

You can repair it yourself...if you have help

"From now on I'll take care of the repairs myself!" Who hasn't said it, and meant it, a hundred times? Especially after a repairman's bill that bent the budget, or an agonizing wait for a repairman to become available, or the nagging feeling that the job wasn't really all that difficult to do.

But then, when it happens... "Henry, the shelf in the basement just came loose and the jars are sliding off."

Sure enough. And among the debris are bits of concrete block pulled out. Not only is the support area for the shelf gone, but it's an open invitation for moisture to come in.

WHAT TO DO? The amateur handyman may think of several practical remedies, but not all of them will really work.

A wedge or plug of wood? Maybe of some value, but it wouldn't solve the moisture problem.

A flat plate of wood glued to the wall? Lots of work, not too good looking, and probably not too strong. Quick-setting hydraulic cement? Now you're talking. Henry. A quick trip to the hardware store, read the instructions: mold the cement into a carrot shape or a ball and press it into the hole.

Certainly will be as moisture-proof as before, and may well hold the shelves as well. Might be worth checking to see if more or stronger an-

chors aren't a good idea, too. Henry's learning fast... and so must every amateur handyman, for common sense can guide you only so far in solving most home maintenance problems. After that you need to know what you're doing.

That knowledge is not hard to obtain. Among standard all-inclusive "do-it-yourself" texts are "The Reader's Digest Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual" and "Time-Life Book: How Things Work In Your Home (And What To Do When They Don't)." If you don't own them, they're available at the public library.

Once you've acquired a modest "how-to" library and a small arsenal of the most frequently needed tools, you'll need to lay in a supply of home repair materials that will most likely be needed to handle those unforeseen emergencies. Supplies that should be in everyone's "survival kit" are these:

Fillers and patchers—Putty, wood filler, caulking and grouting materials, liquid rubber and metallic compounds. These are used for filling openings that shouldn't be there, like the hole in Henry's wall; or spaces between the bathtub and the tile; or

gaps between floorboards, to keep them from moving and squeaking; or splits in siding, or minor roofing leaks.

Adhesives—In addition to general purpose adhesives, there are special adhesives for paper, cloth, wood, plastic, glass or ceramics, metal and other materials. It's important that you know which one to use, and how to use it and every adhesive job should be clamped, for example. Most manufacturers publish charts or other guides, which will save much grief. It saves money to buy the right adhesive, even if you don't use it all up on the job for which you get it.

Coatings—Paint, stains, varnishes. If your fixing leaves a scar, paint it. Paint conceals a multitude of sins. Again, it's important to choose the right finish.

Abrasives—Basic to most maintenance and repair jobs, abrasives are used to remove stains, tarnishes, and rust from wood or metal surfaces before painting them, to eliminate pits from electrical contact points to revive appliances that won't start, to grind to a straight edge the wood that you cut with a non-professional skill, and much more. Industry and commerce use abrasives for such diverse jobs as improving the appearance of eggs and shaping giant steel forgings.

(There's even a special abrasive material made for skin care.) Sandpaper is the most commonly used home abrasive, and comes in a wide selection of "grits" for just about any of the jobs described. The sophisticated home handy person will want to investigate the many power tools designed to accommodate abrasive wheels, belts, discs and sheets, to plane, grind, finish, rub and polish, level, smooth, shape and shine.

All of these products make the home handyman's job easier. But the first rule to observe, according to 3M Co., a leading manufacturer of many helpful products, is to "go easy" and know your limitations. "If you're just beginning to solo," says 3M, "keep the easier jobs for yourself and move up the ladder as you learn. Leave the tougher jobs for the pros until you're sure you can handle them."

"There may always be a certain level of job you'll never be confident enough to tackle yourself, but even so you can save a lot of money and frustration on the others."

\$25 SURVIVAL KIT

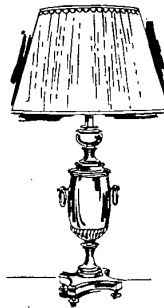
A homemaker's "survival kit," which represents an investment in the neighborhood of \$25, should include the following tools:

12 foot, 3/4 inch metal tape measure
Phillips head screw driver
three-inch screw driver with blade

four or six-inch screw driver with 1/2" blade
locking plier/wrench
wood saw
hammer
replaceable-blade utility knife and set of blades

circular hand drill and set of bits
putty knife
mason's trowel
oil can with bent spout
small utility saw
small collections of nails, brads, screws, nuts, bolts.

Subtle elegance describes this pedestal lamp by Stiffel



This turn-on-pedestal Georgian lamp is finished in bright old brass. Shade is an ivory slub texture over translucent vinyl. Convenient pull chains. 29 inches tall...\$160. Many other handsome Stiffel lamps in stock...see them soon.

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Heads lodge

William Rosen of Southfield takes over June 1 as president of the Detroit Lodge Bnai Brith, Jewish fraternal organization. Rosen, who is with Davidson's Shoe and Handbag Sales in Birmingham, has been a member of the lodge 11 years in several leadership posts.

Telegraph work to cost \$5.2 million

Two improvement projects on Telegraph Road in Oakland and Wayne Counties will cost the State Highways Department more than \$5.2 million.

The largest will be reconstruction and widening for 2.5 miles to six and eight lanes divided highway from Twelve Mile Road to a half-mile north of Fourteen Mile.

Lowest of six bidders was L.W. Edison Co., Grand Rapids, at \$4,834,613. Completion date is October 1979.

The stretch of road is in Southfield, Bingham Farms, Franklin and Bloomfield Townships.

Median crossovers and turn lanes will be built on a three-mile stretch of Telegraph in Taylor and Dearborn Heights.

Lowest of six bidders was Macomb Construction Co. of Fraser at \$405,247. Completion date is November 1977.

The intersection of Maple and Cranbrook roads in Birmingham will be improved for \$131,942 by DiBasio & Turchetti Construction Co. of Warren, lowest of nine bidders.

Maple will be widened to five lanes to allow a left turn lane. Completion date is September 1977.

PALLIUM and LACT!

PALLIUM: SHIFTING CONTROL OF MARINE MAMMALS FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO THE STATE OF ALASKA WOULD NOT ENDANGER THESE PROTECTED SPECIES.

LACT: MARINE MAMMALS ARE PART OF THE HERITAGE OF ALL U.S. CITIZENS. THE COMMITTEE FOR HUMANE LEGISLATION WARNS THAT ENDING OF PROTECTION WOULD ENCOURAGE KILLING BY HORDES OF PEOPLE TEMPORARILY EMPLOYED IN ALASKA!

PALLIUM: IF WE OBEY THE LAW AND STOP KILLING DOLPHINS, THE COST OF CANNED TUNA WILL RISE SUBSTANTIALLY.

LACT: THERE'S LITTLE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PRICE OF CANNED TUNA AND PROTECTING DOLPHINS. ACCORDING TO THE COMMITTEE FOR HUMANE LEGISLATION, LESS THAN 15% OF TUNA CONSUMED IN THE U.S. IS CAUGHT BY METHODS THAT ENDANGER DOLPHINS, YET MORE THAN 130,000 WERE KILLED NEEDLESSLY LAST YEAR!

TUNA

Sheepskins mean less joblessness, survey shows

A college degree, often viewed as a vehicle to increase lifetime earnings potential, also provides some insulation from unemployment during periods of economic recession, a Wayne State University survey indicates.

Both points were apparent in a WSU

Placement Services poll of 6,205 WSU graduates of December 1975 and June 1976, the fourth such annual survey to determine what happens to WSU graduates when they enter the world of work. Responses were received from 2,333 — 36 per cent.

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