



# **DIY**

## **QUICK FIX**

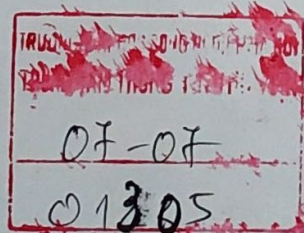
**PROBLEM-SOLVING TECHNIQUES FOR REPAIRING  
AND IMPROVING YOUR HOME**



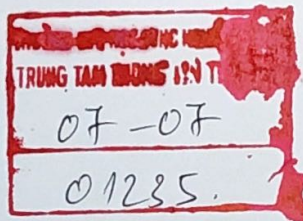
**JULIAN CASSELL, PETER PARHAM, AND THERESA COLEMAN**  
CONTAINS MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED IN *DO-IT-YOURSELF HOME IMPROVEMENT*

# DIY QUICK FIX

PROBLEM-SOLVING TECHNIQUES FOR REPAIRING  
AND IMPROVING YOUR HOME







# DIY QUICK FIX

PROBLEM-SOLVING TECHNIQUES FOR REPAIRING  
AND IMPROVING YOUR HOME

**JULIAN CASSELL • PETER PARHAM • THERESA COLEMAN**



GIFT OF THE ASIA FOUNDATION  
NOT FOR RE-SALE

QUÀ TẶNG CỦA QUỸ CHÂU Á  
KHÔNG ĐƯỢC BÁN LẠI





London, New York,  
Munich, Melbourne, Delhi

Project Editor	Tarda Davison-Aitkins
Designer	Angela Won-Yin Mak
Senior Editors	David Summers, Simon Tuite
Senior Art Editor	Susan St. Louis
Managing Editor	Stephanie Farrow
Managing Art Editor	Lee Griffiths
Production Editor	Sharon McGoldrick
Production Controller	Rita Sinha
Special Photography	Gary Ombler and Steve Gorton

First American Edition, 2008

Published in the United States by  
DK Publishing, 375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014

A Penguin company

08 09 10 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

DD195—March 2008

Copyright © 2008 Dorling Kindersley Limited  
All rights reserved  
Text copyright © 2008 Julian Cassell and Peter Parham

Without limiting the rights under copyright reserved above, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise), without the prior written permission of both the copyright owner and the above publisher of this book

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress

ISBN 978-0-7566-3392-9

DK books are available at special discounts when purchased in bulk for sales promotions, premiums, fund-raising, or educational use.  
For details, contact: DK Publishing Special Markets, 375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014 or [SpecialSales@dk.com](mailto:SpecialSales@dk.com).

Printed and bound in China by Hung Hing Printing Offset Company Ltd

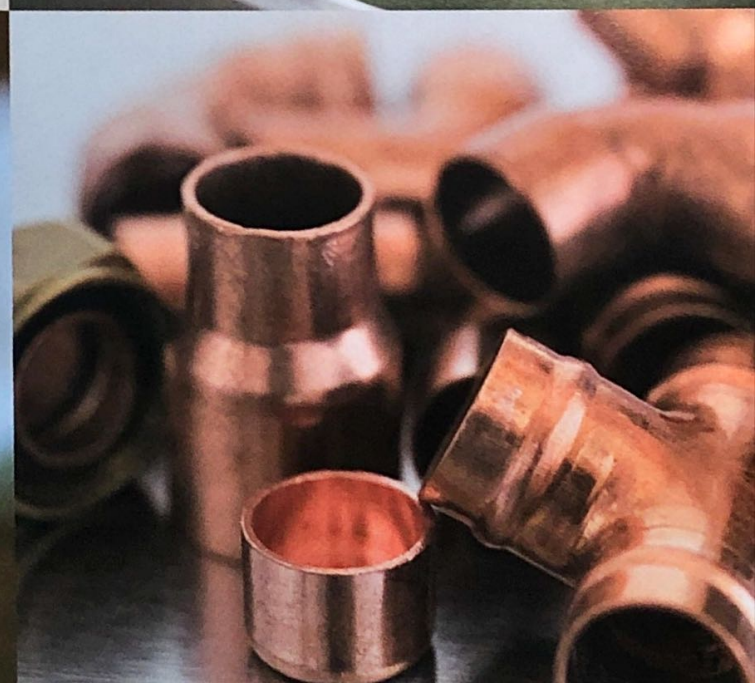
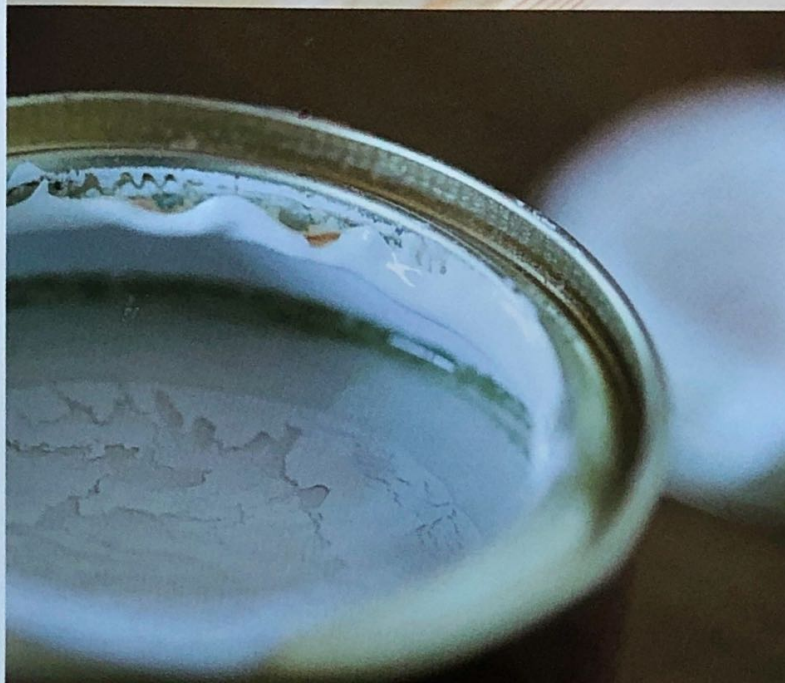
See our complete catalog at  
[www.dk.com](http://www.dk.com)

#### Important

All do-it-yourself activities involve a degree of risk. Skills, materials, tools, and site conditions vary widely. Although the publisher and author have made every effort to ensure accuracy, the reader remains responsible for the selection and use of tools, materials, and methods, and for compliance with local codes and laws, the manufacturer's operating instructions, and proper safety precautions. If you feel uncomfortable or uncertain about undertaking a particular project, consult or hire a professional. Neither the author nor publisher shall be responsible for any damages, injuries, or losses suffered or incurred as a result of following any information published in this book.









# 1

Introduction 9

## ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

Repairing oversanded drywall 12

Repairing a drywall wall pop 14

Repairing a hole in drywall 16

Repairing vinyl siding 21

Repairing a split clapboard 23

Repairing a cedar shingle 25

Sticking doors: planing the bottom 28

Rattling doors: moving the strike plate 30

Packing out a hinge 32

Replacing a tongue-and-groove board 34

Replacing a square-edged board 37

Fixing a loose board 40

Filling a gap between boards 42

Patching a flat roof 44

Repairing an asphalt shingle 46

Repairing a leaking gutter 49

# 2

## KITCHENS AND BATHROOMS

Drilling a tile without cracking it 54

Replacing a door hinge 57

Repairing a drawer handle 60

Repairing a laminate countertop 62

Repairing a wooden countertop 64

Unblocking a trap 66

Unblocking a sink drain 68

Replacing a toilet seat 70

# 3

## DECORATING AND FINISHING

Removing a drip 74

Removing wrinkled paint 76

Removing brush marks 78

Improving poor coverage 80

Replacing grout 82

Reviving tired grout 84

Replacing latex caulk 86

Replacing a broken tile 88

Repairing a shower cubicle 91

Repairing tongue-and-groove paneling 94

Replacing a section of baseboard 97

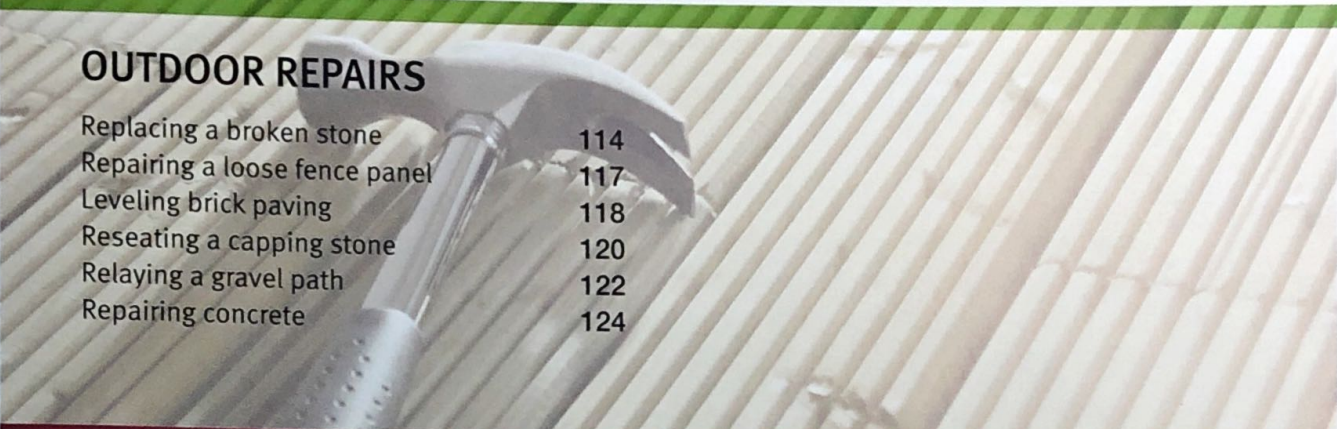
Repairing an outside corner miter 100

Repairing a laminate floor 102

Repairing damaged carpet 104

Patch-repairing vinyl flooring 106

Replacing a broken floor tile 109



## OUTDOOR REPAIRS

Replacing a broken stone	114
Repairing a loose fence panel	117
Leveling brick paving	118
Reseating a capping stone	120
Relaying a gravel path	122
Repairing concrete	124

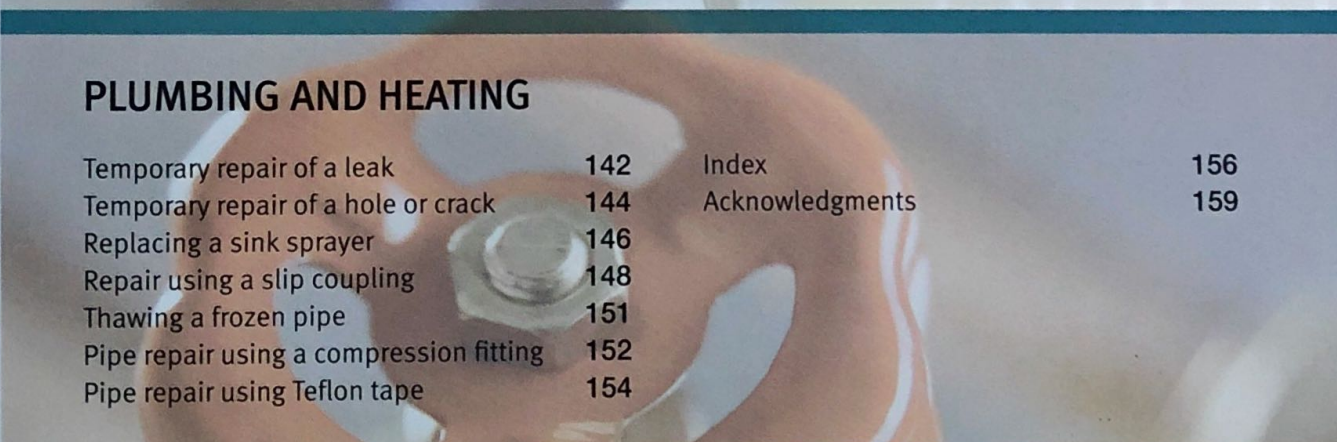
4



## ELECTRICS

Removing a broken light bulb	128
Changing a circuit in a breaker	130
Changing a receptacle to GFCI	135
Replacing a broken receptacle	138

5



## PLUMBING AND HEATING

Temporary repair of a leak	142
Temporary repair of a hole or crack	144
Replacing a sink sprayer	146
Repair using a slip coupling	148
Thawing a frozen pipe	151
Pipe repair using a compression fitting	152
Pipe repair using Teflon tape	154

Index	156
Acknowledgments	159

6