The Stanley Complete Step-by-Step Book of Home Repair and Improvement by James Hufnagel

From the most trusted, authoritative, and experienced name in the do-it-yourself field, here is the clearest, most completely illustrated, and most up-to-date reference. If you plan to do things right, this book is the essential resource. The Stanley Complete Step-by-Step Book of Home Repair and Improvement

* More than 2,000 clear, accurate full-color illustrations

* Doer-friendly instructions written by experts with hands-on experience

* Latest tools, methods, and materials described

* Highlighted safety and environmental concerns

* Helpful sidebars and cross-references

* Large upright format with step-by-step layouts

My Personal Review: This book is a real good addition to every carpenters library. You could even use the woodworking section of this book (Chapter 3) to help you build library shelving that you could then use to place this book (or similar woodworking books) upon. Hot dog! The illustrations were fun, but they fell short. Any good profesional worth his spackle knows, not every project goes to plan. Aluminum foil covered pennies installed incorrectly in the fuse box, or sump pump flooding, or what to do when you drop a running bandsaws in the crib, the illustrations never tell you about what to do then. But theyre part of any job, yet the book really leaves you out to dry. There isnt even a single section on Stop! Drop! and Roll! What if you forgot? What if you mixed them up? What then? Its still really helpful and comprehensive though.And while helpful and comprehensive, I do have a
few points of disagreement about this book too. Mr. Huffington is the professional, I know, but consider: when it comes to hanging the wallpaper, your standard staple gun work just as well as Mr. Hufnagel's more traditional glue methods. And shingles are not nearly as complicated as he makes it out to be. Am I the only one who has ever used a tarp to stop leaking? I doubt it. And particleboard cabinets do, too, work. You just need to paint them yellow or black. Mr. TV-money never tells you that. And you might as well rip out the chapter on replacing clogged drainage pipes. It's a waste. Just use the chemicals you have left over from sealing your grout (Chapter 13) and pour them down the drain. Drop in a lit match, leave the room, and you just saved time and money. And while I didn't care for the salty language he chooses to describe his various chores, I forgive him. He should just clean up his blue act some. Kids might be reading this. Although maybe more kids should read this. With their dainty hands they could replace you when it comes to cleaning the gunk from stormdrains (Chapter 23) and dislodging chunks of wood that might jam up an otherwise perfectly good Skill Saw (Chapter 3). I highly, highly recommend this book!!

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