

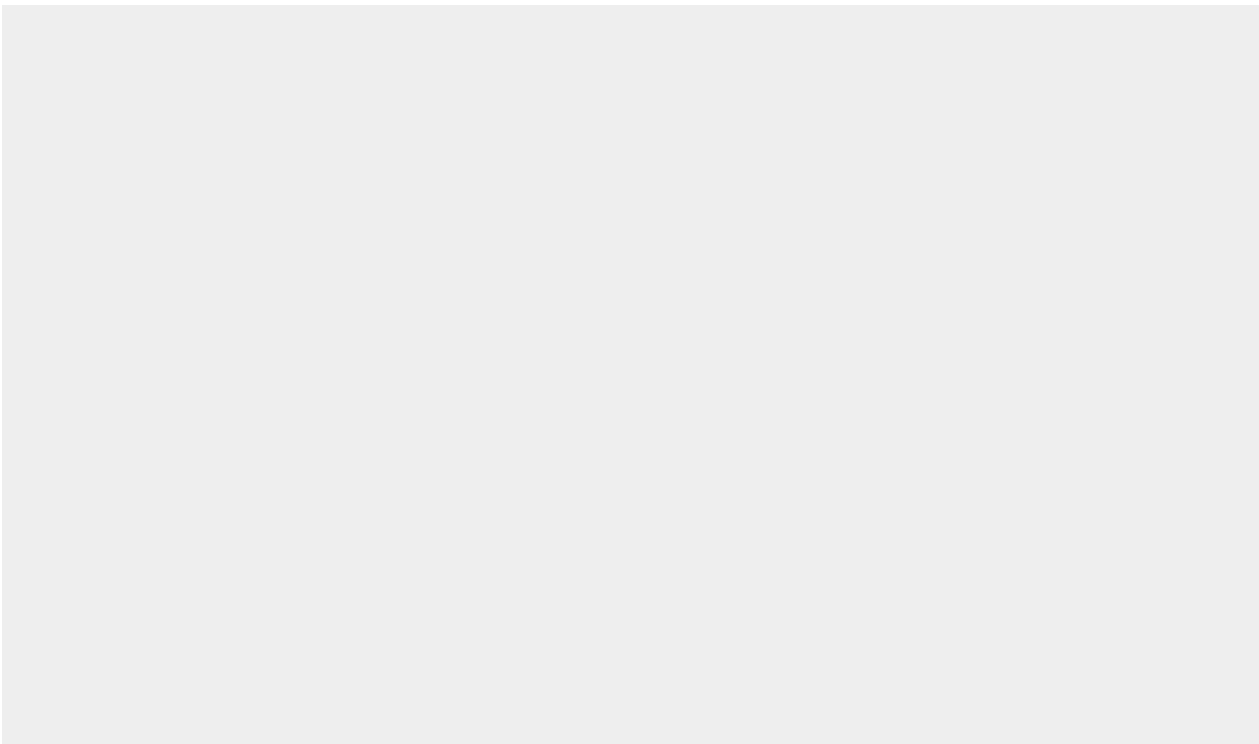
How to Remove 5 Gallon Bucket Lids



Place the bucket on a stable protected surface before you open it. A full 5 gallon pail weighs about 50 pounds and jockeying it into position is easier if the container is closed. Place the 5 gallon pail close to where you will need to use it for easy access.

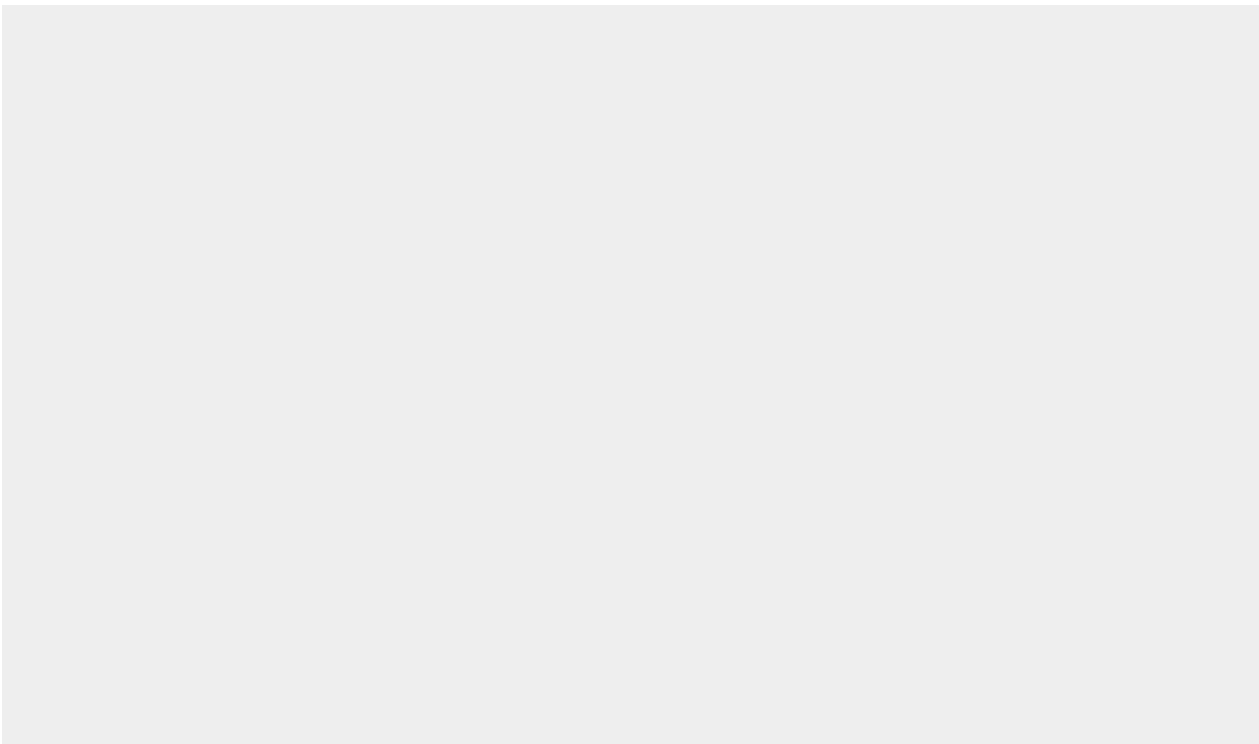


Use a paint bucket opener, if possible. It is a hard plastic tool shaped like a "C" with a handle available at paint and hardware stores. Hook the top part of the "C" over the top edge and the lower part of the "C" under the rim of the lid.



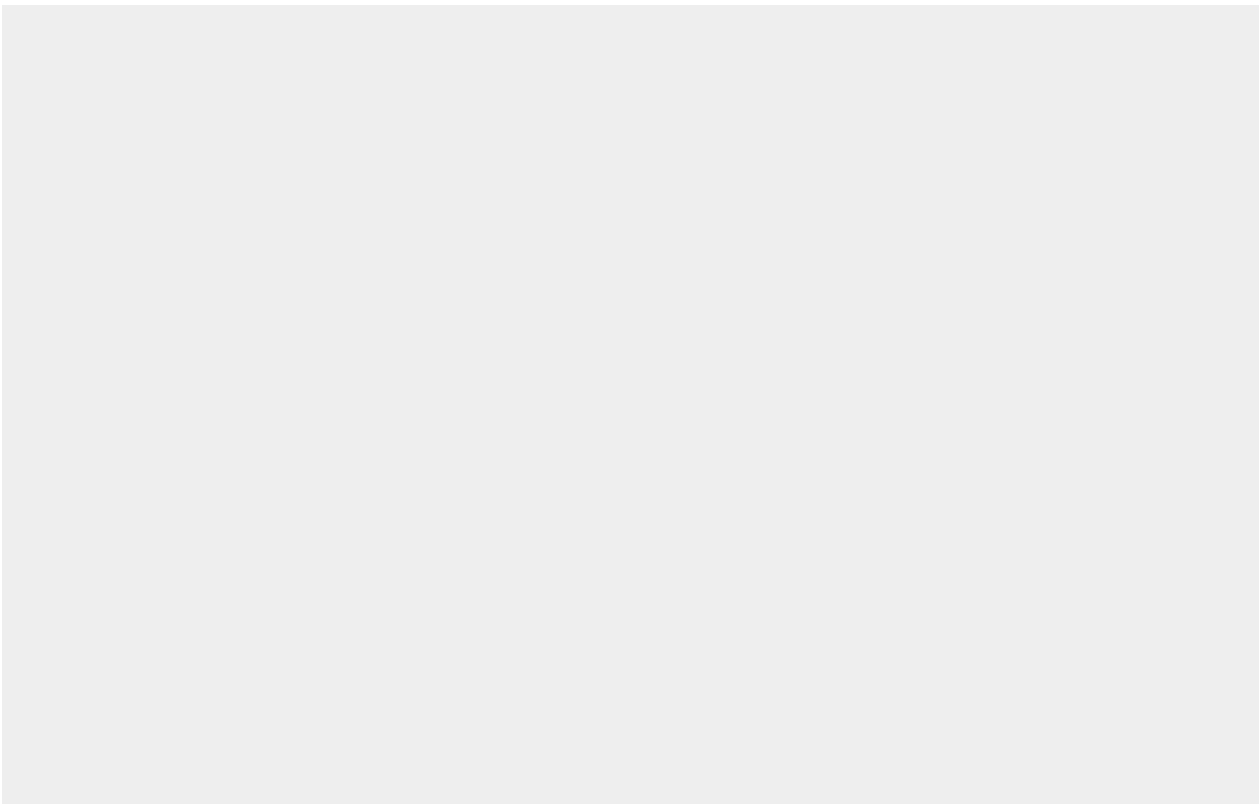


Pry upward with the handle at intervals around the lid. If the can has flanges, or tabs with a slit between them, pry at the center of a tab. Work around the lid a couple of times, if necessary, to loosen it completely. When the lid is loosened, gently pry it up and grasp the edge to remove it.



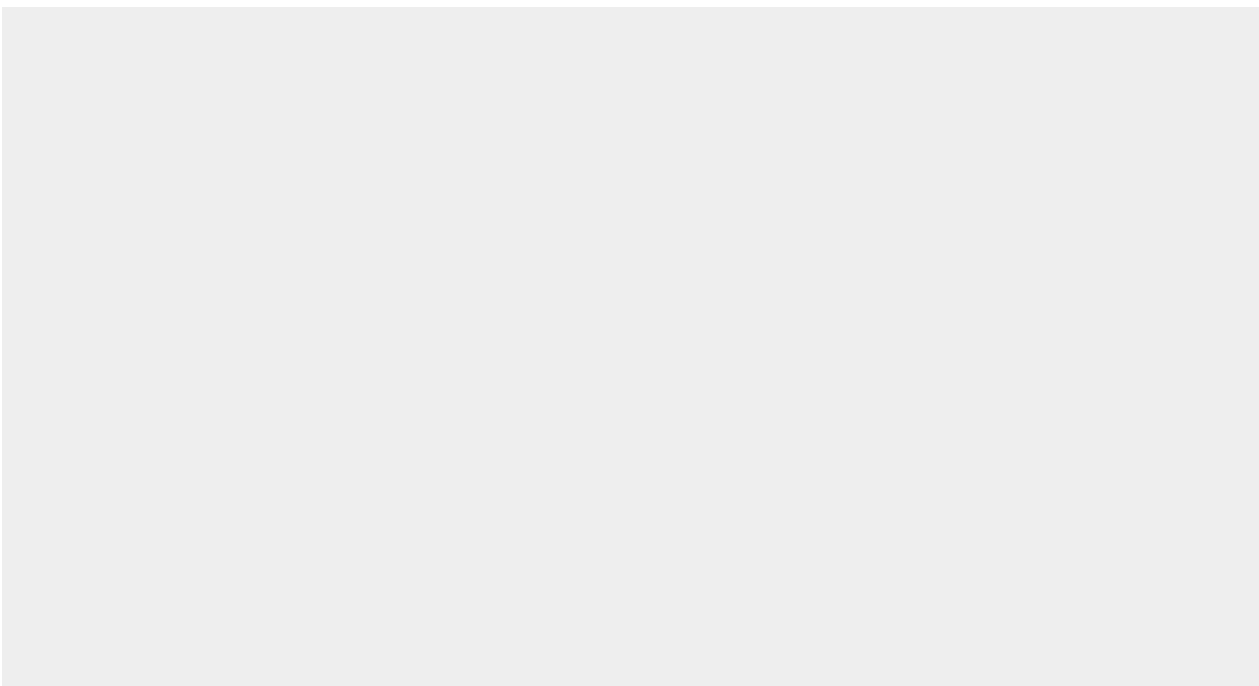


If a bucket opener is not available, use a screwdriver and pliers. It is easier to pry up the flanges if they are first cut apart at the slit. Carefully cut downward using the utility knife.





Place the screwdriver under flanges or lid rim and pry up gently. Use pliers to pull the flanges up further. Work around the bucket until the lid is loose enough to be removed with pliers or fingers. Try not to damage the edge of the bucket with the screwdriver. Levering too hard can break down the bucket edge making it difficult to replace the lid.





Keep the lid clean and available for closing the bucket. When replacing it, use a cloth over the top to catch paint squirts and gently tap around the rim with a mallet or hammer. Wipe off wet paint drips.

How To Clean A Bucket

Plastic buckets serve a multitude of purposes both inside and outside the home. Use a plastic bucket for storage or for cleaning. Some purposes for your plastic bucket may necessitate the bucket being clean before you use it. With an impeccably sanitized and clean plastic bucket, you can put this item to good use.

Step 1

Add four large squirts of dish-washing Liquid to the bucket and add 2 inches of hot water. Scrub all inside and outside surfaces of the bucket thoroughly with the scrub brush. Pour out the soapy water and rinse the bucket with warm water to remove all soap residues.

Step 2

Fill the bucket to the top with hot water and pour 1 cup of baking soda over the water surface. Stir the baking soda and water with a stick or long spoon to dissolve it. Cover the bucket. If the bucket does not have a lid, cover it with aluminum foil. Set the bucket in the sun and leave it undisturbed for 48 hours.

Step 3

Pour out the contents of the bucket after the time elapses. Rinse the bucket well and fill it with warm water. Add 2 cups chlorine bleach to the bucket, cover it again and place it back in the sun.

Step 4

Empty the bucket after 48 hours, rinse it thoroughly and allow the bucket and lid to dry completely in the sun.