

Home Improvement 住宅装修 — 2013 年 4 月 30 日

Here we are once again. Welcome to English World. I am Mark.

And I am Guo Wen-Jie. 听友你好。

Wen-Jie, I don't think you have ever been to my home, have you?

No I don't think so. 我没去过马可家，太远了。You live pretty far away.

Maybe next time.

Sure. I would love to see your place. I heard that you live in a nice sub division, with lots of open space.马可家位在郊区，土地大，空间广阔。

Well, I do love big spaces.

That's great. You must take good care of your home.

I really do try.

他也是很爱惜家的里里外外，常常整理修补。

Listener friend, today our topic has to do with "Home".

今天我们的主题，和住家有关。

We invited our co-worker friend, Jerod, to be out guest for A Day in the Life.

我们邀请同事 Jerod 做访谈的来宾。

Wen-Jie asked him about the home project he is doing now.

我要和他谈他现在进行的住宅整修工作。

So, don't miss this interview. It's coming up next. Have fun learning English with us.

Vocabulary 123 生词点滴

DIY

DIY means, do it yourself

DIY 意思是，自己动手作。

That phrase became popular starting in the 1950s.

这个词是从 1950 年代开始流行的。

There was a trend of people undertaking home improvement and doing small projects in the house.

那时候有一个风气，人们喜欢自己动手作住宅整修或做一些小手工零活。

They did it as a creative or recreational outlet.

这让他们可以发挥创意，也成为个人的休闲爱好活动。

They also realized it's saving money.

不用经由专家或是专业人士来做，而更能够省钱。

Now in the United States, many home owners are DIY customers.

如今在美国有许多屋主从事 DIY 自己动手做。

We call them: Do it yourself-ers.

我们称这些人是 Do It Yourself-ers。

Many large home improvement stores also sell DIY products. Like, Home Depot, Lowes, Menards, and IKEA...the list goes on...

许多大的商店像瑞典名店宜家等，专门卖 DIY 的不同产品。

And now stay tune of that interview with Jerod in A Day in the Life.

现在我们紧接着来听美人生活访谈的栏目。

A Day In The Life Of 美人生活大小事

Interview: Home Improvement 住宅装修——Jerod

I: Welcome to "A Day in the Life"! Today my guest is Jerod. Glad to have you back for the show. I heard that you are doing a lot of work at your home. So have you always been a handyman?是否向来都很善于用手做零工修补家里呢?

J: * No. I haven't always been a handyman. My wife and I bought a house that is a little bit of a fixer-upper. It's older, and it needed some work. 我和妻子买了个需要整修的旧住宅. To do that, since we don't have the money to hire people do it, so my father-in-law has come and help and taught me a lot of what to do. So now I am kind of a handyman, but I definitely did not start out that way. 我的岳父前来帮助也教我怎么做修补的工作。

I: So you are doing a lot of work at home already, right? Tell us what kind of project have you taken on?你从事了那些整修的工作呢?

J: * We have done a lot of stuff. The biggest projects we have done are bathroom remodels. 最大的工程，是浴室重新装修。 We are on our third bathroom that we are redoing in the house, and it's quite the project, because most of them we have taken the walls and everything down to just the wood studs. 必须把旧墙板全拆下。 So it's really working from scratch.从头做起 We put in new plumbing, new sewer lines, new showers, new bathtubs, new tile, new floor.放入了新水管道，新沐浴头，浴缸，瓷砖，地板。 Everything in it has to be new. So it's been quite a lot of work. 很大的装修工作。

I: You must have spent hours in the bathroom working! 要在浴室长时间工作。

J: * Yea. It has been almost every weekend since we have lived there, and we have lived there about five years. 住哪儿五年来，几乎每周末作。 We have done most of it in the winter time. In the summer we take a break, so we can enjoy the weather. 最主要是冬天时。 In the winter it has been almost every weekend that there is work in the bathroom. So it's been quite the process.

- I: I'm trying to imagine: you have to go to the store to choose a lot of stuff, different materials in order to do this project, right?你必须到店里选材料对吧?
- J: * Yea.对 There are a lot of different things you get to choose. Some of it is very boring, especially when you are buying pipes, wood, and dry walls. 做那些水管, 木头, 墙板都蛮无聊的。 Interesting enough to some of your listeners, most of the stuff that I'm using in my house is coming from China. These materials are all very basic to buy. 所买的基本材料都是在中国制造的。 Then my wife has a really good eye for the stuff on the outside of the walls that people see, like paint color and tiles, sinks and faucets. She does a lot of picking out that sort of stuff. 我妻子则选择外在装饰的油漆颜色, 瓷砖, 水龙头等。 That's the more fun part, because that's the part people sees. (You two work well together right?) Yes.
- I: So can I say that your bathroom is almost made in China?
- J: * (Laughs) Made in China, assembled in the United States! 我的浴室是在中国制造, 但在美国合成的产品。
- I: It's a long process. What are some of your frustrations or achievements that you can say?这长过程中, 你有怎样的挫折和成就感?
- J: * The biggest frustration is when you are working in the house that is already built, and you are trying to do something, and you realize, "Oh this is going to be really hard" because something is in the way. 最大挫折是, 房子已经建好, 当装修时发现有什么东西挡道了。 You will cut open the floors to do some pipes, and you go, "Oh my goodness there is already stuff there. How am I going to move this around so it works?"装水管时想, 要怎样绕道做这个工作呢? So those kinds of frustrations really can drag you down. The part I do enjoy is when it's done. I like the way it looks. There is a sense of achievement of "I-did-this". 成就感是, 我完成了这个装修工程。 You can see what you have been working on, like there is a final product. Through all of this, I never really thought I would enjoy being a handyman or home-improver, but it really is a lot of fun. 我从没想过自己能成为这样的人, 看到自己的手完成了装修工作, 觉得很自豪。 I get a lot of satisfaction out of it and some stress-relief too. So overall it has been a good experience.
- 是个很好的经验。
- I: You should be really proud of yourself!
- J: * Yes, it is very nice when it is done.

Mark, what do you think about the interview?
Great work, Jerod! I know that Bathroom Makeovers are a popular home improvement project for many do it yourself-ers.
好像很多美国人都流行作浴室装修要做的事。How about for you?
Well, I do like to try my hand at some home improvement projects.
马可很喜欢做住宅装修的工作。
For example, we put some new granite in our kitchen.
好比, 他把厨房台面换成花岗石板。
We also pulled out old carpet and installed a new wood floor.
拆掉家里地毯, 装上木板地。
And last summer we built a new shady area for our patio, using sail fabric.
还在后院用帆布盖了一个遮阳的地方。Cool. How did you learn to do all these?
Well, there are many DIY shows and videos that teach how to do these tasks.
他从一些有限电视台的节目和录像带来学怎么做。
From doing all these projects, I do learn the skills in keeping up and improving my house.
从这些工作中, 马可学会了怎么维修和住宅翻修的技巧。That's great!

Well, time for us to say goodbye. We hope listener friend you enjoy today's program.
又到时间说再见了, 希望你喜欢今天的内容。
Our topic today was: Home Improvement.
我们的主题是: 住宅装修。
We want to hear from you. If you have questions about English learning, don't hesitate to write us.
我们盼望有你的来信。你若有英语学习方面的问题, 请来信。
Let us know how much you like this program. You can write to Mark or Wen-Jie.
你若喜欢我们的节目, 也请告诉我们。写给马可和文洁我。
Until Next time in English World, we wish you well and Happy Home Improvement.
请你多保重.也祝你乐在住宅装修中。
So long and God Bless You.