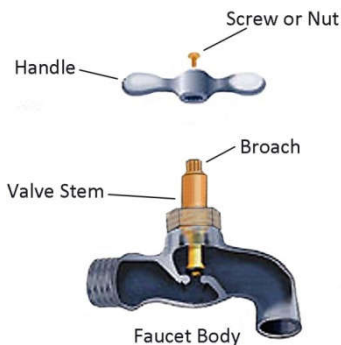# Instructions to install your Festive Faucet!

Step 1 - Remove the SCREW or NUT holding the HANDLE onto the BROACH. Holding the handle with a pair of pliers or similar will help hold the old handle stationary as you turn the SCREW counterclockwise.

Step 2 - Remove the HANDLE from the BROACH (top of the valve stem). All handles are removed by pulling them straight up. They DO NOT twist off. Twisting of the handle while it's on your faucet will turn on the water.

Step 3 - Put on your new Festive Faucet handle. Easy part. It doesn't matter what the broach or stem type, place the Festive Faucet Handle on top and begin screwing in the SET SCREWS a single turn at a time with the HEX WRENCH (3/16") included. We suggest turning each a single rotation at a time to make sure the pressure of the set screws is evenly distributed.

What if I can't remove my old handle?
These are tips and tricks we've learned that help.

The diagram on the left shows the workings of a faucet and may help understand what gets in the way of removing that old handle. Your faucet may look different but they all operate on the same principle.

The HANDLE is held onto the VALVE STEM with a SCREW or NUT. The HANDLE sits on a BROACH. The BROACH is the top portion of the VALVE STEM. Some broaches are square, some have splines, some are rectangular - they all serve the same purpose - to turn the VALVE STEM. Movement of the VALVE STEM allows water to flow through the faucet. Removing the HANDLE does not allow water out of the faucet.

1 - Remove the SCREW or NUT holding the HANDLE onto the BROACH.
The biggest variable in how easy replacing the handle will be is the **age** of your faucet. The older the faucet, the more oxidization, or corrosion, has occurred between the metals. The more corrosion, the harder it is to remove. How do we help that process? As a rule, you should prepare the threads for removal with the use of WD40 or a similar solvent or rust dissolver product. Give the solvent twenty minutes to an hour to penetrate the threads.

> **What's the most common problem when you try to remove the handle**? *Stripping the head of the screw that holds the handle in place.* Whether your faucet is brand new or 25 years old, stripping of the screw head is what we are trying to prevent. It's not a problem that can't be overcome. It just makes the process harder.

> **If your faucet is 2 to 3 years old**...You can usually remove it with a simple screwdriver. Hold the handle and twist the screw counterclockwise (left) to remove. Tapping the handle beforehand to break the grip of corrosion is advised.

> **If your faucet is 8 to 10 years old**...You'll probably want to use a drill with screw bit to remove need the offending handle. You'll also want to hold the handle from turning (secure it in place) with a pair of channel locks or similar. Your fingers probably won't be able to resist the force of the drill bit turning the handle as it tries to turn the screw. Tapping the handle with a hammer or similar object to break the grip of any corrosion is advised.

> **If your faucet is 15 years or older**... You may be able to remove it with a drill bit and channel locks, but an *impact drill* works magic here. The hammering of the impact has taken off every handle we've ever run into, bar none. Hold the HANDLE steady with channels locks and apply the impact drill bit.

2 - Remove the HANDLE from the BROACH (top of the valve stem).
All HANDLES are removed by pulling them straight up. They DO NOT twist off. Again, twisting of the handle while it's on your faucet will turn on the water. Lift the old handle off the stem and place your new handle. Depending on age, this part can be easy or arduous. All handles are removed vertically. Grab the handle with channels locks and lift. It may come right off. If it gives you trouble, tap it a few times, add some WD40, then lift or tap with the channel locks while rocking the handle from either side. A little movement means it's ready to go. Patience. It comes off in seconds. It just needs some leverage and elbow grease - it took 20 years to create that bond.