



## Step Five: Yeah, I Can do That



*“The mind is the limit. As long as the mind can envision the fact you can do something, you can do it, as long as you believe 100 percent”*  
– Arnold Schwarzenegger

Now we’re getting into some large ticket items that can add up to a pile of money over the course of a year. You can shift the scales of your net worth big time, by learning how

to become a handyman or handywoman around the house and yard. And you don't need thousands of dollars' worth of tools.

A lot of people are like me. I'm great at breaking things but not very good at fixing them.

I've spent more money than I care to admit on hiring someone else to fix my stuff. But today we have almighty YouTube and an endless supply of Do It Yourself (DIY) videos for just about everything under the sun. In the past, I would have paid someone to come to my home and make repairs. But I determined to perform these tasks myself with the help of YouTube.

**Example** The filter in our washing machine was clogged. I found a YouTube video for our make and model of how to take the top off, then the front, and finally to the filter and clean it. I took a few pictures with my cellphone as I went along, so I could put the washing machine back together.

I did it in a matter of minutes and saved a hefty chunk of money. Wifey rewarded me with six loads of laundry to wash and dry. She said she didn't have the time. Yeah, right.

No worries. I recognized I had the easy part. I upheld my end, then handed her a small mountain of clean clothes to fold and put away. She should have been more specific regarding the smaller details that made up the whole of the project.

Ah, teamwork.

A few months later, the washing machine door would not lock. An error code flashed. Again, I Googled the make and model of the washer and the error code. I found the

replacement part on Amazon for \$50.00 (a sensor went bad), and a few days later it came in the mail. I easily fixed it.

Bam! More money saved. Now my confidence is riding high. Wifey looks a bit scared as I scan the house for more things to fix. I swapped out two toilets. Then I changed out the water supply valves and hoses throughout the house (ah, be sure to turn off the main water supply first).

[Next Up](#) The back yard. I tore out the aging wooden patio deck, then the brickwork encroaching tree roots had uprooted. I'm ready to put in a brand new concrete patio with brick borders complete with drainage. I plan to save thousands of dollars by challenging myself to do things that, up until now, I've not been very good at.

Thank you, YouTube!

I even found a quick and easy hack on my cell phone when my gas tank door was jammed at the gas station.

[Volvo Broken Fuel Flap / Door Lock Free Fix](#)

Remember I said you don't need thousands of dollars in tools? I have an impossible time selling this to my motor head friends. And rightfully so. They're professionals.



Anyway, if you looked inside my garage, you would see I have mismatched basics tools I've accumulated over the years in a large toolbox. Not sure where they came from. Sears probably. Garage sales. Cheap Christmas gifts. I don't have a set of anything. But I do have a large collection of just about anything I need.

**Oh By the Way:** I bought power tools through Craigslist. They were in great shape and I bought them for around \$25.00 each: reciprocating saw, cordless drill, and a cordless rotary tool. Hopefully they weren't stolen, as they looked hardly used. I want to be smart, frugal, *and* ethical.



**Call to Action:** Look around your place and challenge yourself to fix or upgrade something that, until now, you would have hired someone to do it. Use YouTube DIY videos to help accomplish a task, then take on a more challenging undertaking.

Rinse, lather and repeat.

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