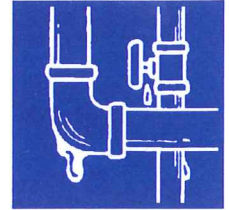


Stop Leaks/Save Water

A Simple Test for Leaks

A leaky faucet is pretty obvious. But hidden leaks in the toilet, under the sink, or behind a washing machine can waste a gigantic amount of water. And they could be damaging your floor or ceiling too. Take a reading of your water meter. Wait an hour, making sure no one uses any water in your home. Check it again. If the reading has changed, you have got at least one leak. Investigate!



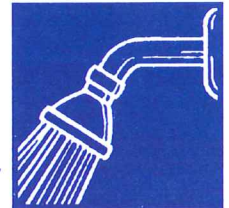
Leaks waste a lot of water!
A single dripping faucet can waste 75-1000 gallons of water per week, depending on the rate of flow.

Faucets and Showerheads

Dripping, trickling, or oozing faucets and showerheads can waste from 75 to several hundred gallons of water a week depending on the size of the drip. Worn out washers are the main cause of these leaks and they cost about 25 cents to replace.



Faucets typically use 2 to 7 gallons per minute. Installing a low-flow faucet aerator can reduce the flow by as much as 25% or up to a gallon and a half per minute. Be sure to remove your aerator periodically to clean the particles that may have collected in the screen.

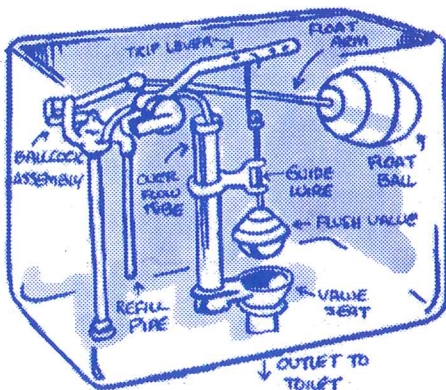


Toilets

That trickling sound that you hear at night could be wasting 50 gallons of water a day or more. But sometimes it leaks silently. Try this:

Crush a dye tablet in its envelope and carefully empty the contents into the center of the toilet tank and allow it to dissolve. Wait about 8-9 minutes. Inspect the toilet bowl for signs of blue dye indicating a leak.

If the dye has appeared in the bowl, your flapper or flush valve may need to be replaced. Parts are inexpensive and fairly easy to replace. If no dye has appeared in the 8 to 9 minutes time, you probably don't have a leak.



There are many variations to the names of each toilet part! Don't be surprised if your "How-To" book calls it something slightly different.

