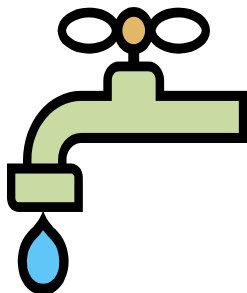


Don't Let Drips Get the Best of You



Is that drip getting on your nerves?

You would like to take care of it, but it's just too expensive and too much trouble to call a plumber. Most faucet leaks can be fixed by simply changing the washer. To replace a washer from your leaky faucet is pretty simple. Follow these steps:

BEFORE YOU START:

Wrap a couple layers of masking tape around any shiny parts of your faucet that the wrench might touch and scratch. If you leave metal uncovered, there's a good chance it will be dinged up before you're through.

Step 1: Shut off the water at the nearest shutoff valve (normally under the sink), or at the main shut-off valve to the building. (Note: faucet handles are not shut-off valves).

Step 2: Faucet handles usually have a plastic decorative button that, when pried off with a screwdriver,

will expose the head of a screw beneath. Unwind this screw to allow the handle to be removed. Using an adjustable crescent wrench, grip the large hexagonal nut and loosen it to reveal the stem assembly. If your faucet does not have decorative handles, simply unscrew the already exposed hexagonal nut.

Step 3: With the hexagonal nut loose, pull out the stem assembly.

Step 4: At the bottom of the stem you will see a rubber washer held in place by a screw. Remove the screw; replace the washer with one of the same size, and then replace the screw.

Step 5: Replace the stem assembly and tighten the hexagonal nut. Replace the handle and the decorative button, if there is one.

Step 6: Turn on the water at the shut-off valve. Test the faucet.

