

EPISODE #2017 BASEMENT BLUES NO MORE

Finishing the Electrical:

Warning: Electricity can be dangerous! Use extreme caution!

The lads finish the electrical wiring in preparation for final connection and inspection.

Basic Steps to Consider:

Connect your final wiring to the outlets, switches and lighting fixtures. Standard 214 gauge wire comes with 3 colored wires: hot, neutral and ground. The lads installed two types of electrical wiring: plug outlets and light switches. Make sure that your ground screws are nice and snug. Once you have done the wiring, fold the wires back into the box, and attach the plate or switch to the wall.

Wiring a Plug Outlet:

- Black, or hot, connects to brass screw (fig. A)
- White, or neutral, connects to silver screw (fig. B)
- Ground connects to green screw (fig. C)

Wiring for Switch

- You will have 2 sets of wires, one going to the light fixture, and one coming from the breaker panel to the switch.
- The white wires will be connected together. (fig. D)
- As with the outlets, black wires connect to brass screw. The wire going to the light should be attached to the top brass screw (fig. E)
- Ground attaches to green (fig. F)

Final Wiring

- Have a certified electrician do final hook up to the breaker panel and have them check all outlets for polarity. What is polarity? It means that the electrician is making sure that all of your outlets are wired properly. If any of the wires in the outlet is connected improperly, equipment can malfunction, and worse, people can get hurt. They would use a handy little tool called a polarity tester. (fig. G,H)
- Get Final inspection from your electrical authority. (fig. I)



A. Black to brass screw.



B. White to silver screw,



C. Ground to green screw.



D. The white (neutral) wires are connected.

EPISODE #2017 BASEMENT BLUES NO MORE

Glassblock Installation

Have an opening that you just don't know what to do with? How about glass block? It distorts while still allowing light through, a perfect solution to George's problem in the laundry room, and apparently glass block installs just like Lego!!! How hard can Lego be??

For glass block and other stuff:

Merkley Building Supply

[http:// www.merkleysupply.com](http://www.merkleysupply.com)

* All glass blocks are non-load bearing so adequate support will be needed around the panel.

Basic Steps to Consider:

- Install lathe along the edges of the opening – mortar sticks to the lathe, so it provides extra support. (fig. J)
- Mix mortar. Lay a bed of mortar along bottom using a mortar bag. (see Tool of the Day)
- Stack blocks and add spacers between each block, these keep your joints even. (fig. K)
- Add mortar between each block.
- Once the mortar is set (about 2 hours), remove shims and spacers.
- Fill all the joints with mortar – technically called “striking joints”. (fig. L)
- Use a sponge to work along the joint and to remove excess mortar – this also sets the seam depth. (fig. M)
- Give your new glass block a wipe clean, and that's it! Just like Lego!!



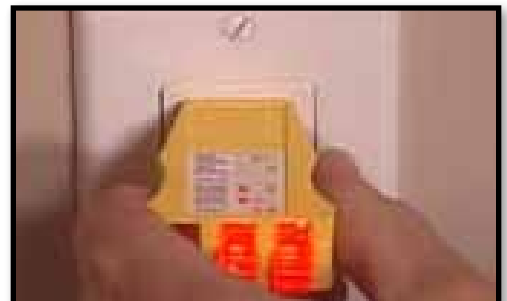
E. Black wires connect to brass screws.



F. Ground attaches to green screw.



G. An electrician hooks up the breaker.



H. Checking the polarity.