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Delta sandover shower faucet installation instructions

Home House & Components Fixtures FaucetsToday's faucets are easier than ever to install. In fact, you can even buy faucets that install entirely from the top of the sink so you don't have to crawl underneath. But there are still things you should know for a quick, easy and leak-free installation. Here are our best tips for helping you with your next faucet installation. 1 / 10Family HandymanEven with a basin wrench, it can be nearly impossible to break loose corroded nuts holding older faucets to the sink. If you don't care about wrecking the faucet, cut off the nuts instead. You can use either a rotary tool (Dremel is one brand) with a metal-cutting disc or an oscillating tool with a metal-cutting blade. Cut through one side of the nut. Then use a screwdriver to pry the nut away from the faucet body. You can also cut off other stubborn parts, like the pop-up drain assembly on a bathroom sink. 2 / 10Family HandymanA basin wrench is a standard plumbing tool that is indispensable for removing and installing most faucets. The wrench allows you to reach into the cramped area behind the sink to loosen or tighten the nuts that hold the faucet to the sink, and the nuts that connect the supply lines. You may not need a basin wrench if you can get the old faucet out by cutting the nuts or if the new faucet includes a wrench or some other means of installing the faucet without a basin wrench. Check inside the package when you buy the faucet to see what's required. If you do need a basin wrench, you can find one at a hardware store or home center. 3 / 10Family HandymanIf water gets under your faucet, it can corrode the faucet or worse, damage your countertop or cabinet. Most new faucets include a gasket of some type to create a seal between the faucet and the sink, but it's still a good idea to apply a bead of clear silicone caulk to the bottom of the faucet and the bottom of the gasket to ensure a good seal. Also, the silicone acts as an adhesive to prevent the faucet from moving around if the connection nuts loosen. Clean up any silicone that oozes out, first using just a paper towel, then mineral spirits. 4 / 10Family HandymanOne of the most difficult parts of installing a new faucet used to be connecting the supply lines so they didn't leak. But the new-style connectors with braided jackets have gaskets built into each end that make connections virtually foolproof. They cost more than the old-style connectors, but are worth every penny. You don't need to crank the nut very tight for an effective seal. Just thread it finger-tight and then add about a half-turn with a wrench. So save yourself headaches and replace those old supply lines with braided stainless steel connectors. 5 / 10Family HandymanMany new faucets include supply lines, but they may not be long enough, or they may not have the right threads to connect to your shutoff valves. To determine the length of the supply lines you'll need, measure from the underside of the sink near where the faucet connects to the shutoff valve and add a few inches. If the supply lines included with your new faucet aren't long enough, buy extensions. To make sure the threads on your new supply lines match those on your shutoff valves, take one of your old supply lines with you to the store and match it with the new supply lines. 6 / 10Family HandymanIf your shutoff valve is stuck open, you can often free it by loosening the packing nut slightly. This relieves pressure on the valve stem and allows you to turn the valve more easily. Retighten the valve stem nut just enough to prevent leaks around the valve stem. 7 / 10Family HandymanMessing around with plumbing often dislodges minerals or other debris that has built up inside the pipes and valves. To prevent that stuff from clogging the aerator in your new faucet, remove the aerator before turning the water back on. The aerator is the device on the end of your faucet that has a screen or perforated plastic covering the end. Most aerators simply unscrew counterclockwise. Some new faucets include a special tool for removing the aerator.If you're installing a pullout faucet, the aerator can be tricky to remove. If this is the case, simply unscrew the entire spray head from the supply tube and point the tube into the sink while you turn on the water. Let the water run a few seconds. Then replace the aerator or spray head. If your faucet ever starts to run slowly, remove the aerator and clean it. This will usually fix the problem. 8 / 10Family HandymanMany new faucets include wrenches, aerator removal tools, and other parts or tools that you should keep. An easy way to keep track of this stuff, along with the instruction sheet, is to put it all in a big freezer bag and hang it inside the sink cabinet, where you'll always be able to find it. 9 / 10Family HandymanIf you're installing a new sink along with your faucet, mount the faucet to the sink before you install the sink. It's much simpler than lying on your back inside the sink cabinet to install the faucet. Even if you're not installing a new sink, you may find it easier to remove the old sink to get better access for removing the old faucet and installing the new one. Plus, removing and reinstalling the old sink will allow you to clean off old caulk and gunk that's accumulated around the edge and renew the seal between the counter and the sink with fresh caulk. 10 / 10Family HandymanWhen you're done with the faucet installation, check for leaks. Turn on the water and let it run for two or three minutes. Then crawl under the sink with some tissue and wipe around the joints with it. Even a tiny leak will show up as a wet spot on the tissue. Tighten the connection near any leak you find. Originally Published: November 20, 2019 Home House & Components Fixtures Faucets Family Handyman Wondering how to replace a shower valve when valve access is bad or nonexistent, when the old pipes are galvanized steel, and when you want to go from a two-handle to one handle valve with temperature-balancing and anti-scald features? We show you how to solve these common problems.By the DIY experts of The Family Handyman MagazineYou might also like: TBDTime A full dayComplexity IntermediateCost \$51-100Overview: 3 common shower valve replacement problemsIf your bath or shower faucet drips, you can fix the old shower valve and faucet with a few inexpensive replacement parts. (If the spout and handles are worn, you can change them out, too.) But if it's a new style you're after or features like preset temperatures or anti-scald protection, it's time for replacement. How to change shower fixtures and installing a new shower faucet is a straightforward process of connecting the new valve to the old pipes. Sometimes all you need are the manufacturer's instructions and some basic plumbing know-how. But it isn't that easy very often. This article will focus on three complications that installation manuals and plumbing books ignore:There's no access to the inside of the wall.The old pipes are galvanized steel.You want to replace a two-handle faucet with a single-handle model.Problem 1: No access panelPhoto 1: Mark the locationPunch a hole into the wall behind the faucet to mark the location of the access panel. Just slip a long screwdriver alongside the tub spout nipple and push.Photo 1A: Location on back side wallPoke a hole from the bathroom side. Don't try to measure and guess.Photo 2: Cut an access holeCut a hole 3 in. smaller than the access panel so you can see the exact pipe locations. Then mark and cut the full-size access hole.Photo 3: Mount the access panelGlue the access panel's frame into place and snap on the cover after you've installed the new faucet. You can paint the panel to match the wall.To replace the faucet, you have to work inside the wall. Some homes have a removable panel in the next room behind the faucet. If you don't have an access panel, you might be able to replace the faucet by cutting a hole in the shower surround (Problem 3 below), but the best solution is to install a paintable plastic panel behind the faucet. You'll find them in various sizes at plumbing suppliers, some home centers or online (search for "access panel"). Buy a panel that's at least 14 x 14 in. If you don't want to install a panel because it would be an eyesore, an oversized cover plate inside the shower surround is another option (Problem 3 below). If you already have an access panel but it's too low to provide easy access to the faucet, you can install a second panel above the existing one.Don't try to position the access hole by taking measurements. Instead, remove the tub spout or faucet handles and punch a marker hole through the wall (Photo 1). If the wall is plaster rather than drywall, use a drill and a long bit instead of a screwdriver. Before you cut a hole sized for the access panel, cut a smaller hole (Photo 2). That way, you can see exactly where the pipes and valves are located and position the full-size hole for best access to them. Use the access panel frame as a template to mark the full-size hole. To avoid damaging the frame of the panel, install it after you've replaced the faucet (Photo 3).If your tub or shower faucet is dripping, see How to Repair a Dripping Tub Faucet.For tips on working with different types of pipe, see How to Join Dissimilar Pipes.Problem 2: Galvanized steel pipePhoto 1: Disconnect the union fittingsUnscrew the ring nuts that fasten the union fitting to the faucet body. Then unscrew the union fittings from the supply lines.Photo 2: Cut the shower riserCut the shower riser with a reciprocating saw or jigsaw. Cut slowly and gently so you don't loosen the connections above.Photo 3: Add a galvanized pipe couplerConnect the cutoff shower pipe using a coupler designed for galvanized pipe. The coupler won't work with copper pipe, so screw a short galvanized steel nipple into a copper fitting.Unlike copper or plastic, steel pipes are joined with threaded, screw-together connections. So you can't simply cut the hot and cold supply pipes. That would remove the threaded ends and you'd have no reliable way to connect new pipe.To preserve those threaded ends, unscrew the union fittings that connect the supply lines to the faucet (Photo 1). You can leave the spout nipple connected to the faucet and remove it along with the valve. If the faucet is connected to a showerhead, cut the "shower riser" pipe (Photo 2). This pipe isn't under constant pressure, so you can reconnect it with a special coupler later.Connect the new faucet as shown in Photo 3. To connect the cutoff shower riser, use a special compression coupler designed for galvanized steel pipe (called a "Dresser" coupling). For a better seal and easier installation, apply Teflon pipe sealant to the coupler's threads and rubber seals. Run the shower and check the coupler for leaks. If you find one, tighten the coupler's nuts.Make the connections shown when going from old galvanized pipe to copper pipe and adding the new valve. Also add new shutoffs.Problem 3: Replacing two handles with onePhoto 1: Cut the tileCut a hole for the new valve using a rotary tool equipped with a tile-cutting bit. Mark the cutout using the cover's paper template and a crayon.Photo 1A: Tile cutting bitA tile bit in a rotary tool cuts through most ceramic tile.Photo 2: Install the new valveSolder in the new valve. Use the paper template to make sure the valve is centered in the cutout.Photo 3: Mount the cover plateMount the oversized cover plate. Install the faucet's standard cover plate over it.Shower Faucet ReplacementIf you have a two-handle faucet, it's easiest to replace it with another two-handle model. If you want the convenience of a single handle, you'll have to hide the two holes left by the handles. An oversized cover plate does just that. Plus, it covers an access hole, possibly allowing you to skip adding an access panel. Keep in mind that replacing a faucet using this smaller hole can be difficult if not impossible—a large access panel makes the job much easier. You'll find oversized cover plates (about \$23) at plumbing supply stores or online (search for "renovation cover plate").To install a single-handle faucet, you'll have to cut a hole into your shower surround. If your surround is fiberglass or acrylic, cut the hole using a jigsaw and a fine-tooth blade (a coarse blade causes more vibration, which can crack the surround). Apply strips of masking tape to the surround to avoid scratching or chipping the surface. Run the saw at full speed, but push it slowly and gently along the cut mark. If you feel the blade hitting a pipe inside the wall, stop immediately and continue past the pipe using a hacksaw blade.To cut tile, use a rotary tool equipped with a tile-cutting bit (Photo 1). Set the cutting depth of the bit at 1/4 in. and make the first pass. Make more passes, setting the bit 1/4 in. deeper each time until you've cut completely through the surround. If you don't own a rotary tool, you have a few other options: You can try a jigsaw and ceramic tile blade (about \$5). These blades cut softer tile well. If you find that your tile is too hard, drill a series of 1/4-in. holes through the tile and wall using a carbide ceramic tile bit (about \$5). Drill the holes close together so there's little or no space between them. Then cut any material between the holes with the ceramic tile jigsaw bit.Required Tools for this how to change shower fixtures projectHave the necessary tools for this DIY shower faucet replacement project lined up before you start—you'll save time and frustration.4-in-1 screwdriverAdjustable wrenchCorded drillDrywall sawJigsawPipe wrenchPliersReciprocating sawSafety glassesScrewdriverSoldering torchTape measureTube cutterYou'll also need soldering supplies (solder, flux and emery cloth) and a rotary tool tile-cutting bit.Required Materials for this how to change shower fixtures projectAvoid last-minute shopping trips by having all your materials ready ahead of time. Here's a list.Copper fittingsNew valvePipe joint tapePlastic access panelRenovation cover plateShutoff valves Amazing white and gray marble master bathroom with large glass walk-in shower, freestanding tub and skylights on the ceiling. Northwest, USA One of the more prominent projects among do-it-yourselfers involves repairs in the bathroom, and specifically, the shower. Projects can include installing a bathroom shower, repairing a shower base, installing shower glass or putting a corner bath and shower unit in an otherwise empty space. Needless to say, doing some research will put you ahead of the game, whatever your project happens to be. We've put together a quick guide on how to approach a bathroom shower installation. Many homeowners have found that a corner shower can fit well into space such as an unused corner in a master bath. It can also have the effect of transforming space that is otherwise clunky or messy in a small bathroom, adding both economy and streamlined design. If you have a small or awkwardly shaped bathroom, Better Homes and Gardens recommends a corner shower as a wise space-saving option. They also note that you should keep in mind four aspects of a corner shower unit: shape, installation, doors and features. You'll want to start by selecting a base, or pan, which is the shape of your shower. They come in shapes that include round, square, rectangular, triangular or neo-angle, which includes a diamond base shape for a door, two back walls and two beveled sidewalls. As you might suspect, the more elaborate the shape, the more it can cost. You also need to measure carefully when selecting the shape, as you want to be sure your space can accommodate the shape that you prefer. Installation is the next step for transforming your bathroom with a shower. You might opt for a stall that is prefabricated or you might want to upgrade and tile the corner walls. In any case, you have many choices. You can find a shower unit at a major home supply store in a variety of colors and textures, including bases that look like tile, starting in the range of \$500 to \$700. Prefab showers are affordable, watertight and easy to keep clean, which can be a real plus in busy households. If you have a very specific look in mind, you might want to create your own look with tile. In that case, use a cement-based board on the walls and add stylish tile to your heart's content. This can be more expensive than an off-the-shelf shower, but it can also give you real bathroom style. Many consumers hire pros for installation. Don't forget to think about the door you want on your shower. If you've selected a prefab shower, it will usually include a glass door with a metal frame. More costly shower units will feature brackets that support a frameless door, which can be a more contemporary and elegant look. Of course, if you are installing a custom shower, you can select any door, provided that you measure carefully at least twice. Keep in mind that an unframed door often requires professional installation. Think about whether you need your door to open to the left or the right, regardless of what shower option you choose. In either case, you can opt for clear, frosted or textured glass. If you have a choice of metal frames, think about which type of metal will match or complement your existing bathroom fixtures. You might be surprised at what you'll find in a prefab shower, in terms of additional features. For instance, some prefab showers include bench seating and grab bars. You'll also have surprisingly abundant choices in regards to shelf space and shaving nooks. If you decide to create your own custom shower, you will be able to choose just the right hardware, seating and shower head options, to create the shower you've imagined in your dreams.

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