

A JOB BY YO BLIZZ THE BUILDER • BOOK #2

HOW YO BLIZZ FIXES A CLOGGED TOILET



Hot water, dish soap, and a steady plunger beat a flooded bathroom floor every time.

YO BLIZZ THE BUILDER
BUILT NOT BORN

YO BLIZZ THE BUILDER

Here's the Job

You flushed. The water rose. Your heart dropped into your shoes. Family, we have all been there, standing in front of a toilet that refuses to do its one job.

A clogged toilet is one of the most common fixes in any house, and most of the time it is a simple traffic jam: too much paper, or something that never should have been flushed in the first place. The good news? You can clear most clogs yourself with stuff already in your kitchen and bathroom.

I'm gone show you how to do it the right way, and the wrong way. We'll start with my favorite trick in this whole book - hot water, dish soap, and patience - then back it up with the plunger and the auger. By the end, that bowl will swirl like a champion.

First things first: if the water is rising toward the rim, reach behind the toilet and turn the water valve off. Flood stopped. Now we work.

Tools & Materials

Good news: this job runs on a short, cheap list. Most of it is already under your sink.

TOOLS

- Flange plunger (the one with the extra rubber flap on the bottom - it seals a toilet bowl way better than a flat sink plunger).
- Rubber gloves.
- A bucket and some old towels.
- A toilet auger (also called a closet auger) - backup tool, about the price of a pizza.
- A kettle or big pot for heating water.

MATERIALS

- Regular dish soap - a good squirt is all you need.
- Hot tap water. Say it with me: hot, NOT boiling. We'll get to why on the next pages.

Skip the harsh chemical drain cleaners for toilets. They rarely beat a clog, they can splash nasty stuff in your face, and they make the job dangerous if you have to plunge after. Soap and water do the work safer.

The Wrong Way

Now let me tell you about the time Blizz tried to outsmart a clog. The water sat there, high and stubborn. Did I grab a plunger like a man with sense? I did not. I flushed it again. And again. Three flushes deep, that bowl turned into a fountain, and I was mopping bathroom water in my socks.

Rule number one of clogged toilets: if it didn't go down the first time, a second flush is just adding water to a flood. The bowl only holds so much.

Then came Wrong Way Move Number Two. I grabbed a wire hanger, straightened it out, and went fishing. All I caught was a scratched porcelain bowl - marks that never come out - and the clog didn't move one inch.

And the grand finale? I almost poured in a kettle of boiling water, thinking hotter means stronger. Hold that thought, family. Boiling water can crack your porcelain bowl clean in half and melt the wax ring that seals the toilet to the floor. That turns a free fix into a whole new toilet.

The Wrong Way: The Mess

So there I stood. Flooded floor. Scratched bowl. Clog still sitting there like it paid rent. Every shortcut I took added a new problem without fixing the first one.

Let's name the wrong moves so you never repeat them:

- Flushing over and over - the bowl overflows, guaranteed.
- Boiling water - can crack porcelain and melt the wax seal. Expensive lesson.
- Wire hangers and random sharp tools - they scratch porcelain and can push the clog deeper.
- Yanking the plunger like you're starting a lawnmower - sloppy plunging splashes dirty water everywhere and barely moves the clog.
- Pouring in chemicals, then plunging - now the splash-back is chemical water. Never worth it.

Deep breath. Towels down. There is a calm, cheap, right way to do this, and it starts in your kitchen. Turn the page and let's fix it like pros.

The Right Way

Here it is - the method I use first, every single time. Hot water and dish soap. The soap lubricates the clog and the pipes, the weight and heat of the water help break things loose, and time does the heavy lifting. Gentle, cheap, and it works on most clogs.

Step 1. Squirt a generous amount of dish soap right into the toilet bowl. About a half cup if you're measuring. Let it sink and start coating the clog.

Step 2. Heat your water - hot tap water, or water heated on the stove until it's steaming hot like a bath. NEVER boiling. If it just boiled, let it sit five minutes first.

Step 3. Pour the water in slowly from about waist height. The height adds gentle force. Aim for the center of the bowl.

Step 4. Now the hardest step: walk away. Give it 20 to 30 minutes. The soap and hot water are softening and loosening that clog while you do absolutely nothing.

Half the time, you'll come back and the water level has already dropped. That's the clog giving up. Don't celebrate yet - we finish the job on the next page.

The Right Way: The Plunge

If the water level dropped, or your wait is up, it's plunger time. The soap-and-water soak already did the quiet work. Now we add pressure - steady pressure, built up right, until the clog releases.

Step 1. Make sure there's enough water in the bowl to cover the plunger's rubber cup. Add a little if you need to. Water is what carries the pressure.

Step 2. Fit the flange into the bowl's drain hole and press down gently first to push the air out and get a tight seal.

Step 3. Plunge with steady, strong pushes AND pulls - the pull matters just as much as the push. Keep the seal, keep the rhythm, about 15 to 20 strokes.

Step 4. Listen and watch. When the pressure finally releases the clog, you'll feel the give and hear the water rush. That beautiful sound is victory.

Pull the plunger out, step back, and let the bowl drain. If it drains low and clean, you just won. One test flush coming up - after we talk backup plans.

The Right Way: Backup & Test

Still clogged after the soak and the plunge? Don't panic and don't flush. Bring in the backup: the toilet auger. It's a flexible cable made just for toilets, with a protective sleeve so it won't scratch the bowl.

Step 1. Feed the auger's cable gently into the drain hole until you feel resistance - that's the clog, or the bend in the pipe.

Step 2. Crank the handle clockwise while pushing gently. The cable tip bores through the clog or hooks it.

Step 3. Pull back slowly - you may pull the clog out with the cable. Then push through once more to clear the path.

Step 4. Remove the auger, then test. Pour in a bucket of water first instead of flushing - if it drains strong, do a real test flush with your hand ready on the water valve.

A strong swirl, a clean drain, and a bowl that refills to normal level? Job done. Wipe down your tools, rinse the plunger and auger with hot water, and store them bucket-side for next time.

Pro Tips & Troubleshooting

PRO TIPS

- Weak flushes clog easier. If your toilet barely swirls on a normal day, that's a water-level or flapper problem - Book 10 of this series covers it.
- Only two things belong in a toilet: human waste and toilet paper. 'Flushable' wipes are famous clog starters, no matter what the package says.
- Keep a flange plunger in the bathroom, not the garage. Seconds matter when the water's rising.

WHEN TO CALL A PLUMBER

- More than one drain is clogged at the same time - that points to a main line problem.
- Water or sewage backs up into a tub, shower, or sink.
- The clog keeps coming back every few weeks.
- You hear gurgling from other fixtures when you flush.
- There's a sewage smell that won't quit.

Calling a pro for a main-line clog isn't losing. It's protecting your whole house from a sewage backup, and that is always the right way.

Your Clogged Toilet Checklist

- ☐ Water rising? Turn the shut-off valve behind the toilet.
- ☐ Towels down, gloves on, bucket ready.
- ☐ Squirt in the dish soap.
- ☐ Add HOT tap water - never boiling.
- ☐ Wait 20 to 30 minutes. Let it work.
- ☐ Plunge steady - strong pushes and pulls, seal tight.
- ☐ Still stuck? Work the toilet auger gently.
- ☐ Test with a bucket of water, then one careful flush.
- ☐ Rinse tools clean and store them in the bathroom.

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| 1. How Yo Blizz Stay Healthy | 2. How Yo Blizz Fixes a Clogged Toilet (this book) |
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| 9. How Yo Blizz Fixes a Garbage Disposal | 10. How Yo Blizz Fixes a Running Toilet |

Another one done the right way. - Yo Blizz

Real talk before you start: this book teaches basic home DIY for learning and laughs. Every house is different, and no book can see your pipes, walls, or wiring. If a job ever feels over your head, if water will not stop, or if something just feels off, shut it down and call a licensed pro. Doing it the right way includes knowing when to call in help.

THERE ARE 9 MORE JOBS IN THE SERIES

This toilet fix is just one job. The whole series walks you through ten of them — the wrong way first, then the right way, every time.

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— Yo Blizz The Builder · *BUILT NOT BORN*