



Fall plumbing health checklist

Small checks. A more informed homeowner.

A little attention now can help you catch concerns before they become costly repairs.

Inspect only what you can reach safely. This guide does not replace a professional inspection.

Check off each item you review. Skip items that do not apply.

Outside & shutoffs

- ☐ **01 Water Meter**
Know where your water meter is. It is separate from your home's main shutoff. Do not operate a utility-owned shutoff; contact your water provider if you need help.
- ☐ **02 Sprinkler System**
If you have a sprinkler system, arrange professional winterization before freezing weather. Ask a sprinkler specialist to check the valves and confirm the proper draining or blowout method for your system.
- ☐ **03 Outdoor Hose Faucets**
Disconnect garden hoses before freezing weather. Check outdoor faucets for drips, cracks or damage.
- ☐ **04 Main House Shut-Off Valve**
Find your home's main water shutoff. Keep it accessible and show household members where it is. Test that it stops flow at a cold-water faucet only after reading the valve-safety note below.

Valve safety • read before testing your home's shutoff

Only test a valve if you know how and it moves freely. Gently close it, confirm water stops, then reopen it and check for leaks. Never force a valve or operate a utility-owned shutoff. Unsure? Ask a plumber.



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Inside & ongoing checks

- ☐ **05 Water Heater**
Look for water, rust or corrosion around the unit. Keep the check visual. Do not remove panels or adjust gas components.
- ☐ **06 Kitchen Sink**
Look under the sink for drips, dampness or water stains. Find its shutoff valves. Check that they stop water to the fixture only after reading the valve-safety note below.
- ☐ **07 Bathroom Sinks & Toilets**
Look for drips, dampness or water stains. Note any toilet that keeps running, rocks or leaks at the base. Find the fixture shutoff valves and test only as described in the safety note below.
- ☐ **08 Crawl Space**
From a safe viewing point, look for dampness, standing water or signs of leaks. Check visible pipes for missing, damaged or wet insulation, especially near vents. Do not enter standing water or a space with exposed wiring, sewage or unsafe access.
- ☐ **09 Water Bill**
Compare water use and charges. Check for rate or household-use changes before assuming a leak. Ask a plumber about unexplained usage.

Valve safety • applies to kitchen and bathroom fixtures

Only test a valve if you know how and it moves freely. Gently close it, confirm water stops, then reopen it and check for leaks. Never force a valve or operate a utility-owned shutoff. Unsure? Ask a plumber.

If you find an active leak or an emergency

For an active leak, shut off water only if safe; otherwise keep clear and call for help. For a gas smell, sewage backup or uncontrolled flooding, leave the affected area and contact the appropriate emergency service immediately.

Found a concern?

Call (425) 244-6349

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