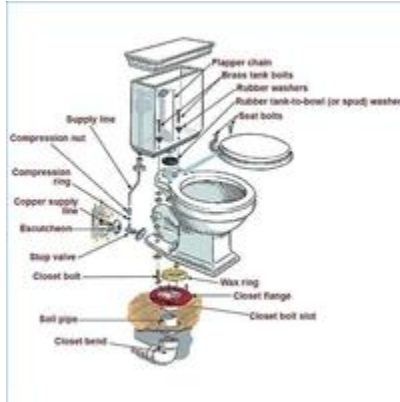


## How to Replace a Toilet



Member

By Danny



### Replace a Toilet

One of the easiest upgrades to your bathroom is installing a toilet. With the wide array of toilets today ranging from 100 bucks to 500 bucks, and the relative ease up setup and installation, practically anyone can install a toilet in a weekend with a little know how and some elbow grease. As with any adventure you need a road map. As you can see from the picture on your left, I have an exploded view of the anatomy of a toilet. Click on this diagram when ever you are lost in this "how to".

Difficulty: Moderately Easy

#### Instructions

#### Things You'll Need:

- Toilet bowl with tank
- Closet bolts with washer and nuts
- wrench
- caulk with caulk gun
- tank bolts with washers
- wax ring
- putty knife
- [wire brush](#)
- [bucket](#)
- [screwdriver](#)
- adjustable wrench
- utility knife
- hacksaw
- Level

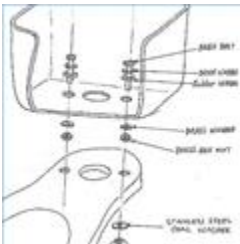
#### 1. Step 1



Click to enlarge

The first thing you need to do is turn off the water main or turn off the shut off valve that supplies the toilet with water. Then flush the toilet to get rid of the remaining water in the toilet. The water main is usually next to your water meter and the shut off valve should be near the back of your toilet.

## 2. Step 2



Click to enlarge

From here you need to remove the tank. To do this you need to disconnect the water supply tube from the shut off valve. Make sure you have a bucket handy to drain the remaining water. There should be two brass tank bolts that secure the tank to the base of the toilet. Remove those and lift the tank off the base. FYI sometimes the bolts are so corroded that you might have to cut them off with a hacksaw.

## 3. Step 3



To remove the base, first pry off the caps that are covering the bolts. Generally there are two bolts that are held down by a screw and a bolt. Use a screwdriver to hold the bolt down and then use a wrench to unscrew it. From there gently rock the bowl back and forth to free it from the floor. You might need to use a utility knife to cut around the base seal to make this job slightly easier.

4. Step 4



[Click to enlarge](#)

From here stuff a rag down the soil pipe to prevent fumes from entering your house. Use a putty knife to remove any old glue or wax gasket remains.

5. Step 5



[Click to Enlarge](#)

Take your new bowl and turn it upside down and put the wax ring around the bottom of the toilet bowl. In the event you are also replacing the closet flange, make sure that is secured around the soil pipe and that it's a good fit. Then put a small amount of caulk around the rim of the toilet.

6. Step 6



[Click to Enlarge](#)

Remove the rag from the soil pipe and flip over the toilet gently lowering it into place, it is vital that you use the bolts as a guide. Once in place push down toilet to make sure it is seated properly over the bolts. It is also wise to use a level to make sure the bowl is straight.

7. Step 7



Secure the bolts by hand tightening them to the floor use caution when you do this as over tightening can cause porcelain to crack. Use caulk or plumbers putty to apply a seal around the base of the toilet and the respective bolts.

#### 8. Step 8



[click to enlarge](#)

From here place the tank back on the base and reattach the supply lines and screw down the tank bolts by hand. PLEASE use caution when screwing on the bolts as over tightening can crack the porcelain.

#### 9. Step 9



Open the shut off valve and allow the tank to fill and then test with a series of flushes to inspect for leaks or water backups.