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Take the heights of the washer, dryer, and stacking kit (these should be mentioned on the packages or in the instructions) and add them together. Make sure the room where you want to stack the appliances is tall enough to accommodate this. You should also leave 2 inches (51 mm) to 3 inches (76 mm) on all sides to allow space for cords, vents, and heat dispersal. Also make sure that you can comfortably reach the controls and door on the dryer. Use a carpenter's level to make sure that the floor in the area is even. If not, you may need to prop up one or more of the washer's legs with shims to keep things level. You can adjust the legs on some washer models to correct balance problems. Twisting the legs to the left or right will praise or lower them as needed. If the site is not big enough, you will need to ask a contractor if it can be enlarged, or else choose different appliances. Enlarging the space can become very expensive, and may not be allowed if you are renting. 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Gevorg Grigorian is an Appliance Repair Specialist and the Owner of G and R Appliance Repair in Los Angeles, California. With over 15 years of experience, Gevorg specializes in residential and commercial appliance repairs as well as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) services. Gevorg holds a BS in Business Administration and Management from California State University-Northridge. This article has been viewed 235,469 times. Co-authors: 7 Updated: January 3, 2024 Views: 235,469 Categories: Washing Machines and Dryers Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 235,469 times. 1 Choose compatible appliances. Theoretically, you could stack any dryer on top of a washer, as long as it fits. However, you could void the warranties on both appliances by doing this. Instead, look for washers and dryers that are designed to be stacked together.[1] Usually, this means having a washer and dryer of the same brand. 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Gevorg holds a BS in Business Administration and Management from California State University-Northridge. This article has been viewed 235,469 times. Co-authors: 7 Updated: January 3, 2024 Views: 235,469 Categories: Washing Machines and Dryers Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 235,469 times. Home - Laundry Stackable clothes washer and dryer units have become very popular in recent years, especially in apartments where floor space is at a premium. These units contain a washer on the bottom with the dryer unit on top. The units, especially the models that offer front-loading washers, are highly energy efficient in addition to being compact in size. Before installing, check to make certain the gas or electric and water outlets are ready for the machine, and that a vent to the outside is in place for the dryer. Install a stackable washer and dryer and you can avoid hanging clothes outdoors. Check to make certain that your floor can support 500 pounds. If using a gas unit, the supply line should be a 1/2-inch pipe. A 3/8-inch reducer must be installed to connect the dryer. There should be a shut-off valve within six feet of the dryer. A 1/8-inch NPT plugged tapping must be installed upstream of the gas supply line. A four-inch wide metal duct is needed, and must be sealed with duct tape. Hot and cold water lines must be within four feet of the back of the unit. Remove all packing clamps, except for the plastic clamps on the right side of the washer that secure the drain hose. Some models don't have this feature. Lay the unit on its side and remove the foam base. Using a 3/8-inch ratchet and pliers, remove the mechanism shipping bolt and plastic space block from the center of the base. Return the unit to its upright position. Connect the gas supply line to the dryer, if the unit is gas. Remove the two screws at the top of the front access panel on the dryer unit. Lower the panel until the bottom tabs disengage. Remove the panel and set it aside. Remove the screws on the safety cover to the dryer and remove the cover. Ensure the shutoff valve in the dryer is open. Open the shutoff valve to the gas supply line. Test the connections by placing soapy water on them. If the water bubbles, there is gas escaping. Correct any leaks with pipe joint compound. Run water from the hot and cold faucets to clean the lines. Hook the hoses up to the water valves on the left side of the washer unit. Tighten by hand and then turn with the pliers another 2/3 of a turn. Do not over-tighten. Attach the other end of the hoses to the correct faucets and tighten in the same manner. Form a "U" shape in the drain hose and position it in a standing pipe or into a laundry tub. Secure in place with a cable tie. Move the unit to its final location and plug in. Tilt the machine forward until the back legs come off the ground. Then lower slowly, allowing the back legs to self-adjust. Place the level on top of the washer and check for level, from side to side and front to back. Screw the front legs up or down as needed. Connect the exhaust duct to the outside and tape into place. Turn the electricity on and run the appliances one complete cycle before reinstalling the access panel. Tips, tricks & ideas for a better home and yard, delivered to your inbox daily. If your laundry room is tight on space or you are looking to maximize the square footage, consider stacking your washer and dryer. Before stacking them, though, there are a few things you need to know. Even if both appliances are stackable, do not try to stack a washer and dryer without a stacking kit. Without a proper kit, the dryer may not stay in place, creating a major safety hazard. Stacking kits make it possible to safely place a stackable dryer on top of a stackable washer. Read through the steps below to learn how to stack a washer and dryer with a stacking kit. Bobvila.com may earn a commission from purchases made through these links. Prior to attempting to stack your washer and dryer, it is important to confirm that both models are able to be stacked. In order to stack a washer and dryer, both units must have a front-loading design. Additionally, it is generally recommended only to use a stacked washer and dryer set from the same manufacturer. This will help ensure compatibility and stability. Before stacking your washer and dryer, get the space ready for the machines and make sure the layout is functional. First, measure to confirm that the washer and dryer will fit once stacked. Make sure that there will be enough space between the wall and the units to vent the dryer and to open the doors and use the washer and dryer. Aim to leave at least 1 inch of space on each side of the appliances, and at least 6 inches of space between the units to allow enough room for the dryer to vent. Also measure to ensure the doors will have sufficient room to open fully, and check that you'll be able to comfortably reach the dryer door and interior as well. Once you're sure of the location and logistics, disconnect your washer and dryer from their outlets, supply line, and vent. Photo: istockphoto.com A stacking kit for stacked washer dryer combos includes special hardware to replace the existing feet on the dryer. This step is relatively straightforward and typically only requires a Phillips head screwdriver. However, keep in mind that dryers can be heavy and cumbersome to move by yourself. You may want to enlist the help of a friend or family member when tipping the dryer to replace the feet. Before removing the dryer feet, place cardboard on the floor to help prevent your dryer from getting damaged. Then lay the dryer on its side on the cardboard. Remove the feet that came with the dryer, and follow the directions included in the stacking kit for placing the stacking support guides in place. Save the old feet from the dryer in case you ever decide that you no longer want to keep your washer and dryer stacked together. Related: The Best Places to Buy a Washer and Dryer Next, place the washing machine in the space you want it, leaving enough room behind it to reconnect everything once setup is complete. You will need to confirm that the washing machine is perfectly level before placing the dryer on top of it. A level can help you with this task. If the machine is not level, use an adjustable wrench to adjust the feet. If you need to shorten one or more of the legs, you can rotate the wrench clockwise. To extend the length of a leg, rotate the wrench counterclockwise. Now you are ready to stack the two units. When stacking a washer and dryer, remember the dryer must always go on top because it is the lighter of the two appliances. However, a dryer is still quite heavy. Find a helper to assist you in lifting the dryer onto the washer. Once the dryer is up on the washer, position it correctly. The front of the washer and dryer should be flush with one another, and the rear side of the dryer should be slightly farther back than the rear of the washer. The stacking kit should include brackets and clips to keep the washer and dryer securely in place. The clips are placed on each side of the dryer's base. Then, the brackets will hook over the clips to keep the dryer from moving off the washer. The components of each stacking kit may vary, so be sure to closely follow the manufacturer's directions when attaching the clips and brackets to your units. In most cases, you should only need a Phillips head screwdriver for this step. Related: 10 Laundry Room Storage Ideas That'll Knock Your Socks Off Photo: istockphoto.com Finally, hook up your gas or electric stackable washer and dryer to the outlets, water, and vent. Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions to ensure that this step is completed properly. Once your units are reconnected, shift them to their final position. It is always a good idea to run a test wash and dry cycle to ensure that both machines are stable and operate properly. Run a small load of laundry and stay close by to monitor the machines for any leaking or excessive shaking. Stackable washers and dryers can help free up considerable space in a laundry room or even help you create a (nearly) invisible laundry room. Learning how to stack a washer and dryer with a stacking kit will help you achieve these goals and ensure that your units remain stable and safe to use. Remember: If you plan to stack your washer and dryer, it is imperative to confirm that your units are compatible and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Whether you're selling or staying, everyone can get something out of a kitchen update. Learn why we consider this renovation the Most Valuable Project of 2025 and how to stay on budget. I just learned that my Kenmore washer was beyond repair and purchased a Samsung washer. The repair guy from Sears who pronounced my washer dead said I could stack the Kenmore dryer on top of just about any washer and suggested just placing a nonslip rug between the two. I mentioned this to the Sears dealer who strongly disagreed and pretty much said that if I wanted a stacked set (something I must have, given space constraints) I would need to purchase a new dryer!!! I also called Samsung and they pretty much said the same thing. As purchasing a new dryer just to have a new washer is something that is Not Going to Happen, I am seeking advice. Has anyone had any experience stacking washers and dryers from different manufacturers? Any suggestions of hacks or means of making this do-able? Thanks, in advance, for any thoughts you might have! Cloth(s) Stacking Kit Screwdriver Assistant Use two or more people to lift the appliance up to stack. Avoid stacking a gas dryer in someone's home, and ensure the washer and dryer are installed on a stable, level floor capable of supporting the stacked unit. Never stack a washer on top of a dryer. Kenmore Elite washers and dryers come equipped with a variety of options, including steam cleaning and drying, sanitize wash, temperature, water and time sensors, extra-large capacity drums, and specific fabric cycles. While the Elite washers and dryers may be positioned separately, some of the units are also designed for stacking. Attachment kits are available online or in Sears department stores and can help firmly connect the washer to the dryer. Disconnect the washer and dryer from any water, gas and power connections. Disconnect all water and drainage hoses if the appliances have previously been installed. Wipe the top of the washer and dryer with a clean, damp cloth to remove excess dirt or dust. Take the paper backing strip off of the foam tape on one of the side brackets in the stacking kit. Align the foam strip on one side of the top of the washing machine. Press the foam strip into place and secure the bracket with a screw in the back. Repeat on the other side of the washer. Lift the dryer on top of the washer with assistance, positioning the feet slightly in front of the side brackets. Push the dryer back until the feet connect to the rear brackets. Place the cross rail in the stacking kit between the appliances with the tabs on the top. Move the rail back so that the tabs are on top of the feet and the screw holes are aligned. Install a screw into each screw hole and tighten firmly. Rock the connected washer and dryer slightly to verify that the connection is strong. Tighten screws as necessary. Connect all water and drain hoses, as well as any water, power and gas. Key Features Maximize floor space when you add an optional Kenmore stacking kit, allowing you to stack your washer and dryer vertically. Dimensions (Individual): 4.29W x 2.13H x 6.06D Maximize floor space when you add an optional Kenmore stacking kit, allowing you to stack your washer and dryer vertically. Dimensions (Individual): 4.29W x 2.13H x 6.06D Color: Color Family White Identity SSIN : A126582338 UID : 5dc08dd1-8538-47c6-a89b-ee8c3f0415f0 MfgPartNumber 51132 BrandName Kenmore ProductURL /kenmore-51132-stacking-kit-for-front-load-washer-dryer Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. 1 Choose compatible appliances. Theoretically, you could stack any dryer on top of a washer, as long as it fits. However, you could void the warranties on both appliances by doing this. Instead, look for washers and dryers that are designed to be stacked together.[1] Usually, this means having a washer and dryer of the same brand. Not all washers and dryers, even those made by the same manufacturer, can be stacked. Read the manuals, ask a salesperson, or check the manufacturer's website to see if your models are compatible. 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