

## Dare to Repair: A Do-it-Herself Guide to Fixing (Almost) Anything in the Home

*Julie Sussman, Stephanie Glakas-Tenet*  
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**Julie Sussman, Stephanie Glakas-Tenet : Dare to Repair: A Do-it-Herself Guide to Fixing (Almost) Anything in the Home** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dare to Repair: A Do-it-Herself Guide to Fixing (Almost) Anything in the Home:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Now You CanBy prisrobMy 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 goid 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 emp,in my brother or father, until my brothers moved away and my father became too one to assist. So, until my son wS 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 us 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 06-06-150 of 0 people found the following review helpful. easy to understand formatBy Ellie DCI 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. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Need the basics? Look here!By Jennifer LautenschlagerI'm a first-time home buyer in my 30s, and though I'm not dumb, there's things I just don't know how to do. I suppose you could say I'm ignorant on the matters of home maintenance, though I've always just had to call the landlord. The book really is practical for the basic things. If you've owned a home before, or even just paid attention watching others, then you probably don't need this book. I needed something to remind me of the basic home maintenance tasks (what, I have to change furnace filters?) that I just never bothered with before. So yes, if you're vaguely familiar with home maintenance, I can see how some people would find it too low-level. But for someone like me, it's great! I plan on installing a peephole on the door leading to the garage, and this will explain how to do it. I feel confident that I can do simple things, like change my water heater temperature, relight pilot lights without blowing the house up, or deal with the circuit breaker (oh yeah, mapping it would probably be good, right). Simple, but if you don't know where to look then hey, you don't know where to look. My one complaint is that it's a bit too girly-girly for me in some sections. It compares some home repairs to things like painting your nails, and frosting a cake, and really I could have done without that. But hey! It's helped me learn what I wanted to learn, so I'm happy.

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.

.com 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 From Library Journal 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. From Booklist There are people in this world who take every plumbing leak and every clogged drain as a personal challenge. Then there are others who dial 911 when a toilet starts to run over. To stop the monetary damages, Sussman and Glakas-Tenet put together a "dummy's" guide to common repairs that usually flummox a beginner. Everything's explained in exquisite detail: tools, labeled and illustrated; steps, pictured realistically. The five major chapters--plumbing; electricity; major appliances; windows, walls, and doors; home safety--deal with 75 simple fix-its, ranging from replacing toilet seats to freeing a stuck window. Plus, words of

encouragement accompany every task, certainly enough to convince anyone to pick up a pliers and twist. Barbara Jacobs  
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