

Replacing a Toilet Level of Difficulty - 3

The following directions are for replacing an old toilet stool with a new one. The same directions can be used to re-seat a your existing toilet stool.

Start by evaluating the contents of the box / boxes that your toilet stool is packed in. Some toilets are sold with everything that you need to install it and for some you must supply some of the parts.

A few recommendations from K2W:

Consider replacing inexpensive, included flush and fill valves with Fluid Master valves. They are reasonably priced and since you will put some time and effort into this installation and it's worth it to use quality parts. If your toilet comes with a wax gasket, make sure it has a flange. If it doesn't, replace it.

Removing the Old Toilet Stool

1. Turn off the water to the toilet stool, either at the shutoff valve, or at your home's main water supply.
2. Flush the toilet, holding down the handle to remove as much water as possible from the tank. Syphen out as much water as you can from the tank and bowl.
3. Disconnect the water supply tube from the water supply line coming out of your floor or wall.
4. There are two nuts at the base of the bowl that hold the toilet in place at the floor. (These are sometimes tucked under plastic caps.) Use an adjustable wrench to remove the nuts.
5. Gently rock the toilet stool left to right to loosen any caulk around the edge of the stool.
6. The toilet stool is fairly heavy and awkward to remove, so you may need a second pair of hands to pull the old one out. Set an old towel on the floor nearby. Lift the stool straight up and set in on the towel. Some water will probably spill from the stool onto your towel.
7. Clean up any caulk on the floor surrounding the drain. Inspect the drain itself. If there is anything blocking the drain pipe, remove it now.

Installing the new Toilet or reseating the old

To install a new toilet, mount the bowl only, then attach the tank. This makes the installation much easier because you are only handling half the weight at once. For a reseated toilet, you will do both at once, unless you plan to disassemble your old toilet.

1. Inspect the closet flange. If it is damaged or is loose, this is the time to replace or reattach it.
2. Attach the mounting bolts to the closet flange. Hold these in the up position with plastic keepers. (*Illustration A*)
3. Install a new wax gasket and flange by pressing it into place on the bottom of your toilet bowl. (*Illustration B*)



Illustration A



Illustration B

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4. Lift the toilet stool and set it over the drain. When you set it in position, the bolts should go through the holes in the base of your bowl.
5. When you have it aligned correctly, sit down on your stool which will compress the wax gasket. The base of your bowl should be at floor level. If not, gently rock the toilet stool, while applying pressure to compress the gasket further. Install the washers and nuts to the mounting bolts. Don't overtighten the bolts or you risk breaking the bowl.

(Illustration C)

6. Install the flush valve by inserting the threaded tube through the large hole in the bottom of the tank. Screw on the large nut. Attach the tank washer to the flush valve under the tank. *(Illustration D)*
7. Position the tank over the bowl. Attach the tank to the bowl by inserting the mounting bolts through rubber washers, then through the tank holes and into the bowl holes. Secure from below with rubber washers, metal and nuts. Do not over tighten. Alternate tightening the nuts from one side to the other. Verify that the tank is level. *(Illustration E)*

8. Install the fill valve by inserting the base into the fill valve hole in the tank. Attach the fill valve nut to the threads from below. Clip the tube from the fill valve to the overflow tube on the flush valve. Attach the water supply to the fill valve from below. *(Illustration F)*
9. Install the flush handle and attach the chain from the flapper to the flush lever. Adjust the length of the chain so that when you push the lever, the flapper lifts all the way up. Allow a little bit of slack when the flapper is seated in the bottom of the tank.

10. Turn on the water supply and allow the tank to fill. Inspect for leaks. Flush the toilet and inspect between the tank and bowl and around the base of the stool.

11. Finish the job by caulking between the base of the toilet stool and the floor.



Illustration C



Illustration D



Illustration E



Illustration F