



How to fix a clogged garbage disposal

Fix a garbage disposal by taking it apart and cleaning it.

Written By: Katie Daffer



INTRODUCTION

This guide is to help fix a garbage disposal if it stops working. Most of the time you just have to clean it and it won't take long. If that does not work here are eight simple steps to help you fix the problem.

TOOLS:

- [Ratcheting Socket Wrench](#) (1)
- [Phillips #0 Screwdriver](#) (2)
- [Flashlight](#) (1)

Optional

- [Latex or nitrile gloves](#) (1)

Optional

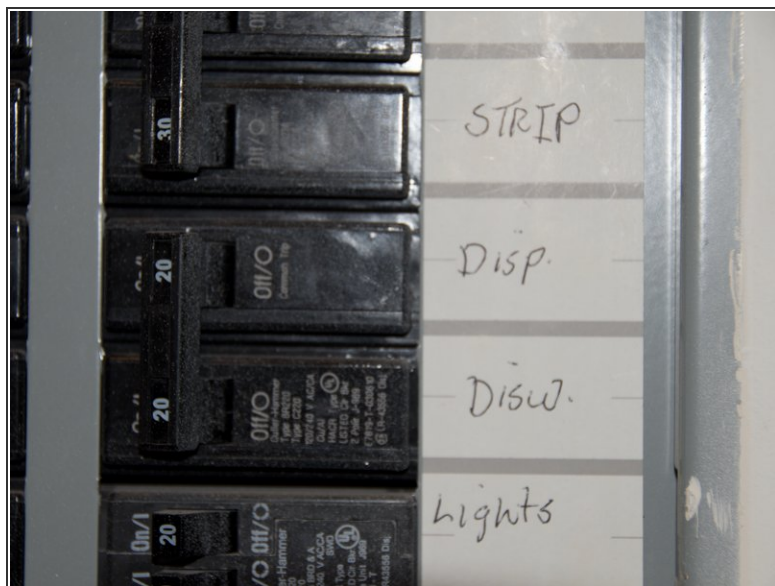
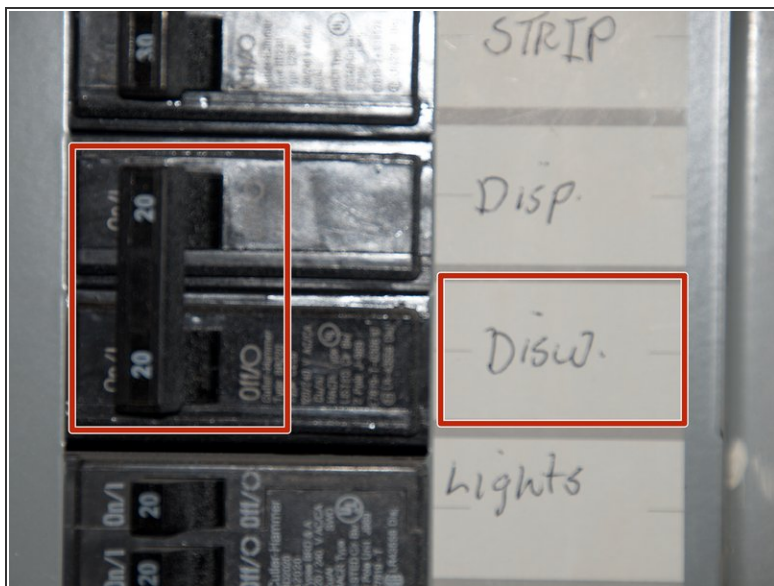
- [Bucket](#) (1)
-

Step 1 — How to fix a clogged garbage disposal



- Press the red reset button either on the front or on the bottom of your garbage disposal.

Step 2



- Go to your breaker box and look for the breaker for your dishwasher. It may be attached to another appliance. Switch it off.

⚠ Do not continue without disconnecting the power.

Step 3



- Unplug the garbage disposal from the outlet underneath the sink.

⚠ Do not continue without disconnecting the power.

Step 4



- Disconnect the garbage disposal pipe from the sewer pipe.

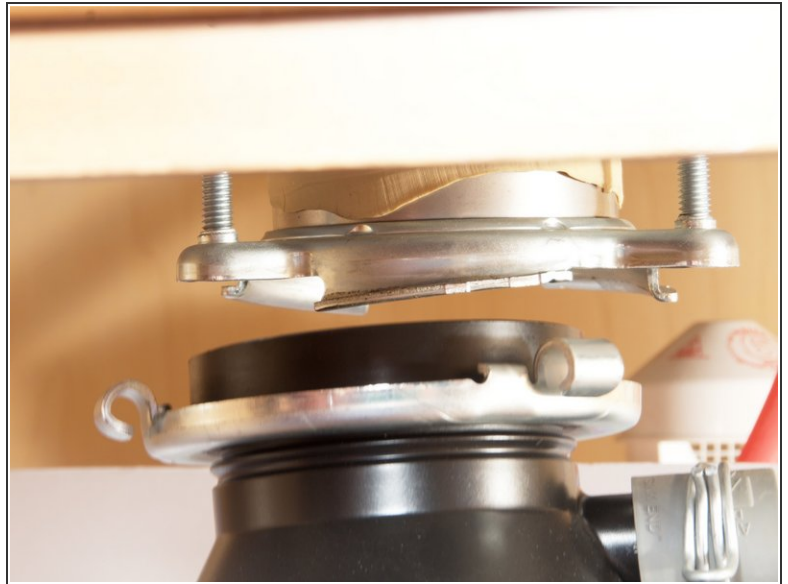
i There may be excess water in this part of the pipe so place the bucket underneath.

Step 5



- Using two screwdrivers, place them in the hooks on the top of the garbage disposal and push against them clockwise.

Step 6



- Carefully bring down the garbage disposal from where it was connected to the sink.

Step 7



- Remove the splashguard at the top of the garbage disposal that you normally see from the top of your sink.

Step 8



- Using a screwdriver dislodge and remove any items clogging the disposal. This will give you an opportunity to manually move the blades around.

⚠ Never use your hand to move the blades.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.