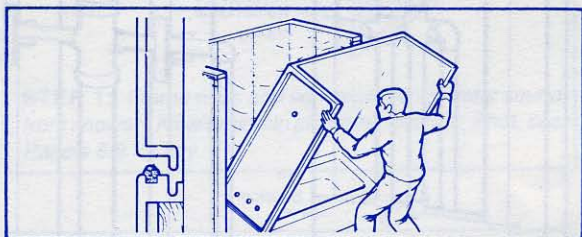


INSTALL SHOWER



The Home Club logo features a large, stylized red and white "#1" on the left. To its right, the words "HomeClub" are written in a bold, italicized font inside a rounded rectangle. Below this, in smaller text, is "AMERICA'S DO-IT-YOURSELF", and at the bottom of the rectangle is the word "WAREHOUSE" in a bold, blue font.

**IN SERVICE, SELECTION
& SAVINGS!**

TOOL and MATERIAL CHECKLIST

Shower Components Framing Materials Drill/ Bits
Pipe Pipe Fittings Pipe Assembly Materials
Hammer Tape Measure Wrench Assortment
How-To Booklets: #12, #13, #14, and #42

Read This Entire How-To Booklet for Specific Tools
and Materials Not Noted in The Basics Listed Above.

1

There are three basic shower installations: in a bathtub, as a separate facility, and a pre-formed tub and/or shower combination that is set into position. In this Booklet, we show you the **basic** water supply and drainage hookups for each type along with construction ideas and steps that you can incorporate.

New Shower In Existing Tub

In this installation, the bathtub is already in position and is serviceable. You simply want to install an overhead shower, connecting it to existing plumbing.

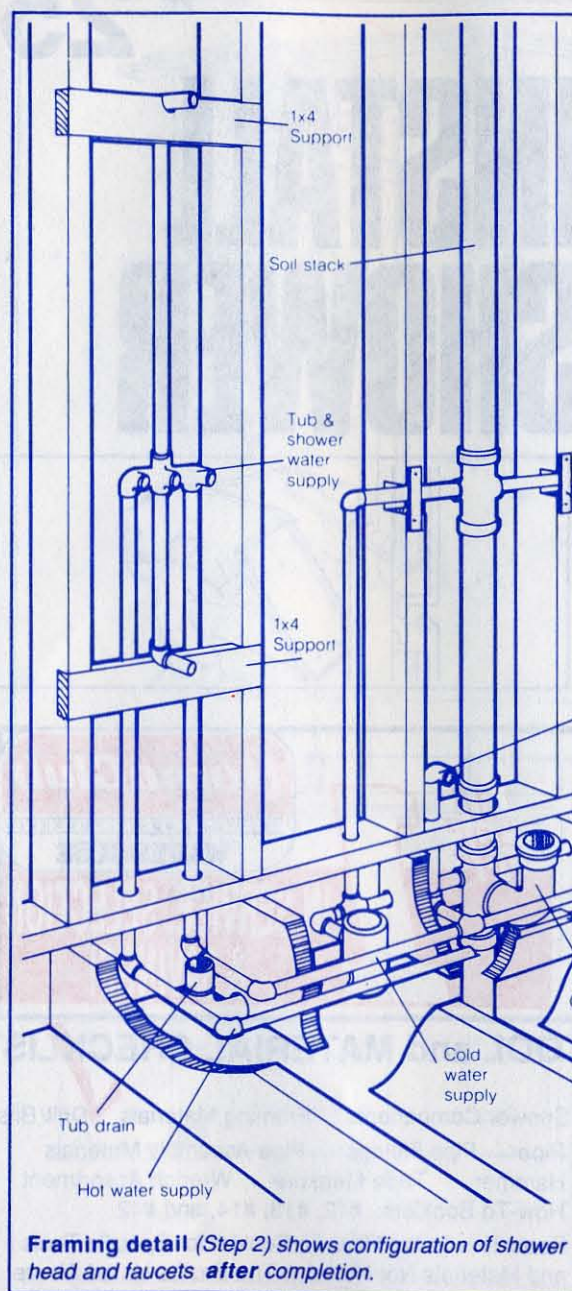
STEP 1: Turn off the water supply at the main shutoff valve. Disassemble the hot and cold water valves above the bathtub. You probably will have to use a screwdriver to remove the escutcheon hiding the assembly in which the faucets are housed. Back out the valves with an adjustable wrench. Now remove the bathtub spout; it usually unscrews counterclockwise. Remove the wallcovering (probably gypsumboard) above the tub where the tub's hot and cold water and drain pipes are located. Carefully break into the wall to locate the pipes and then peel off the wallboard. This is a dirty job, so cover the bottom of the tub and the bathroom flooring with cardboard or a cloth dropcloth. The tools you will need are a gypsumboard saw, hammer and, perhaps, small prybar. Remove the nails and sticking debris from the edge of the studs to accept the new wallcovering later on.

STEP 2: Between the studs you will see the piping for the bathtub—a hot water pipe on the left and a cold water pipe on the right. In the center will be another pipe to which the bathtub spout was attached. The supply pipes will have 45-degree elbows to which the faucet housing is attached. Remove the elbows. Then remove the center pipe that runs to the bathtub spout. You now should have two pipes sticking straight up through the floor or a similar configuration.

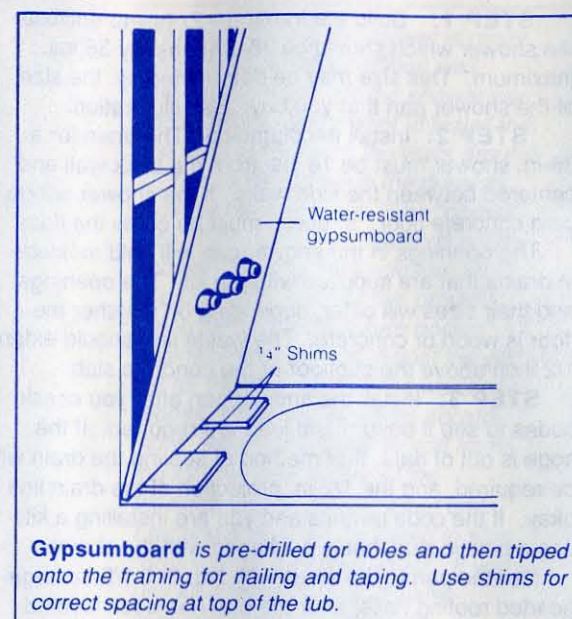
STEP 3: About 78-1/2 ins. above the floor level, bridge the studs with a piece of 1x4 and nail this board to the studs. The blocking will be used to support the shower pipe and shower head (see illustration).

STEP 4: Attach a combination water supply and

2



3



shower faucet housing to the water supply pipes. If copper pipe is used, you will have to sweat these joints. If galvanized steel is used, assemble the unit with nipples (if necessary) for the right fit. If plastic pipe is used, the pipe is welded to the elbows and then probably screwed to the housing via adaptors. (See How-To Booklet Nos. 12, 13, and 14 for instruction tips.) Then reposition the pipe in the housing for the bathtub spout assembly. You will need a supply pipe for the shower head at the top of the supply pipe. Use a 45-degree elbow at this point, and have the projecting pipe long enough to go through the wallboard covering which you will install later on.

You will need a new bathtub spout with a diverter valve in it. The diverter valve is activated by pulling up on a lever on the spout; the water is then "diverted" up the shower water supply pipe.

STEP 5: Attach the faucets, bathtub diverter spout, and shower heads to the piping. Then turn on the water and the faucets to test the system. If you find any leaks, make repairs at this point; the system must be absolutely "watertight".

4

STEP 6: Turn off the water at the main valve once again and disassemble the faucets and bathtub spout.

Fit and mark the wallboard panel to cover the wall, locating the holes for the shower head and faucets. The holes will have to be a tad oversized to go over the fittings; don't be alarmed: escutcheon plates over the shower head and faucets will cover the holes. We recommend that you use water-resistant gypsum-board for the wall covering. It is known in stores as "greenboard." Nail the panel to the studs; you do not have to tape the joints—if the joints fit tight—since the tub area must be covered with ceramic tile to make the shower area watertight. Do not use the shower until the tile is in position. Water will ruin the gypsum-board panels and you will have to replace them.

Once the panel is fastened into position, install the faucets and spout. Turn on the water for just a second or two and test the system. Dry the gypsum-board with toweling and tile the walls to complete the job.

Prefabricated Shower Stall

You can remove the bathtub and install a combination tub/shower unit in its place. Or, you can install the unit from scratch, which is shown here. The techniques are similar for both, as detailed in the basics. But before you purchase a prefabricated tub and/or shower unit, make sure that you can get the unit through the bathroom door and the entrance door(s) to your home.

STEP 1: Build the walls for the unit, using 2x4 framing with the studs placed 16-ins. on center. Then install the piping and the drain. Instructions with the kit will give you the right measurements for the pipe/drain locations. If not, you will have to measure them, using the unit for a guideline.

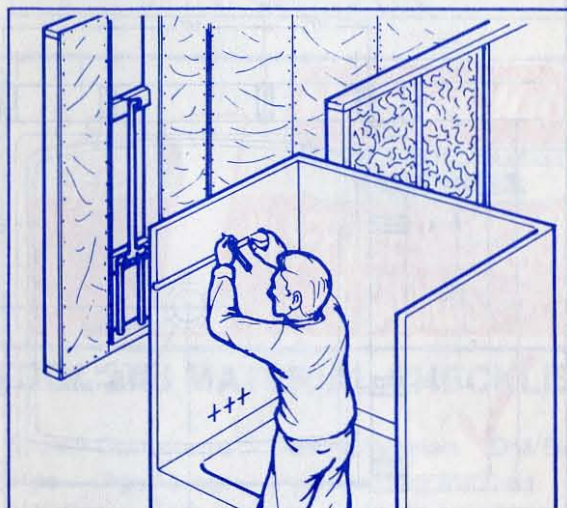
If the unit is one-piece, leave off the two outer studs on the wall until the unit is in position. This will give you room to fit the unit perfectly in position.

To help soundproof the tub/shower area, we recommend that you insulate between the studs with foil-faced insulation batts. Slice the foil with a utility knife in several spots to let moisture vapor through.

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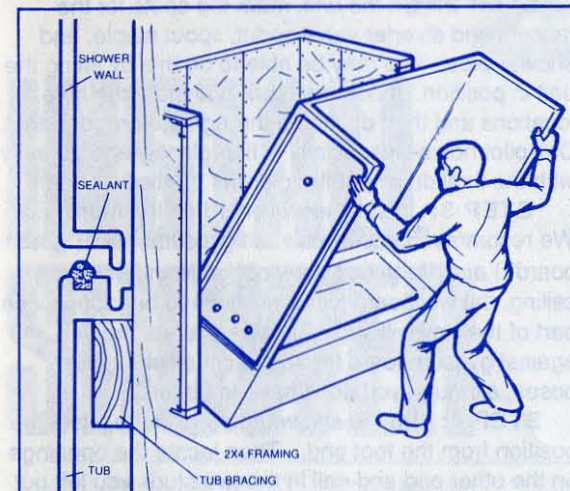


STEP 1: Frame walls and add insulation to deter sound from shower. Kit will contain plumbing location; if not, see Panels 8/9 for key.

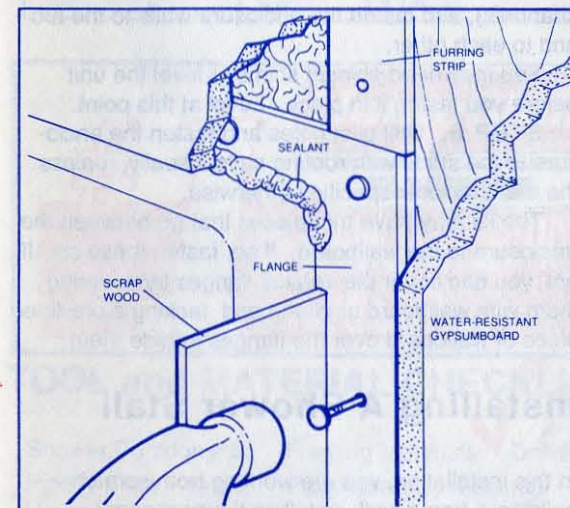


Pipes can be steel, plastic, or copper; plastic is easier to fabricate. Test enclosure against plumbing before you drill holes in the enclosure.

6



STEPS 4/5: Put enclosure into framing, locate openings, and then nail in end studs. Set enclosure on front edge and "work" it back.



Nail flanges of enclosure to framing, protecting enclosure with piece of scrap wood. Fill channels and joints with plenty of sealant.

STEP 2: On the unit, mark the spots for the faucets and diverter valve spout, spout nipple, and shower pipe. You may be able to do this by fitting the unit in position. If not, measure and mark the hole locations and then drill them through the proper panel. Drill pilot holes—especially in fiberglass—and go easy with the final drilling. Fiberglass is “brittle.”

STEP 3: Install the wallboard on the framing. We recommend water-resistant gypsumboard (“green-board”) and, if the unit does not go from floor-to-ceiling, the wallboard joints will have to be taped since part of the wall will show. It is best to set the unit against gypsumboard for sound conditioning purposes, although you don’t have to do this.

STEP 4: Tip the shower/tub enclosure into position from the foot end. Then locate the openings on the other end and nail in the two studs you left out for positioning. If you can, jockey the unit so the bottom of the front flange of it sets across the opening of the framework. Lower the other end of the unit, and flush it against the back of the opening.

If the unit is in 4 pieces, install the tub first. Then caulk the the channels with sealer (if the tub has channels), and fasten the enclosure walls to the tub and to each other.

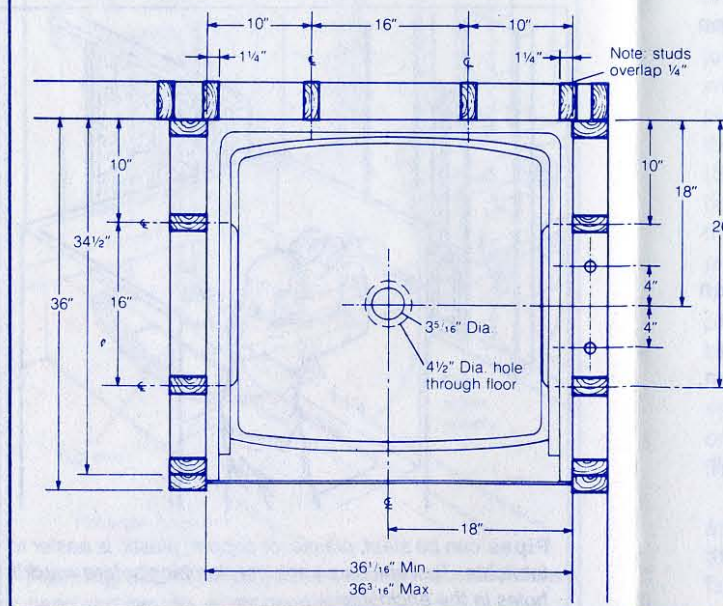
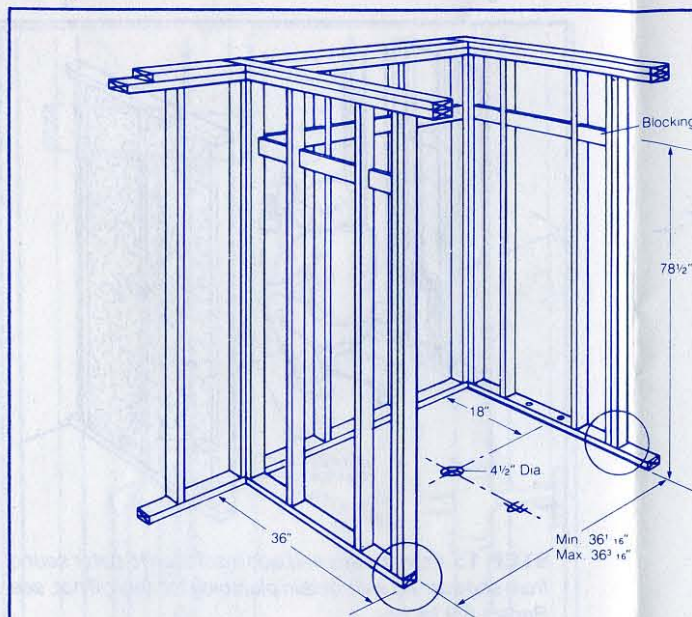
You may need shingle shims to level the unit before you fasten it in place. Level at this point.

STEP 5. Drill pilot holes and fasten the enclosure to the studs with roofing nails, usually, unless the manufacturer specifies otherwise.

The kit may have trim pieces that go between the enclosure to the wallboard. If so, fasten these on. If not, you can cover the vertical flanges by covering them with wallboard or gluing and tacking a pre-fitted piece of wallboard over the flanges to hide them.

Installing A Shower Stall

In this installation, you are working from scratch — building a frame wall, installing the necessary plumbing and drain system, and finishing the project. You also can buy shower kits that are packaged with various panels and component parts.



Framing detail for shower is really a non-load bearing partition wall. The most critical fit is the shower pan and drain; you may want to install this first so you can build the walls around it. The studs circled in the drawing must be set as shown. The “pocket” size of the enclosure depends on the shower pan and the enclosure kit, if you purchase a kit for this project. If you place the enclosure pocket against finished walls, adjust the pocket for the thickness of the walls and reposition the circled studs accordingly. Also don’t forget to add framing for any grab bars and the blocking for the shower head unit. Framing should be insulated to stop “drumming” of shower water. If you use kit enclosure, install water-resistant gypsumboard first.

Dimensions of shower stall are detailed here. Do not go over maximums. The base dimensions are 3x3 ft. Note that the rough-in dimensions are 18 ins. from the back wall and centered between the side walls. This placement is mandatory. The openings in the shower pan will hold molded-in drains that are often supplied with the kit. These openings and their sizes will differ, depending upon whether the floor is wood or concrete. The waste or drain line should extend 1/2 in. above the subfloor or slab. Codes may dictate that the drain seal is a combination of lead and oakum. Here a 4-1/2-in. hole is required in the subfloor. We suggest that a pro rough-in the drain system for you since this connection can be tough.

STEP 1: Build the framing—2x4s—to enclose the shower which should be 36-3/16 ins. by 36 ins. maximum. This size may be determined by the size of the shower pan that you buy. See illustration.

STEP 2: Install the plumbing. The drain for a 36-in. shower must be 18 ins. from the back wall and centered between the side walls. If the shower will go on a concrete floor, a recess must be cut in the floor.

The openings in the shower pan will hold molded-in drains that are supplied with the kit. The openings and their sizes will differ, depending on whether the floor is wood or concrete. The waste line should extend 1/2 inch above the subfloor or the concrete slab.

STEP 3: Install the shower pan after you check codes to see if oakum and lead are required. If the code is out of date, that method of sealing the drain will be required, and the 1/2-in. projection of the drain line is okay. If the code permits and you are installing a kit, use a plastic seal that is packaged with the shower.

Nail the pan to the studs with No. 6x1-1/2-in. large-headed roofing nails, after the pan has been leveled with cedar shingle shims.

STEP 4: Install the shower faucets and shower head. Connect the pipes to the water supply and turn on the water at the main supply valve where you turned it off. For just a second, turn on the shower. Then check the pipes and drain for leaks. If you spot trouble, make repairs at this point. Then remove the valves and the showerhead.

STEP 5: Measure, mark, and cover the wall framing with water-resistant gypsumboard (greenboard) and tape the joints above the showerhead level. Cut the openings in the gypsumboard for the fixtures and replace them. Escutcheons will cover the holes, which will be slightly enlarged to fit the faucet stems and showerhead.

To complete the project, tile the walls with ceramic tile. Or, you can use plastic panels that are cemented or mechanically fastened to the wall and trimmed with molding. The panels should have gypsum wallboard backing. See How-To Booklet No. 42 for ceramic tile setting procedures. You shouldn't leave the wallboard bare or even painted. The water will soon delaminate the wallboard and it will have to be replaced.

