

bare basics

SITUATION
4



Loose cabinet doors

Expectedly, after prolonged opening and closing of cabinet doors, they tend to become loose and sometimes even fall off their hinges. The main reasons of cabinet doors losing their grip are loose or damaged hinges, loose screws, damaged doors, or even bad installation.

SOLUTION



According to bathroom and kitchen expert Interior Affairs, the option of fixing or replacing the doors depends on the severity and cause of the problem. A loose screw calls for a simple DIY fix, but if the hinge or the door is damaged, it would be best to replace with new cabinets.

Loose hinges or screws will not affect cabinet drawers with soft closing mechanism as these drawers function on rail, which ensures durability.

"If this is not the first time you've done a DIY fix and the cabinets are in a bad condition, you should consider upgrading your cabinetry. The one-time investment may save you cost and grief in the long run!"

- Interior Affairs

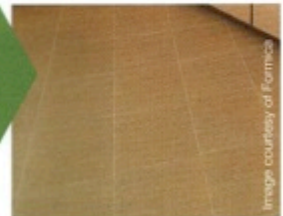
SITUATION
5



Cracked floor tiles

While the first thing that comes to mind when cracks appear in floor tiles is that the problem lies with the tiles. But in actual fact tiles are generally hardy and long-lasting, and cracks are usually caused by other factors such as improper installation or excessive movement in the substrate and dropping of heavy objects on the tiles.

SOLUTION



Cracked or chipped floor tiles can be dangerous and you should always replace it as soon as possible. If you prefer to undertake the process on your own, here are some DIY tips to consider from Home-Fix DIY: "You'll need a grout saw to remove the existing grout surrounding the cracked tile. Then, use a hammer to hit the cracked tile to smaller pieces. Follow by removing the broken pieces, but be careful not to chip or break the other surrounding tiles. Scrap off the existing tile adhesive until you see the cement floor. Using a towel, apply a new layer of tile adhesive and install a new tile. Lastly, re-apply the grout. For safety reasons, wear goggles and gloves during the process."

SITUATION
6



Sagging cabinet shelves

While long term heavy load on a shelf can cause it to sag under the weight, the main reason behind it, according to eco-friendly laminate brand Greenlam, is the quality of the base material used. If the base material is chip board, MDF or cheap quality plywood, shelves will tend to sag more, especially so if the weather is humid and moist. Interior designer New Nyew also shares that shelf sag can be affected by the length, width, thickness and method used to mount the shelves.

SOLUTION

To prevent the sagging problem from worsening and for safety reasons, it would be advisable to replace the shelves with new ones. For those who prefer not to tear down and redo the shelving however, interior designer New Nyew suggests that a contractor should be engaged to help install vertical supports at closer intervals throughout the horizontal span of the shelves. She also offers a more inventive idea: To get creative and



stack bricks under the sagging shelf for an interesting industrial touch! But be sure to glue them down so they won't topple easily.

SITUATION
10

Bad stench in bathroom

Coupled with poor ventilation, persistent bad stench can plague your bathrooms over time. This is especially so for bathrooms without windows or exhaust fans. According to a bathroom expert from Interior Affairs, a lingering

stench can be due to clogged sewage pipes, excess moisture or humidity (resulting in mould), dirty toilet seats and in some cases, a lingering stench can seep into walls and tiles when accumulated over a long time.



Image courtesy of Interior Affairs, featuring Kalkbakk shower tray



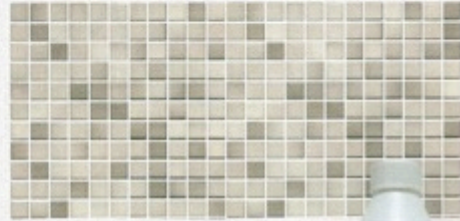
Image courtesy of Interior Affairs, featuring the ROCA Meridian toilet

SOLUTION

For starters, Interior Affairs suggests running water in an unused sink, shower or bath drain a few times each week to remove mould, and keeping bathrooms as dry as possible. Keep the underside of toilet seats clean and doors open for better ventilation. You can also choose to replace with bathroom solutions that are more resistant to dirt and odour, like Interior Affairs'

shower trays that eliminate bacteria accumulation and its fully-glazed ceramic toilet seats that prevent dirt and smell absorption. If all these do not work, Interior Affairs recommends a complete bathroom renovation as the stench could be due to deeper sewage and flush issues which can be resolved with a new toilet system and cistern.

Quick DIY solutions



Dirty grout lines

A synthetic cleaner specially formulated to clean grout joints between wall and floor tiles, the HG Grout Cleaner from Selffix DIY is to be diluted with water, then applied to grout lines or joints with a brush or scrubbing sponge. Leave on for 10 minutes then scrub off and clean with lukewarm water.



Adhesive stains

Use the 3M Adhesive Remover from Selffix DIY, which is a citrus-based cleaning agent ideal for removal of adhesive residue. Coat residue with this remover, wait a few minutes and then use a scraper or cloth to clean up. Repeat the process if necessary. For smaller residue stains, use the Scotch Sticker & Marker Remover with the same directions.

Stained upholstery

Made from natural ingredients, this Exit Soap Stain Removers from Howards Storage World removes stains such as coffee or soda spills on fabrics quickly and easily. It's available in a soap bar or spray pump.

