

Protect your home from leaks and burst pipes



Regular maintenance can save you from costly repairs and potential damage. Our handy guide is here to help you identify and address leaks in your home.

Signs and prevention of leaks and burst pipes

Did you know insurers pay out [£1.8 million every day](#) in home damage claims? Consistent maintenance is essential to help avoid any leaks in the house. Here are some things to look out for:

- Check for leaks from taps and other fixtures and make sure you replace any damaged sealant or tiles.
- Occasionally, check your appliances' pipes and plumbing to make sure there aren't any small leaks that could cause bigger issues.
- Always get a professional to install any new appliances which require plumbing.
- Watch what you put down the drain. Fats, oils, baby wipes, sanitary products and hair can all cause blockages.
- Make sure you know where the water pipes are before drilling into any walls.
- If it's safe to do so, shut down the water supply if you're leaving your home unoccupied for a longer period.

How to spot a leak

The first signs of a leak in your home are:

- A sudden loss of water pressure.
- Mysterious puddles or damp patches appearing on the floor, walls, or ceiling.

What to do if you find a leak

1. Turn off your water supply.
2. Run every tap to get the water out quickly.
3. Soak up any leaked water with old towels.
4. Call a qualified plumber; while you wait, you can temporarily patch the pipe with cloth or heavy-duty tape.



How can you find out if there's a hidden leak in your home?

1. Check your water meter and make a note of the number.
2. Turn off your home's water supply.
3. Wait for at least half an hour and check the meter again.
4. If the number has changed, this could indicate a leak.