

CHARLIE MAGUIRE

MUSICIAN SONGWRITER

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Talking Home Improvement

Words & Music by Charlie Maguire
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A talking blues about the perils of "doing it yourself." As spring melds into summer and the sound of power saws and hammering join (and drown out) the bird calls, we home owners know the season is here once again. Take my advice. Listen to this song then go out and hire some professionals, then go back to work to get the money to pay them.

#

Now gather around this won't take long
"Talking Home Improvement" is the name of this song
Do it yourself, and many try, as soon the ink on the deed is dry
They can't wait!
Catastrophic Carpentry is what I call it
That's when you learn that wood is sold by the foot
And ends up costing an arm and a leg!

I don't know much about it myself
But I work on my home like everyone else
I feel like a sheriff in an outlaw town,
I've got a hammer on each hip when I walk around
Just like in the movies
"All right water heater, this house ain't big enough for the both of us.
Ok, chimney...draw!"

When I've got to fix something though I'm not scared
I have this great big book on home repair
Cost me sixteen dollars and it weighs ten pounds
But I'm saving money, they told me down at the hardware store
They know me on sight down there
I save hundreds of dollars there every week!

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I've got a power sander, a power saw, a power drill, and a whole lot more
And every time I plug them in
My electric meter starts to grin
Sure saves me time though
I can make twice as many mistakes
I am a homeowner, and I do it over
Look out you carpenters!

On the weekends if I'm not too tired
I take a trip down to the lumberyard
Walk through the sheds, and down the aisles
Buy stuff for my domicile
There is a whole bunch of us down there
Bandages on our hands, blisters, all milling around
Trying to find someone who knows what they're doing!

So if you miss me hanging around
You'll find me up in my part of town
Sanding a floor, putting up a shelf
Learning to do it all myself--

With a two-by-four, and a four-by-ten
Tuck point, baseboard, weather-striping
Screwdriver, sheet rock, bit and brace
Nail set, hammer, chisel, hacksaw blade
Maple, cedar, redwood, and pine
Zip Strip, miter box, pencil line
And the banker says it will all be mine,
In about 30 years time...Whoopie!
I ought to have the kitchen done by then!
Then I can go out and mow the lawn!