



- **Implementing Carbon Fiber Strips for Added Support**
Implementing Carbon Fiber Strips for Added Support Exploring the Function of Steel I Beams in Reinforcement Evaluating Helical Pier Installations for Stability Understanding the Role of Push Piers in Foundation Repair Assessing Poly Foam Injection as a Repair Option Addressing Wall Bowing with Specialized Bracing Systems Incorporating Reinforced Footings in Existing Structures Using Fiber Reinforced Polymers for Structural Upgrades Recognizing Different Methods for Load Bearing Enhancement Integrating Modern Engineering Software for Precise Calculations Exploring Innovative Jacking Mechanisms for Floor Leveling Seeking Guidance from Structural Engineers for Advanced Repairs
- **Obtaining Local Building Permits for Foundation Work**
Obtaining Local Building Permits for Foundation Work Meeting OSHA Regulations During Excavation Projects Understanding City Ordinances That Affect Repair Plans Coordinating Structural Engineer Reviews for Compliance Navigating Inspections from Municipal Authorities Adhering to Safety Protocols on Residential Job Sites Prioritizing Protective Equipment for Repair Crews Managing Noise and Debris Regulations in Urban Areas Recognizing Liability Concerns in Construction Zones Complying with Floodplain Requirements in Vulnerable Regions Satisfying Documentation Requirements for Property Records Maintaining Ethical Practices in Foundation Repair Services
- **About Us**



*** Understanding the Hazards Faced by Foundation Repair Crews**

Okay, let's talk about keeping our foundation repair crews safe. Ignoring minor foundation issues can lead to severe structural failure [residential foundation repair service](#) driveway. It all starts with understanding what they're up against, right? These folks aren't just digging in the dirt; they're facing a whole cocktail of potential dangers that we need to acknowledge before even thinking about what gear to give them.

Think about it. They're often working in confined spaces, crawling under houses where airflow is minimal. That immediately brings up concerns about air quality – dust, mold spores, even potentially radon gas. Then there's the structural instability they're dealing with. A foundation that needs repair is, by definition, compromised. There's a risk of collapses, falling debris, and unstable soil that could shift at any moment.

And let's not forget the physical demands. These jobs are grueling! They're lifting heavy materials, operating power tools in awkward positions, and often working in extreme temperatures. That puts them at risk for strains, sprains, cuts, and even heatstroke. Electrical hazards are another worry. They might be working near live wires or using equipment that needs to be properly grounded. Plus, depending on the location, they could encounter pests like rodents, insects, or even snakes.

So, before we even start talking about respirators, hard hats, or steel-toed boots, we need to have a solid grasp of these specific hazards. A general awareness isn't enough. We need to assess each job site individually, identify the unique risks present, and then tailor our protective equipment strategy accordingly. Only then can we truly prioritize what gear is essential to keeping our crews safe and sound while they're out there fixing our foundations. It's about more than just ticking boxes; it's about protecting the people who are doing the hard work.

*** Identifying Essential Protective Equipment Categories**

Alright, let's talk about keeping our repair crews safe out there. When we're figuring out what protective gear gets priority for repair or replacement, it's not a simple "one-size-fits-all" situation. We need to think strategically about the different kinds of hazards our crews face and how their equipment protects them. That's where identifying essential protective equipment categories comes in.

First and foremost, head protection is non-negotiable. Hard hats have to be right up there. A blow to the head can be debilitating, even fatal, so ensuring these are in good condition and up to standard is crucial. Think about the environments our crews are working in – are there overhead hazards, potential for falling objects?

Next, let's consider eye and face protection. Depending on the task, this could mean safety

glasses, goggles, or face shields. Welding, grinding, working with chemicals – all require specific eye protection. We need to be clear on what hazards the crew is facing and make sure they have the right gear to shield their eyes and faces. Vision is precious, and preventing injuries here is paramount.

Then there's respiratory protection. Are our crews working in environments with dust, fumes, or other airborne contaminants? If so, respirators are absolutely essential. This could range from simple dust masks to more sophisticated air-purifying respirators. Regular fit testing and proper maintenance of these respirators are vital to ensure they're actually doing their job.

Hand protection is another key area. Gloves protect against cuts, abrasions, chemicals, and electrical hazards. The type of glove needed will vary greatly depending on the task being performed. From heavy-duty work gloves to chemical-resistant gloves, ensuring the right gloves are available and in good condition is crucial for preventing hand injuries.

Finally, foot protection. Safety boots with steel toes and slip-resistant soles are often essential, especially on construction sites or in environments with heavy equipment. Protecting feet from impacts, punctures, and slips is crucial for maintaining mobility and preventing serious injuries.

So, when prioritizing protective equipment for repair crews, it's not just about having *any* gear. It's about identifying these essential categories – head, eye/face, respiratory, hand, and foot protection – and then ensuring that the specific equipment within each category is appropriate for the tasks being performed, properly maintained, and readily available. It's a proactive approach that puts the safety and well-being of our crews first. And that's what really matters.

*** Establishing a Risk Assessment-Based Prioritization System**

Let's talk about keeping our repair crews safe, specifically by figuring out which protective equipment needs fixing *first*. It's not just about having equipment; it's about having *reliable* equipment. And to get there, we need a smart system – a risk assessment-based prioritization system. Sounds a bit jargon-y, I know, but bear with me.

Think of it this way: a torn glove on a crew working with high voltage is a much bigger deal than a scuffed boot on someone clearing brush. Both need attention, sure, but one poses a significantly higher immediate risk. Our system needs to reflect that. We need to look at the potential hazards each crew faces – electrical, chemical, mechanical, you name it – and then assess how a piece of compromised equipment increases that risk.

Instead of just going down a list of broken things, we start by asking, “What's the worst that could happen if this equipment fails?” Is it a minor inconvenience, or could it lead to serious injury or worse? That's the heart of risk assessment. Then, we assign priorities based on that potential severity, combined with the likelihood of failure. A nearly-broken respirator, for

instance, would shoot to the top of the list for a crew entering a potentially toxic environment.

This isn't just about ticking boxes on a form, though. It's about fostering a culture of safety where crews feel empowered to report equipment issues honestly and understand **why** certain repairs are prioritized. It's about clear communication, so everyone knows what's being fixed and when. It's also about regular reviews of the system itself to ensure it's actually working and adapting to changing conditions in the field.

Ultimately, a risk assessment-based prioritization system is about being proactive, not reactive. It's about preventing accidents before they happen by focusing our resources where they're needed most. It's about ensuring our repair crews have the reliable protection they need to do their jobs safely, day in and day out. And that, at the end of the day, is what truly matters.

*** Factors Influencing Equipment Wear and Tear**

Okay, so you're sending out a repair crew, huh? Gotta make sure they've got the right gear and that it's actually, you know, **working**. Prioritizing protective equipment means understanding what actually beats the stuff up in the first place. It's not just about age, though that's a factor. Think about it like this: your boots are going to wear down differently if you're trudging through mud all day versus walking on smooth concrete.

Environment's a biggie. Harsh chemicals, extreme temperatures, abrasive dust – all that chews away at materials. Sun's a killer too, especially on plastics and fabrics. Then you've got the actual work they're doing. Are they constantly bending, twisting, lifting? That puts stress on seams, buckles, and moving parts. Think of gloves – someone using power tools is going to rip through them faster than someone just doing visual inspections.

Usage frequency matters too, obviously. A helmet worn every day needs checking more often than one only used occasionally. But it's not just about how often, it's **how** it's used. Is the equipment being misused or abused? Are they taking shortcuts that put extra strain on it? Are they storing it properly when it's not in use? Neglect can do just as much damage as heavy use.

And finally, let's not forget the quality of the equipment itself. Cheaping out might save you money upfront, but you'll end up replacing it more often. Higher quality gear, designed for the specific tasks your crew performs, will generally last longer and provide better protection. So, when you're figuring out what to fix or replace first, think about where they're working, what they're doing, how often they're doing it, and what they're doing it **with**. That's the key to keeping your team safe and your equipment budget under control.

*** Implementing a Regular Inspection and Maintenance Schedule**

Okay, so imagine this: you're running a repair crew, fixing things that are broken, often in pretty risky situations. Now, you're obviously worried about keeping everyone safe, right? That's where prioritizing protective equipment comes in, but it's not just about handing out helmets and hoping for the best. It's about making a regular inspection and maintenance schedule a core part of your operation.

Think of it like this: your car needs regular check-ups, oil changes, tire rotations. Otherwise, things break down at the worst possible moment. Protective equipment is the same. A hard hat with a crack you didn't see? Gloves with a hole you missed? That's a recipe for disaster waiting to happen.

Implementing a regular inspection schedule means setting aside time, consistently, to look over every piece of equipment. Is the harness frayed? Are the safety glasses scratched? Do the boots have proper traction? It's not just a quick glance; it's a thorough check, following a checklist to make sure nothing is missed.

And then comes the maintenance part. Finding a problem is only half the battle. You need a system for repairing or replacing damaged equipment, and doing it **promptly**. A torn glove shouldn't sit on a shelf for a week. It needs to be fixed or replaced immediately, so the worker isn't tempted to use it anyway and risk an injury.

This isn't just some bureaucratic hoop to jump through. It's about creating a culture of safety. When workers see that you're taking their well-being seriously, that you're investing time and resources into keeping their equipment in top condition, they're more likely to take safety seriously too. They're more likely to report problems, and they're more likely to follow safety procedures.

Ultimately, a regular inspection and maintenance schedule for protective equipment isn't just about preventing accidents. It's about building trust, fostering a safe work environment, and showing your crew that you value their lives. And that's something worth investing in.

*** Budget Allocation Strategies for Protective Equipment**

Okay, so we're talking about keeping our repair crews safe, right? And that means making sure they have the right protective equipment. But let's be real, budgets aren't bottomless pits. So how do we decide where to put the money when it comes to protective gear? It's not just about buying the flashiest, most expensive stuff. It's about smart allocation, strategic thinking, and making sure the people who are out there fixing things are actually protected.

One key strategy is risk assessment. Sounds boring, I know, but seriously, you gotta figure out what the biggest threats are. What kind of hazards are these crews facing day in and day out? Are they working with live wires? Are they exposed to hazardous chemicals? Are they dealing with falling debris? Once you know the risks, you can prioritize the equipment that directly addresses those specific dangers. Makes sense, right?

Another thing to consider is the lifespan of the equipment. Is it better to buy cheaper stuff that needs replacing every year, or invest in higher-quality gear that will last longer? Sometimes, the upfront cost of the better stuff is higher, but in the long run, it's actually cheaper because you're not constantly replacing it. Plus, it's probably more comfortable and reliable for the crew, which is a win-win.

Don't forget about training! You can have the best gear in the world, but if people don't know how to use it properly, it's pretty much useless. Budgeting for regular training sessions, refreshers, and certifications is absolutely crucial. It's not just about ticking a box; it's about making sure everyone understands how to use the equipment correctly and safely.

And finally, communication is key. Talk to the repair crews themselves! They're the ones on the front lines. They know what works, what doesn't, and what they actually need. Get their input on the types of equipment, the fit, the comfort, and any potential improvements. Their feedback is invaluable and can help you make smarter, more effective budget allocation decisions.

Ultimately, it's about balancing safety, cost-effectiveness, and practicality. It's not always easy, but by focusing on risk assessment, equipment lifespan, training, and crew feedback, we can create a budget allocation strategy that keeps our repair crews safe and productive without breaking the bank. It's about more than just spending money; it's about investing in the well-being of the people who keep things running.

*** Training and Education on Proper Equipment Use and Care**

Okay, let's talk about making sure our repair crews are not just **wearing** protective equipment, but actually **understanding** it. We're focusing on training and education, right? It's more than just a quick safety briefing before they head out. It's about building a culture where PPE is seen as an essential tool, not just a box to tick.

Think about it. You can hand someone a fancy new hard hat, but if they don't know **why** it's important or how to adjust it properly, it's almost useless. We need to go beyond the basics. We need engaging training sessions, maybe even hands-on workshops where crews can practice using the equipment in simulated environments. Let them feel the difference between a properly fitted respirator and one that's leaking. Let them understand the specific hazards each piece of equipment is designed to protect against.

And it's not just about **use**. It's about **care**. A well-maintained piece of equipment is a safer piece of equipment. Training should cover proper cleaning, storage, and inspection procedures. Teach them how to spot wear and tear, how to identify when something needs to be repaired or replaced. Imagine the difference between a crew member who knows to check their gloves for punctures before each use and one who just throws them on without a second thought.

This kind of comprehensive training pays dividends. It reduces workplace injuries, boosts

morale because the crew feels valued and protected, and ultimately saves the company money by minimizing downtime and potential liability. It's about empowering our repair crews to be safety-conscious, proactive, and knowledgeable about the tools they rely on to stay safe. So, when we talk about prioritizing protective equipment, let's remember that the best equipment in the world is only as good as the training and education that goes along with it.

*** Monitoring and Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Prioritization Process**

Okay, let's talk about keeping tabs on how well we're prioritizing protective equipment for repair crews. It's not just about slapping a number one label on the most busted helmet and calling it a day. We need to actually **monitor** and **evaluate** if our prioritization process is, you know, working.

Think of it like this: we've built a fancy machine to decide which PPE needs fixing first. But how do we know if that machine is actually spitting out the right answers? That's where monitoring and evaluation come in.

Monitoring is like keeping an eye on the dials and gauges while the machine is running. Are we consistently using the same criteria for prioritization? Are repair crews actually getting the equipment they need, when they need it? Are there any bottlenecks in the system? We need to be actively watching the process unfold, collecting data on things like turnaround times, repair costs, and the availability of replacement parts. This means talking to the repair crews themselves. Are they happy with the speed and quality of the repairs? Are there any pieces of equipment that consistently get bumped down the list, even though they're critical?

Evaluation is where we step back and ask the big questions. Is our prioritization process actually reducing risk for the repair crews? Are we seeing a decrease in injuries related to faulty equipment? Are we making the best use of our limited repair budget? This might involve looking at safety incident reports, comparing our repair costs to industry benchmarks, or even conducting surveys to gauge the overall effectiveness of the program.

The key here is to make sure our monitoring and evaluation efforts are actually useful. We don't want to just collect data for the sake of collecting data. We need to use that information to make adjustments to our prioritization process. Maybe we need to tweak our criteria, streamline our repair workflow, or invest in more durable equipment in the first place.

Ultimately, it's about ensuring that our repair crews have the protective gear they need to stay safe. Monitoring and evaluation are the tools that help us make sure we're on the right track, and that the machine we built is actually doing its job. It's not a one-time thing; it's an ongoing process of learning, adapting, and improving. Because at the end of the day, their safety is what matters most.



Facebook about us:

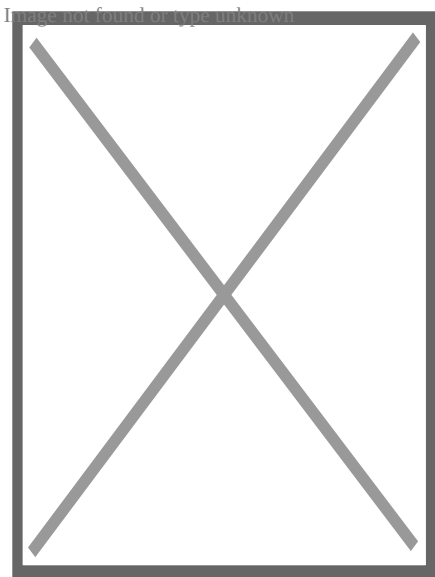
Residential Foundation Repair Services

Strong Foundations, Strong Homes

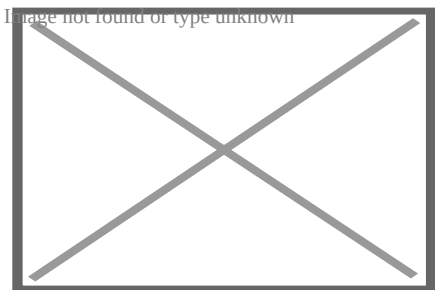


About Water damage

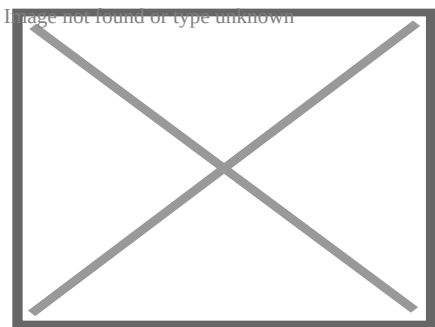
The examples and perspective in this article **may not represent a worldwide view of the subject**. You may improve this article, discuss the issue on the talk page, or create a new article, as appropriate. *(March 2011) (Learn how and when to remove this message)*



Interior of part of a damaged home in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina



Family photographs damaged by flooding



A smaller and more minor water spot caused by rainwater leaking through a roof

Water damage describes various possible losses caused by water intruding where it will enable attack of a material or system by destructive processes such as rotting of wood, mold growth,

bacteria growth, rusting of steel, swelling of composite woods, de-laminating of materials such as plywood, short-circuiting of electrical devices, etc.

The damage may be imperceptibly slow and minor such as water spots that could eventually mar a surface, or it may be instantaneous and catastrophic such as burst pipes and flooding. However fast it occurs, water damage is a major contributor to loss of property.

An insurance policy may or may not cover the costs associated with water damage and the process of water damage restoration. While a common cause of residential water damage is often the failure of a sump pump, many homeowner's insurance policies do not cover the associated costs without an addendum which adds to the monthly premium of the policy. Often the verbiage of this addendum is similar to "Sewer and Drain Coverage".

In the United States, those individuals who are affected by wide-scale flooding may have the ability to apply for government and FEMA grants through the Individual Assistance program.^[1] On a larger level, businesses, cities, and communities can apply to the FEMA Public Assistance program for funds to assist after a large flood. For example, the city of Fond du Lac Wisconsin received \$1.2 million FEMA grant after flooding in June 2008. The program allows the city to purchase the water damaged properties, demolish the structures, and turn the former land into public green space.^[citation needed]

Causes

[edit]

Water damage can originate by different sources such as a broken dishwasher hose, a washing machine overflow, a dishwasher leakage, broken/leaking pipes, flood waters, groundwater seepage, building envelope failures (leaking roof, windows, doors, siding, etc.) and clogged toilets. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 13.7% of all water used in the home today can be attributed to plumbing leaks.^[2] On average that is approximately 10,000 gallons of water per year wasted by leaks for each US home. A tiny, 1/8-inch crack in a pipe can release up to 250 gallons of water a day.^[3] According to *Claims Magazine* in August 2000, broken water pipes ranked second to hurricanes in terms of both the number of homes damaged and the amount of claims (on average \$50,000 per insurance claim^[citation needed]) costs in the US.^[4] Experts suggest that homeowners inspect and replace worn pipe fittings and hose connections to all household appliances that use water at least once a year. This includes washing machines, dishwashers, kitchen sinks, and bathroom lavatories, refrigerator icemakers, water softeners, and humidifiers. A few US companies offer whole-house leak protection systems utilizing flow-based technologies. A number of insurance companies offer policyholders reduced rates for installing a whole-house leak protection system.

As far as insurance coverage is concerned, damage caused by surface water intrusion to the dwelling is considered flood damage and is normally excluded from coverage under traditional homeowners' insurance. Surface water is water that enters the dwelling from the surface of the ground because of inundation or insufficient drainage and causes loss to the dwelling. Coverage for surface water intrusion^[5] to the dwelling would usually require a separate flood insurance

policy.

Categories

[edit]

There are three basic categories of water damage, based on the level of contamination.

Category 1 Water - Refers to a source of water that does not pose substantial threat to humans and classified as "**clean water**". Examples are broken water supply lines, tub or sink overflows or appliance malfunctions that involves water supply lines.

Category 2 Water - Refers to a source of water that contains a significant degree of chemical, biological or physical contaminants and causes discomfort or sickness when consumed or even exposed to. Known as "**grey water**". This type carries microorganisms and nutrients of microorganisms. Examples are toilet bowls with urine (no feces), sump pump failures, seepage due to hydrostatic failure and water discharge from dishwashers or washing machines.

Category 3 Water - Known as "**black water**" and is grossly unsanitary. This water contains unsanitary agents, harmful bacteria and fungi, causing severe discomfort or sickness. Type 3 category are contaminated water sources that affect the indoor environment. This category includes water sources from sewage, seawater, rising water from rivers or streams, storm surge, ground surface water or standing water. Category 2 Water or Grey Water that is not promptly removed from the structure and or have remained stagnant may be re classified as Category 3 Water. Toilet back flows that originates from beyond the toilet trap is considered black water contamination regardless of visible content or color.^[6]

Classes

[edit]

Class of water damage is determined by the probable rate of evaporation based on the type of materials affected, or wet, in the room or space that was flooded. Determining the class of water damage is an important first step, and will determine the amount and type of equipment utilized to dry-down the structure.^[7]

Class 1 - Slow Rate of Evaporation. Affects only a portion of a room. Materials have a low permeance/porosity. Minimum moisture is absorbed by the materials. **IICRC s500 2016 update adds that class 1 be indicated when <5% of the total square footage of a room (ceiling+walls+floor) are affected **

Class 2 - Fast Rate of Evaporation. Water affects the entire room of carpet and cushion. May have wicked up the walls, but not more than 24 inches. **IICRC s500 2016 update adds that class 2 be indicated when 5% to 40% of the total square footage of a room (ceiling+walls+floor) are affected **

Class 3 - Fastest Rate of Evaporation. Water generally comes from overhead, affecting the entire area; walls, ceilings, insulation, carpet, cushion, etc. **IICRC s500 2016 update adds that class 3 be indicated when >40% of the total square footage of a room (ceiling+walls+floor) are affected **

Class 4 - Specialty Drying Situations. Involves materials with a very low permeance/porosity, such as hardwood floors, concrete, crawlspaces, gypcrete, plaster, etc. Drying generally requires very low specific humidity to accomplish drying.

Restoration

[edit]

See also: Convectant drying

Water damage restoration can be performed by property management teams, building maintenance personnel, or by the homeowners themselves; however, contacting a certified professional water damage restoration specialist is often regarded as the safest way to restore water damaged property. Certified professional water damage restoration specialists utilize psychrometrics to monitor the drying process.^[8]

Standards and regulation

[edit]

While there are currently no government regulations in the United States dictating procedures, two certifying bodies, the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) and the RIA, do recommend standards of care. The current IICRC standard is ANSI/IICRC S500-2021.^[9] It is the collaborative work of the IICRC, SCRT, IEI, IAQA, and NADCA.

Fire and Water Restoration companies are regulated by the appropriate state's Department of Consumer Affairs - usually the state contractors license board. In California, all Fire and Water Restoration companies must register with the California Contractors State License Board.^[10] Presently, the California Contractors State License Board has no specific classification for "water and fire damage restoration."

Procedures

[edit]

Water damage restoration is often prefaced by a loss assessment and evaluation of affected materials. The damaged area is inspected with water sensing equipment such as probes and

other infrared tools in order to determine the source of the damage and possible extent of areas affected. Emergency mitigation services are the first order of business. Controlling the source of water, removal of non-salvageable materials, water extraction and pre-cleaning of impacted materials are all part of the mitigation process. Restoration services would then be rendered to the property in order to dry the structure, stabilize building materials, sanitize any affected or cross-contaminated areas, and deodorize all affected areas and materials. After the labor is completed, water damage equipment including air movers, air scrubbers, dehumidifiers, wood floor drying systems, and sub-floor drying equipment is left in the residence. The goal of the drying process is to stabilize the moisture content of impacted materials below 15%, the generally accepted threshold for microbial amplification. Industry standards state that drying vendors should return at regular time intervals, preferably every twenty-four hours, to monitor the equipment, temperature, humidity, and moisture content of the affected walls and contents.[6] In conclusion, key aspects of water damage restoration include fast action, adequate equipment, moisture measurements, and structural drying. Dehumidification is especially crucial for structural components affected by water damage, such as wooden beams, flooring, and drywall.

See also

[edit]

- Indoor mold

References

[edit]

1. ^ *"Individual Disaster Assistance"*. *DisasterAssistance.gov*. Retrieved 2009-09-28.
2. ^ *"How We Use Water"*. 16 January 2017.
3. ^ The University of Maine Corporate Extension – www.umext.maine.edu
4. ^ Herndon Jr., Everette L.; Yang, Chin S. (August 2000). *"Mold & Mildew: A Creeping Catastrophe"*. *Claims Magazine*. Archived from the original on 2000-08-15. Retrieved November 4, 2016.
5. ^ *Moisture Control Guidance for Building Design, Construction and Maintenance*. December 2013.
6. ^ *"Water Damage Restoration Guideline" (PDF)*. Northern Arizona University. Archived from the original (PDF) on 2013-06-26. Retrieved 2 September 2014.
7. ^ *"The Basics Of Water Damage Restoration Training"*. www.iicrc.org. Retrieved 2016-11-03.
8. ^ *"Chapter 6: Psychrometry and the Science of Drying"*. *IICRC Standards Subscription Site*. Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification. Retrieved 27 September 2020.
9. ^ *"ANSI/IICRC S500 Water Damage Restoration"*. IICRC. 22 December 2020. Retrieved 14 February 2022.
10. ^ *"California Contractors State License Board"*. *State of California*. Retrieved 2010-08-29.

About home repair

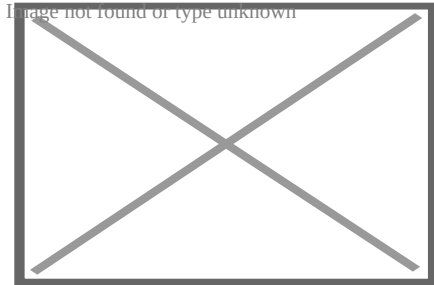
For the novel by Liz Rosenberg, see Home Repair (novel).

For other uses of "repair", see Maintenance.

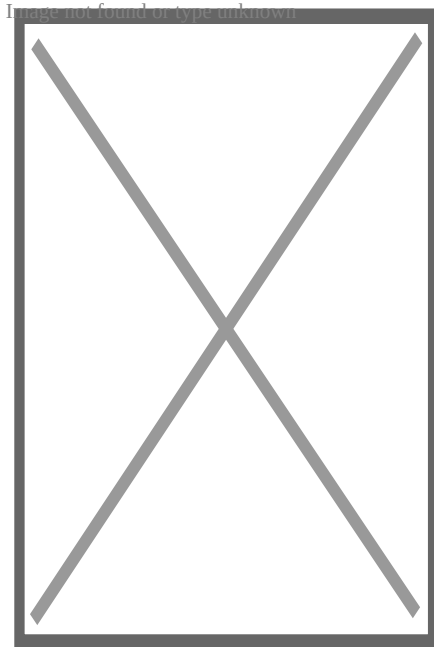
This article **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.



Find sources: "Home repair" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (January 2017) (Learn how and when to remove this message)



A mobile home being repaired in Oklahoma



A person making these repairs to a house after a flood

Home repair involves the diagnosis and resolution of problems in a home, and is related to home maintenance to avoid such problems. Many types of repairs are "do it yourself" (DIY) projects, while others may be so complicated, time-consuming or risky as to require the assistance of a qualified handyperson, property manager, contractor/builder, or other professionals.

Home repair is not the same as renovation, although many improvements can result from repairs or maintenance. Often the costs of larger repairs will justify the alternative of investment in full-scale improvements. It may make just as much sense to upgrade a home system (with an improved one) as to repair it or incur ever-more-frequent and expensive maintenance for an inefficient, obsolete or dying system.

Worn, consumed, dull, dirty, clogged

[edit]

Repairs often mean simple replacement of worn or used components intended to be periodically renewed by a home-owner, such as burnt out light bulbs, worn out batteries, or overfilled vacuum cleaner bags. Another class of home repairs relates to restoring something to a useful condition, such as sharpening tools or utensils, replacing leaky faucet washers, cleaning out plumbing traps, rain gutters. Because of the required precision, specialized tools, or hazards, some of these are best left to experts such as a plumber. One emergency repair that may be necessary in this area is overflowing toilets. Most of them have a shut-off valve on a pipe beneath or behind them so that the water supply can be turned off while repairs are made, either by removing a clog or repairing a broken mechanism.

Broken or damaged

[edit]

Perhaps the most perplexing repairs facing a home-owner are broken or damaged things. In today's era of built-in obsolescence for many products, it is often more convenient to replace something rather than attempt to repair it. A repair person is faced with the tasks of accurately identifying the problem, then finding the materials, supplies, tools and skills necessary to sufficiently effect the repair. Some things, such as broken windows, appliances or furniture can be carried to a repair shop, but there are many repairs that can be performed easily enough, such as patching holes in plaster and drywall, cleaning stains, repairing cracked windows and their screens, or replacing a broken electrical switch or outlet. Other repairs may have some urgency, such as broken water pipes, broken doors, latches or windows, or a leaky roof or water tank, and this factor can certainly justify calling for professional help. A home handyperson may become adept at dealing with such immediate repairs, to avoid further damage or loss, until a professional can be summoned.

Emergency repairs

[edit]

Emergencies can happen at any time, so it is important to know how to quickly and efficiently fix the problem. From natural disasters, power loss, appliance failure and no water, emergency repairs tend to be one of the most important repairs to be comfortable and confident with. In

most cases, the repairs are DIY or fixable with whatever is around the house. Common repairs would be fixing a leak, broken window, flooding, frozen pipes or clogged toilet. Each problem can have a relatively simple fix, a leaky roof and broken window can be patched, a flood can be pumped out, pipes can be thawed and repaired and toilets can be unclogged with a chemical. For the most part, emergency repairs are not permanent. They are what you can do fast to stop the problem then have a professional come in to permanently fix it.^[1] Flooding as a result of frozen pipes, clogged toilets or a leaky roof can result in very costly water damage repairs and even potential health issues resulting from mold growth if not addressed in a timely manner.

Maintenance

[edit]

Periodic maintenance also falls under the general class of home repairs. These are inspections, adjustments, cleaning, or replacements that should be done regularly to ensure proper functioning of all the systems in a house, and to avoid costly emergencies. Examples include annual testing and adjustment of alarm systems, central heating or cooling systems (electrodes, thermocouples, and fuel filters), replacement of water treatment components or air-handling filters, purging of heating radiators and water tanks, defrosting a freezer, vacuum refrigerator coils, refilling dry floor-drain traps with water, cleaning out rain gutters, down spouts and drains, touching up worn house paint and weather seals, and cleaning accumulated creosote out of chimney flues, which may be best left to a chimney sweep.

Examples of less frequent home maintenance that should be regularly forecast and budgeted include repainting or staining outdoor wood or metal, repainting masonry, waterproofing masonry, cleaning out septic systems, replacing sacrificial electrodes in water heaters, replacing old washing machine hoses (preferably with stainless steel hoses less likely to burst and cause a flood), and other home improvements such as replacement of obsolete or ageing systems with limited useful lifetimes (water heaters, wood stoves, pumps, and asphaltic or wooden roof shingles and siding).

Often on the bottom of people's to-do list is home maintenance chores, such as landscaping, window and gutter cleaning, power washing the siding and hard-scape, etc. However, these maintenance chores pay for themselves over time. Often, injury could occur when operating heavy machinery or when climbing on ladders or roofs around your home, so if an individual is not in the proper physical condition to accomplish these chores, then they should consult a professional. Lack of maintenance will cost more due to higher costs associated with repairs or replacements to be made later. It requires discipline and learning aptitude to repair and maintain the home in good condition, but it is a satisfying experience to perform even seemingly minor repairs.

Good operations

[edit]

Another related issue for avoiding costly repairs (or disasters) is the proper operation of a home, including systems and appliances, in a way that prevents damage or prolongs their usefulness. For example, at higher latitudes, even a clean rain gutter can suddenly build up an ice dam in winter, forcing melt water into unprotected roofing, resulting in leaks or even flooding inside walls or rooms. This can be prevented by installing moisture barrier beneath the roofing tiles. A wary home-owner should be alert to the conditions that can result in larger problems and take remedial action before damage or injury occurs. It may be easier to tack down a bit of worn carpet than repair a large patch damaged by prolonged misuse. Another example is to seek out the source of unusual noises or smells when mechanical, electrical or plumbing systems are operating—sometimes they indicate incipient problems. One should avoid overloading or otherwise misusing systems, and a recurring overload may indicate time for an upgrade.

Water infiltration is one of the most insidious sources of home damage. Small leaks can lead to water stains, and rotting wood. Soft, rotten wood is an inviting target for termites and other wood-damaging insects. Left unattended, a small leak can lead to significant structural damage, necessitating the replacement of beams and framing.

With a useful selection of tools, typical materials and supplies on hand, and some home repair information or experience, a home-owner or handyperson should be able to carry out a large number of DIY home repairs and identify those that will need the specialized attention of others.

Remediation of environmental problems

[edit]

When a home is sold, inspections are performed that may reveal environmental hazards such as radon gas in the basement or water supply or friable asbestos materials (both of which can cause lung cancer), peeling or disturbed lead paint (a risk to children and pregnant women), in-ground heating oil tanks that may contaminate ground water, or mold that can cause problems for those with asthma or allergies. Typically the buyer or mortgage lender will require these conditions to be repaired before allowing the purchase to close. An entire industry of environmental remediation contractors has developed to help home owners resolve these types of problems.

See also

[edit]

-  not found or type unknown Housing portal

- Electrical wiring
- Handyperson
- Housekeeping
- Home improvement
- Home wiring

- HVAC
- Maintenance, repair, and operations
- Plumbing
- Right to repair
- Smoke alarm
- Winterization

References

[edit]

1. ^ *Reader's Digest New Complete Do-it-yourself Manual*. Montreal, Canada: Reader's Digest Association. 1991. pp. 9–13. ISBN 9780888501783. OCLC 1008853527.

- v
- t
- e

Rooms and spaces of a house

Shared rooms

- Bonus room
- Common room
- Den
- Dining room
- Family room
- Garret
- Great room
- Home cinema
- Kitchen
 - dirty kitchen
 - kitchenette
- Living room
- Gynaecium
 - harem
- Andron
 - man cave
- Recreation room
 - billiard room
- Shrine
- Study
- Sunroom

Private rooms

- Bathroom
 - toilet
- Bedroom / Guest room
 - closet
- Bedsit / Miniflat
- Boudoir
- Cabinet
- Nursery

Spaces

- Atrium
- Balcony
- Breezeway
- Conversation pit
- Cubby-hole
- Deck
- Elevator
 - dumbwaiter
- Entryway/Genkan
- Fireplace
 - hearth
- Foyer
- Hall
- Hallway
- Inglenook
- Lanai
- Loft
- Loggia
- Overhang
- Patio
- Porch
 - screened
 - sleeping
- Ramp
- Secret passage
- Stairs/Staircase
- Terrace
- Veranda
- Vestibule

**Technical, utility
and storage**

- Attic
- Basement
- Carport
- Cloakroom
- Closet
- Crawl space
- Electrical room
- Equipment room
- Furnace room / Boiler room
- Garage
- Janitorial closet
- Larder
- Laundry room / Utility room / Storage room
- Mechanical room / floor
- Pantry
- Root cellar
- Semi-basement
- Storm cellar / Safe room
- Studio
- Wardrobe
- Wine cellar
- Wiring closet
- Workshop

Great house areas

- Antechamber
- Ballroom
- Kitchen-related
 - butler's pantry
 - buttery
 - saucery
 - scullery
 - spicery
 - still room
- Conservatory / Orangery
- Courtyard
- Drawing room
- Great chamber
- Great hall
- Library
- Long gallery
- Lumber room
- Parlour
- Sauna
- Servants' hall
- Servants' quarters
- Smoking room
- Solar
- State room
- Swimming pool
- Turret
- Undercroft

Other

- Furniture
- Hidden room
- House
 - house plan
 - styles
 - types
- Multi-family residential
- Secondary suite
- Duplex
- Terraced
- Detached
- Semi-detached
- Townhouse
- Studio apartment

**Architectural
elements**

- Arch
- Balconet
- Baluster
- Belt course
- Bressummer
- Ceiling
- Chimney
- Colonnade / Portico
- Column
- Cornice / Eaves
- Dome
- Door
- Ell
- Floor
- Foundation
- Gable
- Gate
 - Portal
- Lighting
- Ornament
- Plumbing
- Quoins
- Roof
 - shingles
- Roof lantern
- Sill plate
- Style
 - list
- Skylight
- Threshold
- Transom
- Vault
- Wall
- Window

Related

- Backyard
- Driveway
- Front yard
- Garden
 - roof garden
- Home
- Home improvement
- Home repair
- Shed
- Tree house

Category: Rooms

About Cook County

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Things To Do in Cook County

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Sand Ridge Nature Center

4.8 (96)

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

River Trail Nature Center

4.6 (235)

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Palmisano (Henry) Park

4.7 (1262)

Driving Directions in Cook County

Driving Directions From Palmisano (Henry) Park to

Driving Directions From Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens to

Driving Directions From Navy Pier to

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Navy+Pier/United+Structural+Systems+of+Illinois%2C+187.6050944,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1sunknown!2m2!1d-87.6050944!2d41.8918633!1m5!1m1!1sChIJ-wSxDtinD4gRiv4kY3RRh9U!2m2!1d-88.1396465!2d42.0637725!3e0>

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Lake+Katherine+Nature+Center+and+Botanic+Gardens/187.8010774,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1sunknown!2m2!1d-87.8010774!2d41.6776048!1m5!1m1!1sChIJ-wSxDtinD4gRiv4kY3RRh9U!2m2!1d-88.1396465!2d42.0637725!3e2>

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Palmisano+%28Henry%29+Park/United+Structural+Systems+of+Illinois%2C+187.6490151,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1sunknown!2m2!1d-87.6490151!2d41.8429903!1m5!1m1!1sChIJ-wSxDtinD4gRiv4kY3RRh9U!2m2!1d-88.1396465!2d42.0637725!3e1>

Reviews for



found or type unknown

Jeffery James

(5)

Very happy with my experience. They were prompt and followed through, and very helpful in fixing the crack in my foundation.



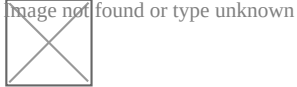
found or type unknown

Sarah McNeily

(5)

USS was excellent. They are honest, straightforward, trustworthy, and conscientious. They thoughtfully removed the flowers and flower bulbs to dig where they needed in the yard, replanted said flowers and spread the extra dirt to fill in an

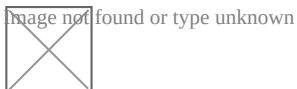
area of the yard. We've had other services from different companies and our yard was really a mess after. They kept the job site meticulously clean. The crew was on time and friendly. I'd recommend them any day! Thanks to Jessie and crew.



Jim de Leon

(5)

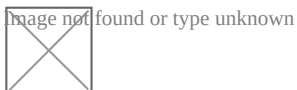
It was a pleasure to work with Rick and his crew. From the beginning, Rick listened to my concerns and what I wished to accomplish. Out of the 6 contractors that quoted the project, Rick seemed the MOST willing to accommodate my wishes. His pricing was definitely more than fair as well. I had 10 push piers installed to stabilize and lift an addition of my house. The project commenced at the date that Rick had disclosed initially and it was completed within the same time period expected (based on Rick's original assessment). The crew was well informed, courteous, and hard working. They were not loud (even while equipment was being utilized) and were well spoken. My neighbors were very impressed on how polite they were when they entered / exited my property (saying hello or good morning each day when they crossed paths). You can tell they care about the customer concerns. They ensured that the property would be put back as clean as possible by placing MANY sheets of plywood down prior to excavating. They compacted the dirt back in the holes extremely well to avoid large stock piles of soils. All the while, the main office was calling me to discuss updates and expectations of completion. They provided waivers of lien, certificates of insurance, properly acquired permits, and JULIE locates. From a construction background, I can tell you that I did not see any flaws in the way they operated and this an extremely professional company. The pictures attached show the push piers added to the foundation (pictures 1, 2 & 3), the amount of excavation (picture 4), and the restoration after dirt was placed back in the pits and compacted (pictures 5, 6 & 7). Please notice that they also sealed two large cracks and steel plated these cracks from expanding further (which you can see under my sliding glass door). I, as well as my wife, are extremely happy that we chose United Structural Systems for our contractor. I would happily tell any of my friends and family to use this contractor should the opportunity arise!



Chris Abplanalp

(5)

USS did an amazing job on my underpinning on my house, they were also very courteous to the proximity of my property line next to my neighbor. They kept things in order with all the dirt/mud they had to excavate. They were done exactly in the timeframe they indicated, and the contract was very details oriented with drawings of what would be done. Only thing that would have been nice, is they left my concrete a little muddy with boot prints but again, all-in-all a great job



Dave Kari

(5)

What a fantastic experience! Owner Rick Thomas is a trustworthy professional. Nick and the crew are hard working, knowledgeable and experienced. I interviewed every company in the area, big and small. A homeowner never wants to hear that they have foundation issues. Out of every company, I trusted USS the most, and it paid off in the end. Highly recommend.

United Structural Systems of Illinois, Inc

Phone : +18473822882

City : Hoffman Estates

State : IL

Zip : 60169

Address : 2124 Stonington Ave

Google Business Profile

Company Website : <https://www.unitedstructuralsystems.com/>

USEFUL LINKS

Residential Foundation Repair Services

[home foundation repair service](#)

[Foundation Repair Service](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[About Us](#)

