

Ultimate Plumbing Maintenance Checklist

Your plumbing is the guts of your home, and the hundreds of feet of pipes and drains can lead to dozens of potential problem areas, from your kitchen to your basement. With this plumbing maintenance checklist, you'll be able to keep track of your home's potential plumbing needs and spot the warning signs before a serious plumbing problem develops.



Remember:

When inspecting plumbing, use your water shut-off valve if there is a flooding risk or you need to inspect your water supply lines. Use this checklist to make sure the whole family knows what to do to be safe, and enjoy your kitchen with peace of mind.

Pipes and Drains Throughout Your Home

Note any leaky faucets.

Check pipes throughout the home for corrosion.

Copper or brass pipes with a leak will have a greenish deposit.

Steel or iron pipes with a leak will have rust.

Check drains for proper flow rate by listening for a gurgle noise, indicating a blockage.

Inspect P-traps for leakage.

Scan cabinets holding pipes to ensure they don't have warping or mildew.

Inspect sink strainers for debris.

Check washing machine water supply lines for cracks.

Test your water pressure and inspect your water pressure regulator annually.

Confirm that your sump pump is in working condition by unplugging it and plugging it in again.

Bathroom

Flush your toilet to confirm it's draining properly.

When the toilet is running, check the condition of the flapper (tank ball).

Check the flush lever and valve for proper resistance.

Ensure the toilet is secured to the floor and not wobbly.

Check the caulk around the toilet.

Inspect the caulk around the bathtub.

Inspect the caulk around sinks.

Determine if the drains have proper flow rate by listening for a gurgle noise which indicates a blockage.

Check your faucets for leaks at the base right after you turn them on.

Look for loose tiles – they could be a sign of a leak.

Make sure your showerhead is clean.

Kitchen

Check under your dishwasher to confirm there are no leaks and that the drip pan isn't overflowing.

Check the dishwasher water supply lines for cracks.

Check the refrigerator water line and tubing for leaks, if applicable.

Check the refrigerator for leaks inside and out.

If there are leaks, unplug your fridge and do the following:

Check the defrost drain for clogs.

Check the defrost drain pan for overflows.

Check the ice maker and water dispenser hoses for cracks.

Tighten any loose connections, and replace damaged hoses, valves, and housings.

Check the garbage disposal for leaks and strong odors (which could indicate a clog).

Water Heater

Check the water lines for cracks.

Check for any leaks at the base of the unit.

Take a whiff of the hot water – it should not be smelly!

Inspect the anode rod for wear and tear.

Learn more water [heater maintenance tips](#) here!

Flush your water heater at least once per year – making sure you turn off the heat source first.

When you run into issues during any of these plumbing maintenance checks, it's time for repairs. And there's no better team of plumbers than your local Mr. Rooter Plumbing. We are professional, efficient, and courteous. You can depend on us, day or night, to arrive on time and get the job done right! Our certified plumbers work to meet your exact needs, including convenient appointment times. There's a reason they call us Mr.®!

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