

Fixture Installation Checklist

Avoid costly mistakes when installing new fixtures in your Colorado Springs home.

Based on Fixture Installation Mistakes That Cost Colorado Springs Homeowners Money by Local Pros Colorado

1. Understand Local Water Conditions

Colorado Springs' hard water and varying water pressure require specific considerations.

- Check for existing mineral buildup on current fixtures.
- Consider installing a water softener or filtration system.
- Test your home's water pressure before selecting fixtures.
- Choose fixtures compatible with high or low water pressure.
- Ensure installation methods account for local water pressure.
- Ask professionals about fixture durability against hard water.

2. Ensure Material Compatibility

Mixing incompatible materials can lead to corrosion and leaks.

- Avoid connecting dissimilar metals directly.
- Use dielectric unions or appropriate fittings between different metals.
- Verify compatibility of all pipes, connectors, and fittings.
- Check for corrosion at existing connection points.
- Select materials resistant to mineral-rich water.

3. Adhere to Code Requirements

Failing to meet plumbing and electrical codes can result in violations and safety hazards.

- Determine if a permit is required for your installation.
- Ensure proper venting for plumbing fixtures.
- Verify correct trap configurations are used.
- Confirm minimum drain sizes are met.
- Install backflow prevention devices as required.
- Check electrical box ratings for ceiling fixtures.
- Ensure all wiring connections are secure and properly sized.
- Confirm fixtures are properly grounded.

4. Proper Sealing and Support

Inadequate sealing or support can cause leaks, water damage, and structural issues.

- Use the correct sealant (silicone, putty) for the application.
- Clean mounting surfaces thoroughly before sealing.

- Ensure wax rings are compressed evenly during toilet installation.
- Check for subfloor flex or damage before installing toilets.
- Provide adequate structural support for heavy fixtures (e.g., cast iron sinks).
- Reinforce cabinets and countertops supporting heavy sinks.
- Verify ceiling boxes can support the weight of light fixtures.

5. Thorough Preparation

Rushing the job or skipping preparation steps leads to mistakes.

- Shut off the main water supply before starting plumbing work.
- Completely drain water lines before disconnecting fixtures.
- Inspect and clean old mounting surfaces and pipe threads.
- Gather all necessary tools and materials before beginning.
- Replace old, corroded shut-off valves if necessary.
- Address any corroded pipes before installing new fixtures.

6. Avoid Rushing Installation

Making do with incorrect parts or forcing connections causes damage.

- Stop and acquire the correct tools or adapters if needed.
- Do not overtighten connections, which can crack fixtures.
- Use the appropriate sealant or tape for threaded connections.
- Avoid forcing seized or corroded connections.
- Use the correct wrenches to avoid damaging finishes.
- Do not apply excessive heat near plastic components or solder joints.

7. Recognize When to Call a Professional

Some jobs are more complex than they appear and require expert knowledge.

- Assess if old shut-off valves are seized or corroded.
- Check if supply lines are corroded or difficult to disconnect.
- Evaluate if mounting nuts are rusted solid.
- Determine if specialized tools are required for removal.
- Consider professional help if water is shut off and disassembly is stalled.
- Consult experts for installations in older homes with unique plumbing.
- Hire a professional for any job involving unpermitted work concerns.

Resources & Further Reading

Use these pages while working through the checklist:

■ Home Service Tips & Guides

<https://localproscolorado.com/blog/>

■ Bathroom and Kitchen Fixture Upgrades: What Colorado Springs Homeowners Should Know Before Hiring – Local Pros Colorado

<https://localproscolorado.com/bathroom-and-kitchen-fixture-upgrades-what-colorado-springs-homeowners-should-know-before-hiring/>

■ Gas Line Installation vs. Repair: Cost & Timeline for Colorado Springs Homeowners – Local Pros Colorado

<https://localproscolorado.com/gas-line-installation-vs-repair-cost-timeline-for-colorado-springs-homeowners/>

■ Water Heater Repair vs. Replacement in Colorado Springs: 2026 Cost & Lifespan Guide – Local Pros Colorado

<https://localproscolorado.com/water-heater-repair-vs-replacement-in-colorado-springs-2026-cost-lifespan-guide/>

■ Find Local Home Service Pros in Colorado Springs

<https://localproscolorado.com/>

■ Colorado Home Maintenance Checklist – Local Pros Colorado

<https://localproscolorado.com/checklist/>

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