



# How to Replace the Wax Ring on a Toilet

A step-by-step repair guide describing how to replace or install a new wax ring for a toilet.

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# INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a wax ring on a toilet.

A wax ring (wax O-ring, wax ring collar, wax ring seal) is a device that is essentially used to seal the connection between the toilet and the sewer line. This keeps gas and liquid from leaking from underneath the toilet, prevents damage to the flooring, and maintains hygienic disposal of waste. Additionally, a wax ring helps prevent the growth of mold and bacteria around your toilet.

Before you begin, make sure to wear gloves and closed-toed shoes. It will be very useful to have someone near to assist, as a toilet can be heavy and awkward to lift.



## TOOLS:

- [1/2" Wrench](#) (1)
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## Step 1 — Wax Ring



- Turn off the water.  
⚠ You do *not* want to forget this step.

## Step 2



- Disconnect the hose from the toilet by unscrewing the white plastic connector.
- ⓘ Excess water will spill out of this pipe, so have a bucket or rag nearby to catch it!

### Step 3



- Remove the plastic bolt protectors on either side of the base of the toilet.
- Using a wrench, remove the nuts and washers from the bottom of the toilet where it's bolted to the floor.

### Step 4



- Lift the toilet up from the floor.

 Use caution when lifting it, it's going to be heavy!

- Set the toilet off to the side.



## Step 5



- Remove the old wax ring and any debris from the toilet pipe in the floor where the toilet was, being sure not to let any debris fall down the pipe.
- ⓘ It may be nice to wear gloves for this step, as the old wax ring will be a bit dirty.

## Step 6



- Place new ring in the proper position for your toilet to rest on.
- Carefully position the toilet back over the hole, paying attention to the bolts.

## Step 7



- Tighten the nuts and bolts on each side of the toilet and replace the bolt-protectors.

Make sure you wash your hands!