

5 Maintenance Skills All Homeowners Should Know

Owning a home can be one of the most important parts of a satisfying lifestyle. The joy of coming home to someplace you can call your very own offers security and comfort. Yet owning a home comes with responsibilities as well; maintaining the home in proper condition is critical to avoid larger problems later.

While some people are handier than others, here are 5 maintenance skills anyone can master.

1. **How to Turn off Your Gas and Water** –If you smell gas or have a water leak, taking quick action to shut off the source to the home while you wait for a professional can save thousands of dollars, and even lives.
2. **Understanding How Electricity Is Fed to Your Home** –Learn how to reset GFI outlets and popped breakers at the panel to avoid expensive house calls.
3. **How to Find a Wall Stud** – Avoid drywall repair when hanging pictures or shelves.
4. **How to Change Your Air Filters** – Keep your air fresh and your HVAC systems running efficiently.
5. **How to Address Simple Plumbing** – From fixing a running toilet to recaulking the shower, simple plumbing related issues can save money in service calls and damage.

A quick visit to the local big box home supply store or afternoon online watching repair videos can help any homeowner tackle a few simple do-it-yourself tasks around the house. Learning a few basic maintenance skills will ensure you and your loved ones are safe and you'll help your home stay in top condition.