## Homebuyers PLUMBING CHECKLIST



# **FACTS**

#### 340 LITERS PER PERSON/PER DAY

While the exact number varies from area to area and season to season, the average daily water usage is around 340 litres per person or 900 litres perhousehold.



#### **MORE THAN 25%**

the average daily water used comes from flushing the toilet

#### **AROUND 14%**

is caused by leaking pipes

A tap that drips once every second wastes 30 litres of water daily. Australia is the highest user of water per person in the world, despite being the driest inhabited continent

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Anyone can identify potential problems with a home plumbing system. You just need to know what to look for.



#### **TOILET**

Flush every toilet in the house. While it is flushing make sure that it drains properly and that there is no visible leakage



#### **HOT WATERSYSTEM**

over for signs of corrosion. Using the outlet on the side, run some water and ensure that hot water comes out. If possible, ask the current owner of the house when the hot water system was last serviced.



#### **SHOWER**

Run all showers to ensure that they have adequate water pressure. Low pressure can be a good indicator of a larger issue such as an unseen leak, pressure pump problems or blocked filters. While you are there, make sure that all water drains freely and that no water is leaking from the fixtures.



#### **UNDER THEHOUSE**

It is important to get underneath the house to check for signs of leaks or water damage if you can. Since the majority of a house's plumbing is located underneath the house, doing this will allow you to catch any hidden plumbing issues.



#### **DRAIN AND SINKS**

Check for obvious signs of overflowing water at overflow relief gullies, surcharging or gurgling and smells from the drains which would indicate a potential blockage or problem with drain and pipes.



## SEPTIC TANK AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

If the property has an onsite wastewater disposal tank/area (like a septic tank or HSTP), look out for offensive odors from the tank or waste drains in and outside of the house and obvious wet areas or very green patches in the lawn. These signs can mean a variety of different things and best have the cause determined by a licenced plumber.

#### **CHECKLIST**

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HOT WATER SYSTEM



UNDER THE HOUSE



DRAIN AND SINK



SEPTIC TANK AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS