Home appliance store.
Cleaning House
- A Quicker Way to Clean House - Tricks to get the job done from Woman's Day.
- Clean Green - This article presents options for avoiding home cleaning products that are toxic and harmful to the environment. Includes recipes for general cleaners, laundry soap, bathroom and kitchen cleaners, carpet deodorizers, stain removers, furniture polish, and other household cleaning products. Also provides a listing of ingredients for alternative cleaners, shopping tips and other less-toxic household tips, and information in Spanish. From Metro Regional Government, Portland, Oregon.
- Cleaning 101 - This collection of articles offers basic tips and tricks to get the entire house sparkling, from quick cleaning strategies to supplies to stock. Features ideas for deep cleaning, keeping living areas clean longer, and how to fake a clean house. Also includes a daily cleaning checklist, video on window cleaning, and links to related cleaning articles. From the website for Real Simple magazine.
- Fifty-three Innovative Tips For Successful House Cleaning
- Home Speed-Cleaning Guide - From Good Housekeeping.
- House Cleaning Checklist - From Molly Maid.
- How to Clean a House - From WikiHow.
- How to Clean Your House in 20 Minutes a Day for 30 Days - From Apartment Therapy.
Contractor Nexus - Free service brokering contractor services throughout the U.S.
CornerHardware - A leading online retailer of home improvement goods and services.
CostHelper - Information on how much various home and garden goods and services should cost.
Country Building Directory - Find websites full of simple country home, barn, cabin, cottage, garage, farm house, shed, playhouse and garden building plans, kits, building guide books, software and helpful resources.
Custom Electronic Design and Installation Association (CEDIA) - An international trade association of companies specializing in planning and installing electronic systems for the home - typically media rooms, single or multi-room entertainment systems, home automation and communication systems, and integrated whole-house subsystems providing control of lighting, security and HVAC systems.
Demco - More than 50,000 products including security labels, removable adhesive shelf label holders, book carts and library furniture.
Demesne - Home owner resource; home improvement and maintenance.
Design It Yourself (DIYonline) - Use DIYs design tools to plan and customize your project.
DeWALT DWHT20547 5 in1 Multifunction Hacksaw - Has a 45° or 90° blade angle used for standard and flush cuts. The high tension securely holds the blade up to 330lbs. It has a low profile for cutting in tight spaces. The blade attaches to the front frame for long reach. The front handle becomes a jab saw. Also see this YouTube demo.
Direct Door Hardware - Door and cabinet hardware from Emtek, Schlage and other major brands. A complete selection from doorknobs to hinges.
Discount Builders Supply - Kitchens and appliances, doors and windows, home decor, electrical, flooring, hardware, lawn and garden, lumber and building materials, paint, plumbing, tools.
DIY (Do It Yourself Network) - How-to projects with step-by-step directions.
Do I Need a Kitchen Range Hood? - For many homes and apartments it is out of proportion to the space and practically useless.
Do It Yourself Home Improvement and Repair - Home improvement how-to information and home repair tips; community forums hosted by experts; links to other sites for more information.
- Do It Yourself Network - Provides in-depth project instructions, easy to understand demonstrations and product tips for home and hobby enthusiasts. Projects range from home improvement, home building, gardening and landscaping to automotive, boating, crafts and hobbies.

- Earth Friendly Products - Earth Friendly Products has international distribution of a retail line of over 60 household products, an industrial/bulk Pro-Line of over 25 products, and a Natural Pet Care Line of 16 items. Its products are readily biodegradable, non-toxic, free of phosphates, and have a neutral pH.

- Eight Qualities to Look for in a Shower Curtain Liner - From Do It Yourself. Also see How to Stop Your Shower Curtain From Blowing In.

- Eurostoves - Refrigerators, ranges, dishwasher, wall ovens, kitchenware, housewares, knife sharpening and more.

- Everything You Need to Know About Ventilation - What you need to know before making the right decision about a kitchen ventilation system for your home.

- Extend Electrical Outlet - How to install electrical outlets.

- EZ Brite - Products for cleaning cookware, cook tops and cooking surface.

- Family Handyman - Home improvement information and new ideas.

- Far West Millwork - Fine woodworking. Manufactures solid wood custom doors and windows, furniture, cabinetry, and special woodwork projects in the S.F. Bay Area.

- Fiber Optic Lighting by Del Lighting - Designs fiber optic lighting systems for commercial lighting, accent lighting, starfields, landscape or pool lighting.

- Fire Extinguisher - Wikipedia backgrounder.

- Fishing Electrical Wire Through Walls - How to run electrical cable through walls and across ceilings without tearing them apart.

- Fix-It 101: The Fix-It Literacy Guide - Provided by HomeAdvisor.

- Floorcraft - San Francisco home improvement center. Custom cabinets, appliances, vinyl, tile, hardwood flooring, granite countertops and more.

- GardenWeb: Home Forums - The GardenWeb Home Forums comprise one of the largest communities of home related interests on the Internet. Whether you're a home buyer, an antique collector, or a renovator, here you will find like-minded people and friendly discussions.

- Gazebo & Deck Building - Gazebo and deck building, design, and construction information.

- Gerber Online - Plumbing fixture company.

- Get Cozy - Hard to find comfort and energy management products chosen by expert heating and cooling experts for effectiveness and efficiency.

- Goedeker's - Ranges or stoves for your kitchen.

- Gourmet Appliance - Kitchen appliances, ovens service and repair shop for San Francisco Bay Area.

- Green Building Advisor - Resource for designing, building and remodeling green homes.

- Green Your Spring Cleaning - This tip sheet offers ideas for environmentally responsible house cleaning, such as using old clothing and sheets for dust rags, avoiding cleaners that contain phosphates, and replacing mothballs with a more natural alternative. Includes links to a related article on making your own nontoxic cleaning products and to cleaning product listings in a screened green business directory. From Green America (formerly Co-op America), a nonprofit membership organization.

- GreenHomeGuide - Features a "combination of tips, case studies, expert Q&A articles and regional directories of products and services." Browse by area or feature of the home, such as bathrooms or flooring. Product directory (covering San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, and New York City) contains a detailed description of the process of selecting and approving products for the directory, noting "only a minority of products are approved." From the U.S. Green Building Council.

- Guide to Common Kitchen Cabinet Sizes - Unless you are dealing with custom kitchen cabinetry--which can have any dimensions--you will find lower prices and predictable sizing in stock or semi-custom kitchen cabinets. Lee Wallender describes the basic sizing factors.

- Handyman USA - Home improvement information, plans and advice.

- Hardware Hut - Featuring a large variety of decorative hardware and builders hardware for most any application: cabinet hardware, door hardware, bath hardware, kitchen organizers, drawer organizers, cabinet hinges, knobs, pulls, drawer slides, hinges, and more.

- Hardwood Information Center - Source for articles and information about North American hardwoods, flooring, furniture, millwork, moulding, refinishing, kitchen cabinetry, and use throughout the home.

- Home Alarm Security Systems Monitoring - Get information on fire, intruder and burglar alarms, including...
- **Home Depot** - World's largest home improvement retailer, with over 900 stores in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Chile.
- **Home Maintenance Calendar and Checklist** - Monthly checklists for home maintenance.
- **Home Plans, House Plans, Floor Plans Search** - A directory of home plan sources online.
- **HomeAdvisor** - Free tools and resources for home improvement, repair and maintenance projects. Also, find home improvement professionals.
- **HomePortfolio** - Choose your favorite home design products and organize them into a *Personal Portfolio* - an online scrapbook that makes it easy to communicate with your spouse, builder, architect, or designer.
- **Homes and Gardens** - Britain's best-known glossy interiors magazine, featuring beautiful houses and gardens, inspiring decorating ideas, interior styles, designers and decorators, unusual shops and the latest buys for your home and garden.
- **Homestore** - A leading destination for home and real estate-related information on the Internet.
- **Hoods You Can Trust** - When you can't just rely on open windows or an old recirculating vent to keep kitchen air clean. Also see *Makeup Air for Range Hoods*.
- **House Beautiful** - Decorating advice.
- **Household Home and Cleaning Solution Brands**
  - Gala
  - O'Cedar
  - Swash
  - Vileda
- **Household Personal Services**
  - **Blue Apron** - Delivers to you all the ingredients you need to make a delicious meal in exactly the right proportions.
  - **Handy** - Book home cleaners and handymen services.
  - **Minibar Delivery** - Wine, spirits, beer, and mixers - available for delivery in 30 to 60 minutes.
  - **Munchery** - Chefs from top restaurant kitchens put dinner on your table. Choose from main dishes, sides, salads, desserts and drinks. Menus change daily.
  - **Washio** - Dry cleaning and laundry service.
- **Houseplans by allplans** - Features a large selection of home plans and floor plans from designers and architects.
- **How Many Watts Do You Need?** - Appliance power usage chart.
- **How to Add an Electrical Outlet to a Wall** - With the right planning and safety precautions, running wire from a power source to a new outlet doesn't need to take more than a couple of hours. Learn to plan the job properly, run wire safely, and test your project to make sure it's secure.
- **How to Clean a Coffee Maker** - Drip filter coffee makers need to be cleaned monthly to remove hard water deposits (scale), leftover coffee oils that become rancid, and other impurities. Washing the pot just isn't going to cut it: what about the internal components? Follow these steps to clean your coffee maker through and through and you'll taste the difference.
- **How to Clean a TV Screen** - Includes a sampling of the warnings and techniques prescribed in various HDTV owner's manuals.
- **How to Clean Anything** - Cleaning tips on how to remove stains from carpets, laundry, clothes, and around the house.
- **How to Clean Things** - Harmful chemicals and inorganic solvents are no longer needed to clean things. In fact, they never were. Baking soda, lemon juice, citric acid, and vinegar are just a few of the natural household products we use. Helps you clean things with clearly illustrated, well written articles that will convince you to throw away those toxic cleaning solutions and help build momentum toward a cleaner, greener world.
- **How to Hang Picture Frames With Two Hooks** - Hanging frames on the wall is relatively straightforward unless you are dealing with something tricky like plaster or concrete. It can however, become quite complicated when faced with a frame that has not one, but two hooks on the back. Follow these few easy steps and you'll be able to hang pictures successfully on the first try.
- **How to Install a Range Hood** - From *WikiHow*.
- **How to Paint over Enamel Paint on Your Walls** - From *DoItYourself*.
- **How to Shorten a Door** - Video by Matt Weber.
- **ImproveNet** - Find a contractor, architect, designer or other home improvement professionals.
Install Track Lighting - Tips from Lowe's.
Institute for Appropriate Technology: The Tool Kit - How-to resources for rural living and self-reliance.
International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) - Works in concert with government and industry to implement comprehensive plumbing and mechanical systems and standardized codes around the world. For instance:
- 2013 California Mechanical Code
- 2013 California Plumbing Code
- Uniform Mechanical Code
- Uniform Plumbing Code
Italian Plaster Wall Treatment - At Houzz.
Kitchens - Kitchen remodeling and design.
KitchenSource - Online retailer of kitchen, bathroom, patio and home accessories.
Kyle Switch Plates - Switch plates, wall plates, outlet covers, light switch covers, electrical switches, electrical outlets.
La Collectiva - A worker-run house cleaning collective.
Lehman’s - Amish hardware store selling low tech items in a high tech world.
Liebherr - Refrigerator and freezers.
Light Guides - The Light Guide Series provides basic information about lighting concepts, design, technology and policy issues. The intent is to give users fundamental principles and general background on key lighting topics. For more in-depth discussion of these and other lighting topics, use the Resource links for projects, articles and books on the Lightsearch.com homepage.
Lighting Resource - Over 3,000 pages of detailed lighting and lighting related product profiles and resources from indoor & outdoor lighting manufacturers profiled by The Lighting Center. New industry introductions profiled in The Gallery, photometric data, lighting design software, lighting maintenance, design tips, and more.
Lightsearch - Provides lighting industry searches for lighting companies, manufacturers, products, designers, lamps, bulbs, fixtures, controls, dimmers, luminaires, ballasts, components, and software.
Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse - Lowe's caters to the Do-It-Yourselfer," as well the commercial business customer, stocking more than 40,000 home improvement items ranging from lumber and tools to appliances and fashionable home decor items.
MaidServices - Resource for cleaning tips, cost guides, and more.
Nanz - Makers of exquisite door hardware suited to both traditional and modern interiors.
National Fire Protection Association (NFPA): Codes and Standards - NFPA develops, publishes, and disseminates more than 300 consensus codes and standards intended to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other risks. Virtually every building, process, service, design, and installation in society today is affected by NFPA documents.
National Home Improvement Council (NHIC-UK) - Represents companies and organisations working in the home improvement sector. Believes in higher standards of materials and workmanship, backing this with codes of practice, guarantees, and warranties.
NePalo Cabinetmakers - Specializes in designing and hand-crafting high quality custom wood furniture, built-ins and cabinetry to address your individual home and office needs. Located at 4328 Redwood Highway 400, San Rafael, California 94903. Phone: (415) 491-1403. Email: info@nepalo.com. Contact: Aaron Weinstock.
Next Step Remodeling - Free service helps you get the home contractors, remodelers, and service pros you need to get the job done right.
Nickel Pulls - Nickel cabinet hardware.
No Jolt - Residential electrical wiring simplified.
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA) - Information on taking energy-saving measures to insulate your home.
Old House Journal - Provides practical content on the how-to of renovation, restoration, and preservation for homeowners and professionals. Content includes a complete guide to restoration products and services, active chat boards, old-house real estate ads, classified ads for old-house items, historic house plans, preservation how-to, links to leading restoration trade shows, and recent editorial from the magazine itself.
OOK - Professional picture hanging hardware.
Organize Books, Cds and DVDs - Create a personal library system.
Painted Surface - Online guide covering tools, painting tips, painting techniques, color, paint, preparation and...
painting methods needed for home improvement projects.

- PartSelect - Find the right part for your appliance.
- Pest Helpers - Find a pest control company near you. Compare different providers. Get information on DIY pest control for various rodents and insects.
- Plessers - Appliances and electronics.
- Porch - Home improvement network.
- Preventing Electrical Overloads - Circuit breakers, overloads and your electrical system.
- Quality Craftsman Cabinets - One of the very few cabinetry shops left in the City of San Francisco.

Range Hoods
- Abbaka
- Broan-Nu-Tone
- Elica
- Faber
- Gaggenau
- KitchenAid
- Luftig
- Rangecraft
- Vent-A-Hood

Ranges and Cooktops
- Bertazzoni
- BlueStar - Also see BlueStar service videos.
- La Cornue
- Miele
- Thermador
- Viking
- Wolf

Referwork - Improvement resource for remodeling projects and doing repairs on your home with DIY ideas, cost factors, tips and articles. Also see:
- Labor & Materials Cost Guides
- Services/Installation Cost Calculators


RepairClinic - Appliance parts and repair tips.

San Francisco Services: Remodeling and Construction / Maintenance and Repair
- Benjamin Shaw - General Contractor
- Dynaforce Electric Company
- McCartney Painting Company
- Modamas Inc. Fine Painting
- Pipeline Plumbing
- Teevan

Senior-Friendly Remodeling - Advice from HomeAdvisor.

Shed Plans & Building Kits - Find the perfect new storage shed, tool shed, tractor garage or garden shed for your backyard with the sheds, shed plans and building kits on these websites.

Stain Removal Guide - Expert advice on removing all types of stains.

Table Cloth Size Calculator - You need to measure the width and length of your table as well as the drop. The width is the shortest measurement. To determine the drop measurement, place a sheet or other draping object on your table and allow it to hang to where you like the look. You can then measure from the table top down to the bottom of the drape to get your drop measurement. Make sure all measurements get rounded to the nearest whole number. Also see: Buying the Right Tablecloth Fabric.

TechShop - A membership-based workshop that provides members with access to tools and equipment, instruction, and a community of creative and supportive people so they can build the things they have always wanted to make.

This Old House - The Emmy Award winning This Old House is the PBS's premier home improvement series. The show demystifies the home improvement process and while celebrating the fusion of old world craftsmanship and modern technology.

Tips for Installing Shelf Supports - Drilling shelf-support holes is not difficult, but you only get one chance
Top 10 Range Hood Installation Mistakes - Plenty of things could go wrong during the installation process. Fortunately, these mistakes are easily avoidable.

- **Warmair** - Air conditioning and heating topics and tools.
- **WCL** - Specializes in reliable low-cost, engineered high-performance fasteners, fittings, plastic components, washers, nuts, and a wide array of fastener components.
- **Whole Earth Catalog** - The *Whole Earth Catalog* was an American counterculture catalog published by **Stewart Brand** between 1968 and 1972, and occasionally thereafter, until 1998. Although the WECs listed all sorts of products for sale (clothing, books, tools, machines, seeds - things useful for a creative or self-sustainable lifestyle) the *Whole Earth Catalogs* themselves did not sell any of the products. Instead the vendors and their prices were listed right alongside with the items. See [Wikipedia article](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whole_Earth_Catalog). Archives now available online.
- **Wood Samples** - A selection of the most popular and classic woods. Also see Wikipedia's [List of Woods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_woods).
- **Wood Stock Supply** - Wholesale supplier for lumber, cabinetry, decorative hardware, furniture, hinges, and more.
- **WoodNet** - Woodworker's online resource.
- **Woodworkbasics** - A guide to all things woodworking, including joints, finishes, tips, tools and more.
- **Woodworker's Central** - For woodworking enthusiasts.
  - Info Exchange
  - Miter Master Calculator
  - Wood Sampler
  - Woodworker’ Gazette
- **Woodworkershdwe.net** - An industry leading wholesale distributor and importer of cabinet and furniture hardware, amerock and belwith decorative hardware, abrasives, adhesives, power tools and machinery for the woodworking industry.
- **Your Best Digs** - Detailed information about home products, along with our recommendations of the products that stand out as the best of the best.
- **Zillow: Home Improvement** - Articles and advice.
- **Zinsser** - Paints, primers, wall covering products, removers, mildew prevention.

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Tips On Selecting The Ideal Dog Home For Your Family pet The Humane Society of America advises dogs live indoors but in some cases it just isn’t possible. Possibly you own a huge pet and also just don’t have sufficient room in your residence for the newest, furriest participant. In this case, a pet dog. Read More. « Older posts. Recent Posts. Comments.