

DIY disasters

Read the story below, then write about a DIY or other household disaster that has happened to you.

Even the best handymen and handywomen can make a mess of a job. But sometimes those disasters can be expensive.

Take Mr. Ranson, of Blackburn, who did up his bathroom. He kept the old bathroom suite to save money, but he put new tiles on the walls. Then his wife found that one of the bath taps was dripping. He got a new washer, but he found that the bath tap wouldn't shift. So he took the taps off the wash basin to see if he could work out how to do the bath tap. When he was taking off the wash basin taps, he ruined the threads on them. He then had to buy a new set of taps.



While he was putting the new taps on, his wife began to complain that they were not the same as the taps on the bath. She said it ruined the look of the bathroom. Mr. Ranson got in a temper and did up one of the taps too tightly. The wash basin cracked right across. They ended up buying a new bathroom suite. Of course, putting in a new suite meant that many of the new tiles got broken and had to be replaced.

In the end, a job which should have cost 10p and taken 10 minutes, cost the Ranson family a fortune and many days of hard work.

Painting a new door

You decide to buy a new door. It is unpainted and you want to gloss paint it. You will need the things in the box below:

gloss paint	paint brush	white spirit
soft brush	undercoat	fine sandpaper
stirring stick	jam jar	old newspapers
rags	primer	screw driver <i>or</i> metal lever

- A.** *List the items in the box in the order that you would use them.*
- B.** *Write down step-by-step instructions for painting the door.*

