Do It Yourself: HOME IMPROVEMENT

Do It Yourself

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URL: http://www.diynet.com/diy/home_improvement/article/0,2037,DIY_13954_3059205,00.html **Claw Foot Tub Installation: Wall and Floor Tile Grout** From "<u>Weekend Remodeling</u>" episode WKR-305 -- <u>More Projects »</u>

On a project difficulty scale of 1-5 (5 being most difficult), this project rates a 3.

Materials:

Cement board Screws Thin-set Wall mastic Ceramic tile Spacers Tile grout Rubber grout float Sponge and water Claw foot bathtub Plumbing fixtures Exposed pipes Various pipes, elbows and connectors PVC glue Solder Torch Plumbers putty Trowel Pry bar Cold chisel Tape measure Allen wrenches Level Hammer Utility knife Tile cutter Wet saw Drill



Before: This garden tub just didn't suit the homeowner's taste any longer.



After: a spacious and elegant new claw foot tub.

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Paddle bit Sponge Framing square Speed square Caulk gun and caulk Hole saw Pipe cutter Tile nippers Tube cutter Chalk line Safety glasses Dust mask 2 x 4 Drywall Joint compound Hack saw Floor scraper

- 1. Remove all the spacers from between the wall tiles, then use a utility knife to cut away excess mastic in joint lines.
- To mix the grout, simple pour into a bucket, add water and stir together using a blending paddle on the end of a drill (figure A).
 Blend to the consistency of peanut butter. Make sure to mix enough for both sections of walls to keep the color the same.
- 3. Use a soft rubber float to work the grout into the joints (**figure B**). Pack it in and drag float across the joint lines at a 45-degree angle.
- 4. Allow grout to dry to a light haze, then use water to remove excess grout, again pulling the sponge across the tiles at an angle (figure C). Use both sides of the sponge and rinse often.
- 5. Now it's time to work on the floor tiles. Working on the floor is easier and quicker. Push the grout into the joints and drag the float across the tiles at an angle. Here, you can add a great quantity of grout and work in larger sections (figure D), making broader strokes with the float.
- 6. Allow the floor grout to set and develop a light haze, then wipe the area down in the same fashion as on the wall.



Figure A



Figure B



Figure C

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• ALSO IN THIS EPISODE:

<u>Claw Foot Tub Installation: Surround Demolition</u> <u>Claw Foot Tub Installation: Removing Pipes and Setting Tiles</u> <u>Claw Foot Tub Installation: Wall and Floor Tile Grout</u> <u>Claw Foot Tub Installation: New Plumbing</u>



Figure D