

Repairs: Wash Hand Basins

Leaks

- For a major leak turn off your water at the stopcock and turn off the electricity at the meter, then call your maintenance contractor.
- 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.

Blockages

If you have a blocked hand basin, you can use the following methods to clear it yourself:

- Remove the drain cover and clean under the surface of the drain. You might find hair (and other little things) has built up underneath the drain. Try pouring a kettle of boiled water into the gully and prod with a stick.
- Use a bent wire coat hanger to clear deep down blockages. Straighten a coat hanger out and then make a hook at the end. Use it to pull out any hair and other things that are in your drain.
- Try using a plunger to clear a blockage and remember to cover the hole. Plunge with a vertical up and down action.
- The waste outlet (underneath the basin and normally hidden by the pedestal) can be cleaned out by unscrewing the trap. Use a bowl or bucket to catch the water.

