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Remove delta shower cartridge

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(If you have a large shower head you may need to get creative.)Wrap the vinegar-filled bag around the shower head or faucet so that any place where water exits is completely submerged in the vinegar.Hold the bag in place by snapping a rubber band around it, affixing it to the shower head or faucet.Wait approximately one hour to let the vinegar eat away at any hard-water deposits or calcium buildups.After the hour has passed, remove the bag and scrub the faucet or shower head with a toothbrush to clear up any stubborn residual.Run water as a final rinse.If you turn the shower on and the individual spray holes in the shower head are still blocked, trying poking them with a small tool like a toothpick. The vinegar will have loosened any buildup so that it can be easily dislodged.Family HandymanHow to Clean Faucets With a LemonIf you don't have vinegar on hand or prefer a more "natural" solution, try this:Cut a fresh lemon in half.With one of the halves, use your thumbs to gently open up the center.Press the lemon onto the end of the faucet.Put a small plastic bag around the lemon and secure it around the faucet with a rubber band. Be sure the rubber band is cinched tightly and the lemon covers the end of the faucet.Leave the lemon in place for a few hours to allow the citric acid to work its magic.After removing the lemon, use a gentle scrubbing pad or a toothbrush to wash off any loosened hard water buildup.Wipe the faucet with a damp cloth to remove any leftover lemon juice, and your faucet will be squeaky clean.On a cleaning kick? Here are some cleaning tips from the pros: Originally Published: March 05, 2020 Complete DIY projects like a pro! Sign up for our newsletter! When your shower faucet is no longer operating correctly, it might be time to replace the valve it contains. Faucets that are hard to move, don't turn the water off completely, or that cause fluctuations in the temperature of the water, can all indicate the need for a new valve. In addition to replacing a faulty valve, you might also want to undertake a shower valve replacement to take advantage of a new pressure-balanced valve that senses fluctuations in the system and keeps the water temperature constant, even if other fixtures and appliances are running while someone is showering. This can not only be a comfort enhancer, but it can be an important safety feature to prevent scalding. Replacing a shower faucet valve is a rather advanced project that typically requires soldering copper pipes and fittings. However, if you don't have soldering skills—but you do have access to the supply piping—you can install a new valve using CPVC pipe or PEX tubing, neither of which require soldering. This project can be divided into two phases: removing the old valve and installing the new one. Make sure you know where the shutoff valve is for your home's water supply. While you can often cut the water supply closer to the shower on which you'll be working, when it comes to plumbing projects, it's always best to know where the main shutoff is in case something goes wrong and you need to quickly stop a flood. Plumbing work can vary widely depending on the specifics of your shower. Depending on the shower's surroundings, wall material, and more, the following may be required to complete this project: opening the wall; removing, replacing, or repairing tile; soldering; and making multiple plumbing connections. If replacing your shower valve requires any of these steps, our experts strongly recommend that you consider hiring a professional to complete this project for you. Aaron Stickley Shut off both hot and cold water to the room where you'll be working. If you can't access the pipes that directly feed the shower, you'll need to turn the water off at your home's main supply line. Start by removing the shower handle. In this example, there is a screw behind the cap that holds the handle in place. In other cases, you may need an Allen wrench to remove the screw and then the handle. Use a rag to cover the shower or tub drain so that screws and small parts don't fall down the drain. Aaron Stickley Remove the escutcheon trim plate to access the shower valve. This is the round metal cover that hides the hole in the shower wall through which the plumbing exits. With the handle out of the way, you can easily get to the second set of screws that hold the trim plate in place. Unscrew both, then pull the plate off the wall. If there is any caulk around the trim plate, you may need to use a utility knife to cut it before the plate comes off. If there is a protective plate covering the valve, remove that now as well. In this example, the faucet opening in the wall had to be enlarged to remove the protective plate. If you need to do the same, make sure that the hole is only as large as it needs to be in order to minimize wall repair after the new faucet is installed. Aaron Stickley Cut or break open a bigger hole, if necessary, for removing and installing the valves. There are two options: cutting into the wall behind the plumbing cavity or working through a small opening in the surround. In this example, the hole in the fiberglass shower surround was enlarged from the front side by breaking out pieces with pliers. Other types of wall surfaces might require different techniques for enlarging the faucet opening. Keep in mind this hole should ideally be hidden behind the cover plate on the new faucet when the project is done. To make sure the hole isn't too big, use the new cover plate as a guide for gauging how big you can make your hole. Aaron Stickley Determine how to remove the old valve and install the new valve. The shower valve used here has both outside-threaded connections and inside sweat (solder) couplings. Position the new valve in front of the old to determine where the pipes should be cut. Mark the cut locations on the pipe with a marker. Every valve is different, so plan your cuts carefully before you begin. You may need to use other couplings or fittings to route the water pipes into the new valve. Make a list and get all of your materials ready so that the installation goes smoothly. Aaron Stickley Cut the old valve out of the wall, leaving the appropriate amount of pipe for the new valve. While a copper tubing cutter is generally the best tool for cutting copper pipe, for the tight spaces in a project like this, or for PVC piping, a mini-hacksaw works well. Now you are ready to install the new shower valve. 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