

How To Lessons on Home Plumbing Repairs

Remember those old movies of the twenties and thirties when some oaf of a plumber turned his wrench a little too hard and got blasted in the face with a torrent of water? Well, it's a big laugh in the movies, but not a very funny reality.

If you can remember one rule, you'll be on your way to understanding enough about plumbing to avoid dangerous mistakes. Like electricity, water flows from a source, through a conductor, and, finally, to an outlet. If you want to avoid a splash in the face, the first thing you must do before beginning any plumbing work is to shut down the source. This is a simple process, and it involves the clockwise turning of a valve beneath the fixture on which you wish to perform a repair, or the identical closing of the main water valve in your basement. Once this is done, you may proceed without fear of flood or tidal wave.

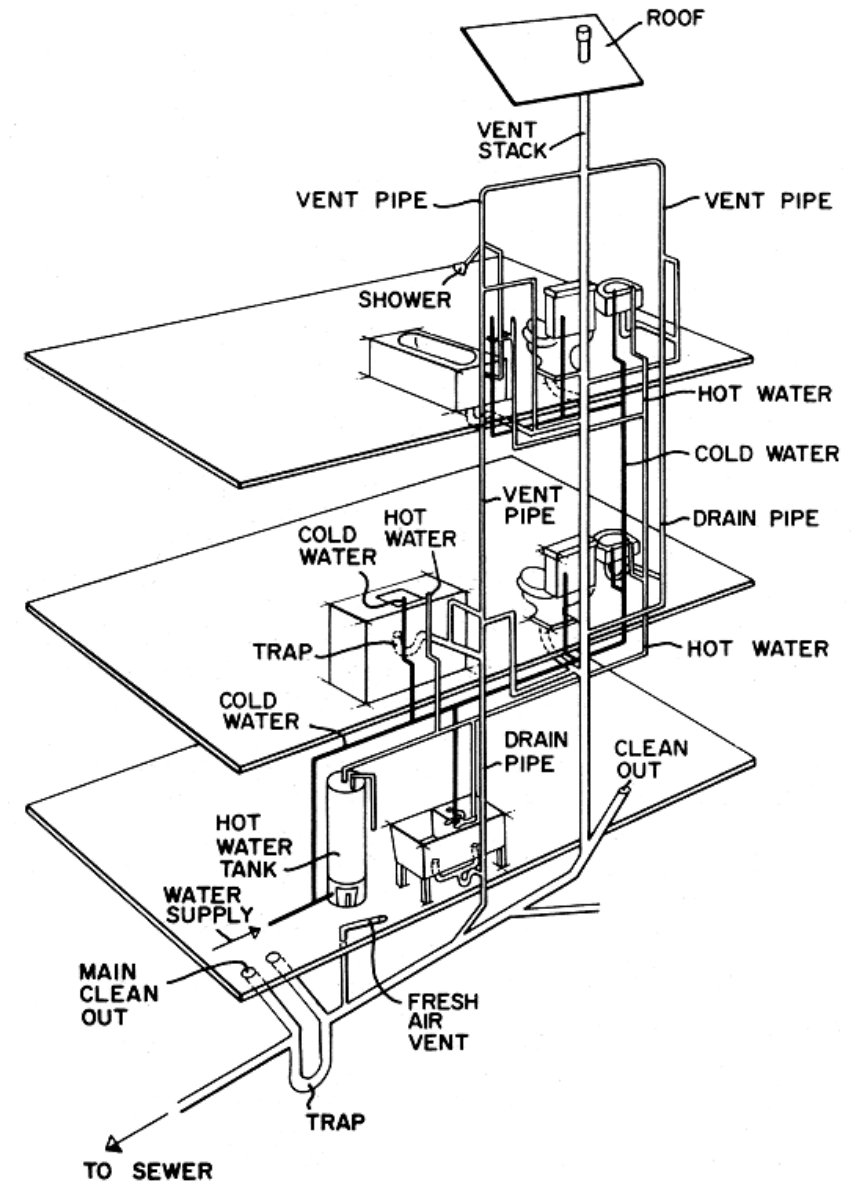
Most plumbing jobs require the assistance of an expert. There are many, however, that the homeowner or apartment dweller may perform alone at tremendous savings. The following items, although they by no means represent a complete list, should be acquired for your permanent collection.

UTENSILS

- 1 plunger
- 1 Stillson wrench, 10" inches
- 1 end wrench
- 1 pair adjustable pliers
- Set of screwdrivers (see Chapter 2 on How to Use a Screwdriver)
- Set of 5 socket wrenches
- Soldering iron

INGREDIENTS

- Assortment of rubber washers
- Assortment of screws
- Roll of 1" inch adhesive tape
- Coil of solder, resin core
- Soldering paste or flux (non-acid)
- Lampwick
- Petroleum jelly
- Stiff wire or snake



Home Plumbing Diagram:
Water Supply & Waste Piping for a Two Story Home