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How To Repair A Clogged Drain: Plunger Technique

As far as we're concerned, the plunger is such an ingenious tool it should have been invented by Rube Goldberg. Herein we instruct on the truly proper technique for handling a plunger for greatest efficiency. Learn it now, and it will stand you in good stead for many a clog.

Utensils

Plunger, 3", 4", or 5" inch diameter, whichever is most suitable

Ingredients

Petroleum jelly

Approximate Time: 20 Minutes

1. Lubricate the under circumference of plunger with petroleum jelly (Fig. 76A). Apply liberally with fingers.
2. Place your hand in the standing sink water, locate drain, and wipe away dirt or food residue collected there.
3. If your sink has an overflow, which may be at front or back of sink (Fig. 76B), place one hand firmly over opening.
4. Place plunger directly over drain.
5. Depress plunger slowly until it completely seals off drain.
6. Once the plunger is firmly in place, jerk up rapidly. This will create a vacuum in the drainpipe.
7. Repeat as necessary until clog has been broken.
8. Clean plunger thoroughly with soap and water after use.

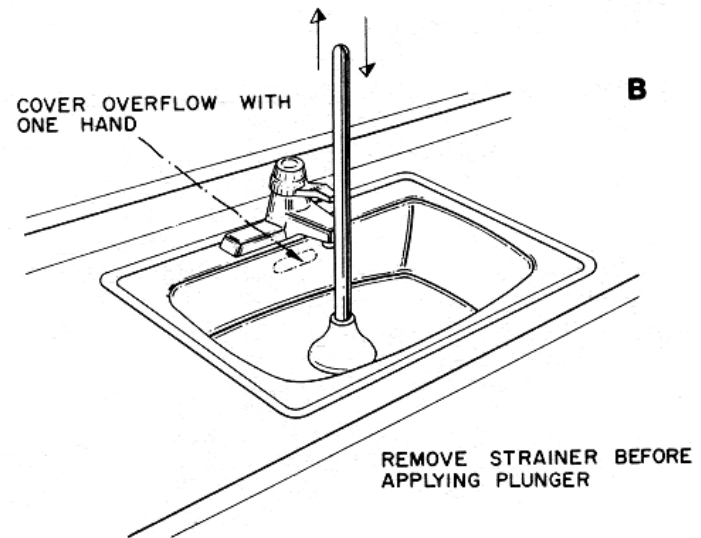
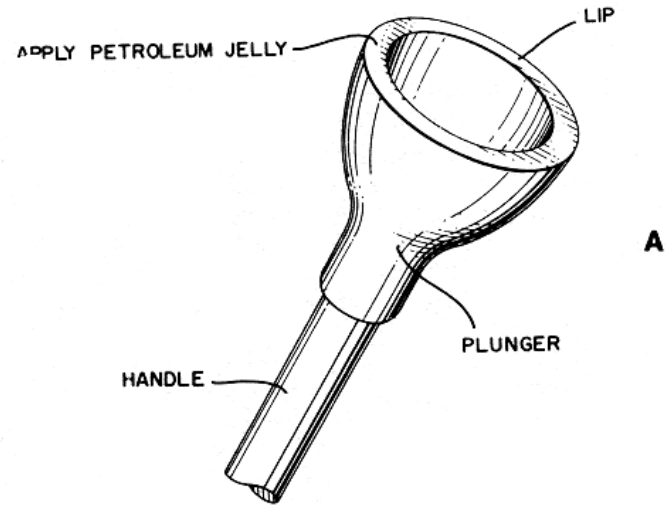


Figure 76.
Unclogging a Sink