

Repairs: Toilets

Leaks

- For a major leak turn off your water at the stopcock and turn off the electricity at the meter.
- The stopcock, usually located under the sink, is a valve for turning the water system in your home on and off. When you turn the stopcock in a clockwise direction the water supply will be shut off. It's good to turn it on and off occasionally to make sure it's working.

Overflows

- If the cistern is overflowing it may be possible to stop this temporarily by tying the ball valve in the up position.

Flushing Problems

- The water may be temporarily turned off by the water company or because of a water mains fault. See if there is still water coming from the cold water tap in the kitchen.
- If the cistern is not filling up the ball valve may be stuck. It might work again if you move it by hand.
- Buckets of water can be used to flush the toilet as a temporary measure.

Blockages

- The blockage may be in the toilet bowl or in the soil pipe. If it is in the soil pipe, the bath and basin will also be blocked.
- Try using a plunger to clear a blockage (but avoid using one with a metal disk that might damage the toilet).

