

DIY Repair Mastery

20-Video Pro Course

Over 3 hours of hands-on instruction filmed on real job sites - not a studio

Plumbing basics • Outlet and switch replacement boundaries • Drywall patching •
Caulking • Weatherstripping • Fixture installs • Troubleshooting

Michael - GOAL Investment Inc.

Digital Course Workbook + Printable Step-by-Step Handouts

Course Promise

Skip the confusion, not the safety. This workbook shows homeowners how to prepare, inspect, document, and complete small repairs cleanly - while knowing exactly when the job belongs to a licensed trade professional.

This course is educational. It is not a substitute for permits, local code, manufacturer instructions, landlord approval, insurance requirements, or licensed electrical, plumbing, HVAC, roofing, gas, or structural work where required. Always verify legal requirements with your local authority having jurisdiction.

How to Use This Course Workbook

This course is designed around 20 real-world repair videos. Each video has a printable handout: tools, safety, step-by-step workflow, common mistakes, and a field-notes page. The goal is not to turn every homeowner into a contractor. The goal is to help a property owner understand the repair, prevent damage, communicate clearly, and complete only the jobs that are within a safe and legal DIY boundary.

Safety Boundary

The course intentionally separates safe homeowner checks from professional-only work. Gas lines, major electrical changes, panel work, structural repairs, main sewer issues, roof work in dangerous conditions, and any work requiring a license or permit should be handled by a qualified professional.

What students learn

- How to set up a repair safely before touching tools.
- How to document existing conditions before a dispute or damage claim starts.
- How to spot red flags early: heat, smell, moisture, movement, buzzing, rot, mold, gas, sewage, or repeated breaker trips.
- How to avoid the common homeowner mistake of making a small problem worse.
- How to decide between DIY, handyman, and licensed-trade work.

Course Roadmap

Video	Module	Core Skill
1	Course Orientation & Jobsite Mindset	Set up a safe learning space, understand scope, and learn the difference between a manageable repair and a professional-only problem.
2	Tool Belt Setup & Material Runs	Build a realistic starter kit and avoid wasting money on tools you do not need yet.
3	Plumbing Basics: Shutoffs, Supply Lines & Leaks	Identify common shutoff points, supply connections, and leak patterns before damage spreads.
4	Toilet Tune-Up: Fill Valves, Flappers & Wax-Ring Warnings	Understand the parts inside the tank and the difference between a running toilet and a floor leak.
5	Faucet & Fixture Leaks	Recognize faucet drip sources, supply leaks, aerator clogs, and when replacement beats repair.
6	Drain Care Without Destroying Pipes	Clear minor clogs without damaging traps, finishes, or old piping.
7	Drywall Patch: Small Holes to Large Repairs	Patch nail pops, dents, small holes, and larger cutouts with clean finish expectations.
8	Caulking Like a Pro	Remove failed caulk, prep the joint, and lay a clean bead that actually seals.
9	Door Tune-Up: Hinges, Strike Plates & Latches	Fix rubbing, loose hinges, latch alignment, and common door annoyances.
10	Window & Door Weatherstripping	Seal drafts around doors and operable windows while keeping ventilation and drainage in mind.
11	Interior Painting & Touch-Up Prep	Prepare surfaces, repair small defects, and avoid the rushed finish that makes paint fail.
12	Fixture Installs: Towel Bars, Shelves & Accessories	Anchor light-duty fixtures correctly and avoid torn drywall or crooked installs.
13	Electrical Safety Orientation	Learn panel labels, breaker behavior, GFCI/AFCI basics, and red flags that stop DIY work.
14	Outlet Replacement: Like-for-Like Only	Understand the safe boundary for replacing a standard receptacle with the same type where legal and appropriate.
15	Switch Replacement & Simple Controls	Replace a simple single-pole switch only when wiring is straightforward and known.
16	Light Fixture Safety & Replacement Boundaries	Plan a basic light fixture replacement while respecting box support and wiring condition.
17	Flooring & Trim Touch-Ups	Handle small trim repairs, transition strips, squeaks, and finish touchups.
18	Exterior Maintenance: Gutters, Seals & Small Repairs	Spot exterior problems before they become water, pest, or structural problems.
19	Troubleshooting Service Calls Before You Make Them	Run safe pre-checks that help you avoid unnecessary service calls and explain issues clearly when you do call.
20	Final Capstone: The 30-Day Home Repair Plan	Turn the course into a maintenance plan for your own home or rental property.

The Three Rules Before Every Repair

	Water off, power off, heat source off, pressure relieved, furniture protected, and photos taken. The first job is to keep the problem from spreading.
2. Diagnose before buying parts	Most wasted trips come from guessing. Match part numbers, measure twice, verify connections, and photograph existing conditions.
3. Know the stop signs	If you smell gas, see sparks, feel heat at an outlet, discover active sewage, find structural movement, or cannot identify a wire/pipe/valve, stop and call the right professional.

Field Note

A good repair starts before the repair. The best contractors do not rush into the work. They protect the area, shut down the hazard, confirm the scope, and then touch tools.

Starter Tool Kit and PPE

Category	Recommended Starter Items	Why It Matters
Safety	Safety glasses, gloves, dust mask/respirator as appropriate, knee pads, hearing protection	Protects you from dust, splinters, metal fragments, chemical exposure, and body strain.
Diagnosis	Flashlight, phone camera, tape measure, notebook, outlet tester, non-contact voltage tester	Helps you inspect and document before disassembly.
Hand Tools	6-in-1 screwdriver, pliers, adjustable wrench, utility knife, putty knives, level, hammer	Covers the majority of basic household repairs.
Protection	Drop cloth, towels, bucket, painter tape, cardboard, trash bags	Prevents a small repair from damaging finished surfaces.
Consumables	Caulk, painter tape, screws, anchors, wire labels, sandpaper, joint compound, cleaning rags	Keeps common repair materials organized and ready.

Video 1: Course Orientation & Jobsite Mindset

Set up a safe learning space, understand scope, and learn the difference between a manageable repair and a professional-only problem.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Safety glasses	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Work gloves	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Notebook or phone camera	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Flashlight	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Basic hand tools	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Know where shutoffs and breakers are before touching a repair.
- ☐ Photograph before, during, and after every job.
- ☐ Stop when you discover active leaks, burning smells, gas odor, structural movement, or unknown wiring.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 1

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Walk the property and list your top five maintenance issues.	
5	Build a small repair kit and label it.	
6	Record your shutoff and panel locations.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 1

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Own the first 90 seconds. Most repairs fail because nobody paused long enough to shut off, test, photograph, and think.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 1

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 2: Tool Belt Setup & Material Runs

Build a realistic starter kit and avoid wasting money on tools you do not need yet.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Tape measure	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
6-in-1 screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Adjustable wrench	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Utility knife	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Level	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Pliers	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Caulk gun	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Keep blades retracted.
- ☐ Inspect cords and batteries before use.
- ☐ Do not use damaged ladders or unstable platforms.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 2

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Sort tools by plumbing, electrical, finish work, and general repair.	
5	Create a material checklist before driving to the store.	
6	Keep receipts and product labels for future warranty reference.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 2

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Good work is not magic. It is preparation, patience, and knowing when the problem is bigger than the tool in your hand.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 2

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 3: Plumbing Basics: Shutoffs, Supply Lines & Leaks

Identify common shutoff points, supply connections, and leak patterns before damage spreads.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Flashlight	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Bucket	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Towels	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Adjustable wrench	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Channel-lock pliers	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Replacement supply line	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- [] Shut water off before loosening any supply connection.
- [] Do not overtighten plastic or compression fittings.
- [] Call a plumber for main shutoff failure, lead pipe, or active sewage.
- [] Read product instructions before use.
- [] Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- [] Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 3

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Locate every fixture shutoff.	
5	Check under-sink supply lines for corrosion.	
6	Replace questionable flexible supply lines before they burst.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 3

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

If the repair feels like a fight, stop. A house usually wins when you start forcing parts.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 3

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 4: Toilet Tune-Up: Fill Valves, Flappers & Wax-Ring Warnings

Understand the parts inside the tank and the difference between a running toilet and a floor leak.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Sponge	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Bucket	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Adjustable wrench	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Fill valve kit	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Flapper	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Gloves	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Never assume the bowl or tank is clean.
- ☐ If the toilet rocks, stop and inspect the flange before tightening.
- ☐ Sewer gas smell, soft flooring, or loose flange means professional evaluation.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 4

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Test for silent leaks with dye.	
5	Replace a worn flapper.	
6	Document any floor softness around the toilet.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 4

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

You are not just fixing a part. You are protecting flooring, cabinets, drywall, wiring, safety, insurance, and resale value.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 4

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 5: Faucet & Fixture Leaks

Recognize faucet drip sources, supply leaks, aerator clogs, and when replacement beats repair.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Basin wrench	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Adjustable wrench	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Plumber tape for threaded connections	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Towels	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Aerator tool	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Shut water off and relieve pressure.
- ☐ Protect cabinet bottoms from water.
- ☐ Do not force old shutoffs that feel seized.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 5

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Clean an aerator.	
5	Inspect sink deck seals.	
6	Record faucet brand/model before buying parts.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 5

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Clean work is cheaper than rushed work. A towel, a drop cloth, and a photo can save a whole afternoon.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 5

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 6: Drain Care Without Destroying Pipes

Clear minor clogs without damaging traps, finishes, or old piping.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Plunger	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Hand auger	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Bucket	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Gloves	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Trap brush	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Avoid mixing chemicals or using harsh drain cleaners on unknown pipes.
- ☐ Do not force an auger through fragile traps.
- ☐ Repeated clogs, sewage odor, or backup require a pro.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 6

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Plunge correctly.	
5	Remove and clean a simple P-trap where appropriate.	
6	Create a drain maintenance log.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 6

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Own the first 90 seconds. Most repairs fail because nobody paused long enough to shut off, test, photograph, and think.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 6

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 7: Drywall Patch: Small Holes to Large Repairs

Patch nail pops, dents, small holes, and larger cutouts with clean finish expectations.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Putty knife	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Utility knife	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Sanding sponge	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Joint compound	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Mesh tape	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Patch panel	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Wear a dust mask when sanding.
- ☐ Check for wiring or plumbing before cutting.
- ☐ Do not cover active moisture damage.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 7

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Patch a small dent.	
5	Tape a seam.	
6	Feather compound and sand without overworking.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 7

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Good work is not magic. It is preparation, patience, and knowing when the problem is bigger than the tool in your hand.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 7

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 8: Caulking Like a Pro

Remove failed caulk, prep the joint, and lay a clean bead that actually seals.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Caulk gun	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Painter tape	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Utility knife	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Caulk remover	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Rags	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Appropriate caulk	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Use bathroom/kitchen caulk where moisture is present.
- ☐ Do not seal in damp or moldy joints.
- ☐ Ventilate when using solvents.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 8

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Cut out failed caulk.	
5	Clean and dry the joint.	
6	Apply, tool, and inspect a consistent bead.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 8

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

If the repair feels like a fight, stop. A house usually wins when you start forcing parts.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 8

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 9: Door Tune-Up: Hinges, Strike Plates & Latches

Fix rubbing, loose hinges, latch alignment, and common door annoyances.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Drill/driver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Long screws	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Chisel	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Level	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Pencil	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Do not remove too much wood at once.
- ☐ Support heavy doors.
- ☐ Fire-rated doors should not be modified without code awareness.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 9

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Tighten hinge screws.	
5	Adjust strike plate alignment.	
6	Use long screws in jamb-side hinges when appropriate.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 9

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

You are not just fixing a part. You are protecting flooring, cabinets, drywall, wiring, safety, insurance, and resale value.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 9

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 10: Window & Door Weatherstripping

Seal drafts around doors and operable windows while keeping ventilation and drainage in mind.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Tape measure	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Weatherstripping	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Door sweep	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Scissors	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Cleaner	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Do not block weep holes or drainage paths.
- ☐ Check for water intrusion before sealing.
- ☐ Avoid creating indoor air quality issues in very tight homes.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 10

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Perform paper and light-gap tests.	
5	Install a door sweep.	
6	Document draft locations for future insulation work.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 10

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Clean work is cheaper than rushed work. A towel, a drop cloth, and a photo can save a whole afternoon.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 10

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 11: Interior Painting & Touch-Up Prep

Prepare surfaces, repair small defects, and avoid the rushed finish that makes paint fail.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Drop cloth	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Painter tape	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Spackle	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Sandpaper	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Primer	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Brush/roller	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Ventilate.
- ☐ Protect floors and fixtures.
- ☐ Test unknown old paint before aggressive sanding in older homes.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 11

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Clean surface.	
5	Patch and prime.	
6	Cut in and roll a small wall section.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 11

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Own the first 90 seconds. Most repairs fail because nobody paused long enough to shut off, test, photograph, and think.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 11

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 12: Fixture Installs: Towel Bars, Shelves & Accessories

Anchor light-duty fixtures correctly and avoid torn drywall or crooked installs.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Stud finder	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Level	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Drill bits	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Anchors	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Tape measure	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Know what is behind the wall before drilling.
- ☐ Use anchors rated for the load.
- ☐ Never mount grab bars into drywall anchors alone.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 12

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Locate studs.	
5	Mark level holes.	
6	Install light-duty hardware with correct anchors.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 12

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Good work is not magic. It is preparation, patience, and knowing when the problem is bigger than the tool in your hand.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 12

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 13: Electrical Safety Orientation

Learn panel labels, breaker behavior, GFCI/AFCI basics, and red flags that stop DIY work.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Non-contact voltage tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Plug-in tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Flashlight	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Panel directory sheet	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Electricity can injure or kill.
- ☐ Turn power off and verify before any simple device work.
- ☐ Call a licensed electrician for aluminum wiring, knob-and-tube, buzzing, heat, scorching, or repeated trips.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 13

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Create a panel directory.	
5	Test GFCI devices.	
6	List outlets/switches needing professional review.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 13

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

If the repair feels like a fight, stop. A house usually wins when you start forcing parts.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 13

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 14: Outlet Replacement: Like-for-Like Only

Understand the safe boundary for replacing a standard receptacle with the same type where legal and appropriate.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Screwdrivers	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Voltage tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Plug-in tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Replacement receptacle	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Wire labels	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Power off, lock/tag if possible, and verify dead.
- ☐ Do not change amperage or device type without code knowledge.
- ☐ Stop if wiring is damaged, aluminum, backstabbed poorly, or box is overcrowded.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 14

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Photograph wiring before disconnecting.	
5	Move one conductor at a time.	
6	Test device and cover plate fit.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 14

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

You are not just fixing a part. You are protecting flooring, cabinets, drywall, wiring, safety, insurance, and resale value.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 14

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 15: Switch Replacement & Simple Controls

Replace a simple single-pole switch only when wiring is straightforward and known.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Voltage tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Wire labels	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Replacement switch	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Cover plate	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- [] Do not guess on 3-way/4-way switches.
- [] Neutral bundles and smart switches can change requirements.
- [] Stop if wire colors do not match expected function.
- [] Read product instructions before use.
- [] Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- [] Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 15

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Identify single-pole switch.	
5	Label conductors.	
6	Replace like-for-like and test.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 15

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Clean work is cheaper than rushed work. A towel, a drop cloth, and a photo can save a whole afternoon.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 15

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 16: Light Fixture Safety & Replacement Boundaries

Plan a basic light fixture replacement while respecting box support and wiring condition.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Ladder	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Voltage tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Screwdriver	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Wire connectors	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Fixture hardware	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Support fixtures safely.
- ☐ Verify the box is rated for the fixture weight.
- ☐ Ceiling fans require fan-rated boxes.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 16

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Check fixture weight.	
5	Photograph old connection.	
6	Test operation and heat clearance.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 16

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note
Own the first 90 seconds. Most repairs fail because nobody paused long enough to shut off, test, photograph, and think.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 16

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 17: Flooring & Trim Touch-Ups

Handle small trim repairs, transition strips, squeaks, and finish touchups.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Miter box or saw	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Finish nails	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Nail set	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Wood filler	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Adhesive	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Level	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Wear eye protection.
- ☐ Do not nail into unknown radiant heat or wiring areas.
- ☐ Trip hazards should be corrected promptly.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 17

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Reset loose trim.	
5	Install a simple transition strip.	
6	Fill and touch up nail holes.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 17

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Good work is not magic. It is preparation, patience, and knowing when the problem is bigger than the tool in your hand.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 17

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 18: Exterior Maintenance: Gutters, Seals & Small Repairs

Spot exterior problems before they become water, pest, or structural problems.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Ladder stabilizer	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Gloves	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Hose	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Gutter scoop	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Exterior sealant	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Camera	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Use ladder safety.
- ☐ Do not work on steep, wet, icy, or storm-damaged roofs.
- ☐ Electrical service drops and ladders are a dangerous combination.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 18

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Clean gutters safely.	
5	Inspect downspout discharge.	
6	Photo-document failing caulk/flashing.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 18

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

If the repair feels like a fight, stop. A house usually wins when you start forcing parts.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 18

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 19: Troubleshooting Service Calls Before You Make Them

Run safe pre-checks that help you avoid unnecessary service calls and explain issues clearly when you do call.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Notebook	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Camera	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Flashlight	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Thermometer	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Outlet tester	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Basic meter only if trained	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Do not bypass safety devices.
- ☐ Do not reset breakers repeatedly.
- ☐ Gas smell, CO alarm, or sparking means emergency procedure.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 19

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Create a symptom timeline.	
5	Record model/serial numbers.	
6	Prepare photos and questions for the contractor.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 19

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

You are not just fixing a part. You are protecting flooring, cabinets, drywall, wiring, safety, insurance, and resale value.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 19

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Video 20: Final Capstone: The 30-Day Home Repair Plan

Turn the course into a maintenance plan for your own home or rental property.

Real Jobsite Objective

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to explain the repair, identify the risk points, prepare the work area, and decide whether the job is safe for you to complete or should be escalated.

Tools and Materials

Item	Use
Binder or digital folder	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Repair log	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Priority matrix	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Calendar	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.
Budget sheet	Used during inspection, setup, or completion. Match parts and materials to the existing condition and manufacturer instructions.

Safety Checklist

- ☐ Prioritize life safety first.
- ☐ Permits and code requirements vary by location.
- ☐ Document work and keep receipts.
- ☐ Read product instructions before use.
- ☐ Keep children and pets out of the work zone.
- ☐ Photograph the condition before and after work.

Printable Step-by-Step Handout - Video 20

Step	Action	Pass/Fail Notes
1	Clear the work area and protect finished surfaces.	
2	Identify shutoff, breaker, valve, fastener, or mounting point before disassembly.	
3	Take photos from multiple angles before loosening, cutting, removing, or replacing anything.	
4	Build a 30-day punch list.	
5	Separate DIY, handyman, and licensed trade tasks.	
6	Schedule seasonal maintenance reminders.	
7	Clean the work area and test the repair under normal use.	
8	Document materials used, date completed, and any follow-up needed.	

Stop-Work Triggers

Stop immediately if the repair reveals hidden water damage, damaged wiring, gas odor, structural movement, overheating, mold beyond a small contained area, sewage, or any condition outside the planned scope.

Common Mistakes and Pro Habits - Video 20

Mistake	Why It Causes Trouble	Pro Habit
Skipping photos	You lose the record of what was there and how it was connected.	Photograph before touching anything.
Buying parts by memory	Small differences in size, thread, rating, or style can ruin the repair.	Bring the old part, photo, or model number.
Forcing old parts	Breaks valves, strips screws, cracks plastic, or damages finishes.	Stop, apply the correct technique, or replace the surrounding worn component.
Ignoring smell/heat/moisture	These are often safety warnings, not inconveniences.	Escalate quickly when a warning sign appears.
Leaving no documentation	Future repairs become guesswork.	Keep receipts, photos, model numbers, and notes.

Michael's Field Note

Clean work is cheaper than rushed work. A towel, a drop cloth, and a photo can save a whole afternoon.

Student Drill

- [] Explain the repair in one sentence before starting.
- [] Name the shutoff, breaker, or stop point.
- [] Name the condition that would make you call a professional.
- [] List the exact parts or materials used.

Field Notes Page - Video 20

Property / Room	
Date / Time	
Existing Condition	
Photos Taken	Yes / No
Parts or Materials Used	
What Went Right	
What Slowed Me Down	
Follow-Up Needed	
DIY / Handyman / Licensed Trade Next Step	

Notes:

Appendix A: Repair Decision Matrix

Condition	DIY Check	Handyman Scope	Licensed / Emergency Scope
Dripping faucet	Inspect aerator, shutoffs, visible leak source	Replace faucet, supply line, trap, or minor fixture component where allowed	Main shutoff failure, hidden pipe leak, lead pipe, flooding
Outlet issue	Test GFCI/reset, check if breaker tripped once	Replace like-for-like device only if legal and wiring is known	Heat, scorch, buzzing, aluminum wiring, panel work, repeated trips
Door draft	Paper test, light-gap test	Weatherstrip, sweep, adjust latch/strike	Rotten jamb, structural settlement, fire-rated door concerns
Drywall damage	Identify size and moisture source	Patch and finish ordinary damage	Active leak, mold spread, fire separation, structural crack
HVAC comfort	Filter check, thermostat settings	Basic register/airflow cleanup	Gas furnace malfunction, refrigerant, combustion, repeated failures

Appendix B: Pre-Service Call Form

Use this before calling a contractor. Clear notes save time, reduce misunderstandings, and help the technician arrive with the right information.

Problem observed	
When it started	
What changed recently	
Shutoff/breaker/valve checked	
Photos/videos taken	
Model/serial numbers	
Safety concerns	
Access notes	
Budget or urgency	
Questions for contractor	

Appendix C: Maintenance Calendar

Month	Focus	Done
January	Check insulation gaps, plumbing freeze risk, filters, weatherstripping.	☐
February	Inspect under sinks, toilet bases, caulk lines, and electrical cords.	☐
March	Test sump pump, clean gutters when safe, inspect exterior drainage.	☐
April	Service AC prep, window/door seal check, exterior caulk review.	☐
May	Check hose bibbs, deck fasteners, outdoor GFCI function.	☐
June	Inspect bathrooms, fans, grout, caulk, and attic ventilation signs.	☐
July	Check HVAC airflow, condensate drains, door sweeps, pests.	☐
August	Inspect roofing from ground, gutters, downspouts, foundation drainage.	☐
September	Furnace prep, filter stock, CO alarms, weatherstripping.	☐
October	Winterize hose bibbs, seal drafts, clean gutters after leaves.	☐
November	Smoke/CO alarm test, plumbing freeze prep, emergency kit.	☐
December	Inspect cords, holiday loads, shutoff access, winter drafts.	☐

Appendix D: Safety Source Notes

This workbook uses safety-first principles consistent with public safety agencies and homeowner guidance. Always follow the manufacturer instructions and local code requirements for your location.

Topic	Source Anchor	Practical Takeaway
Electrical fire safety	NFPA electrical safety guidance; ESFI extension cord guidance	Avoid overloaded cords, heat-producing appliances on extension cords, hidden cords, damaged devices, and repeated breaker resets.
Smoke alarms and fire prep	U.S. Fire Administration smoke alarm guidance	Test alarms regularly, keep working alarms in place, and treat fire warning signs as life safety issues.
Weatherstripping and caulking	U.S. Department of Energy Energy Saver guidance	Weatherstrip movable components; caulk stationary cracks and joints after cleaning and drying surfaces.
Mold and moisture	CDC and EPA mold/moisture cleanup guidance	Fix moisture sources quickly; do not seal in moisture; call professional help for large or unsafe contamination.

Appendix E: Certificate of Completion

DIY REPAIR MASTERY

20-Video Pro Course

Certificate of Completion

Presented to:

For completing the course workbook, safety checklists, field notes, and final
30-day home repair plan.

Michael - GOAL Investment Inc.