



EARLY LEAK DETECTION

Leaks can happen in new and old homes and can result in considerable water losses as well as increased customer water and energy bills if not detected early.

Some leaks are visible and easy to fix yourself but others may need the help of a plumber to locate and repair. Water losses from common leaks include:

- Slow barely visible leaking toilet (over 4,000 litres/yr)
- Visible constant leaking toilet (over 96,000 litres/yr)
- Tap dripping at a rate of 1 drip per second (over 12,000 litres/yr)
- Hidden underground pipe leak (over 1,000,000 litres/yr)

Common signs of a leak include:

- Mould and/or odour
- Physical changes in timber and particleboard
- Rusty pipes
- Increased grass growth or wet patches

Toilet leak checks

A leaking toilet is one of the most common plumbing leaks.

A quick toilet leak check is to:

- Put some food colouring in the water tank above the toilet
- Wait for a few minutes
- If the food colouring appears in the toilet bowl, it's a sign your toilet has a leak.





Leak checks using your water meter

- 💧 If you can't find any obvious leaks in your home or garden and want to find out whether there are any hidden leaks, you can do a simple check using your meter.
- 💧 Overnight is the best time to check your meter.
- 💧 Make sure no water is being used inside or outside your house and turn off all appliances, irrigation systems, solar hot water systems and evaporative coolers.
- 💧 Write down all the numbers on your water meter.
- 💧 In the morning write down all the numbers again and check to see if the numbers have moved.
- 💧 If the numbers are the same, it is unlikely you have a water leak. If the numbers are slightly different, there may be a small leak such as a dripping tap or toilet. If the numbers are very different and the dials continue to turn quickly there could be a large leak such as an underground leak.
- 💧 If you suspect there is a leak, please contact a licensed plumber to investigate further.



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