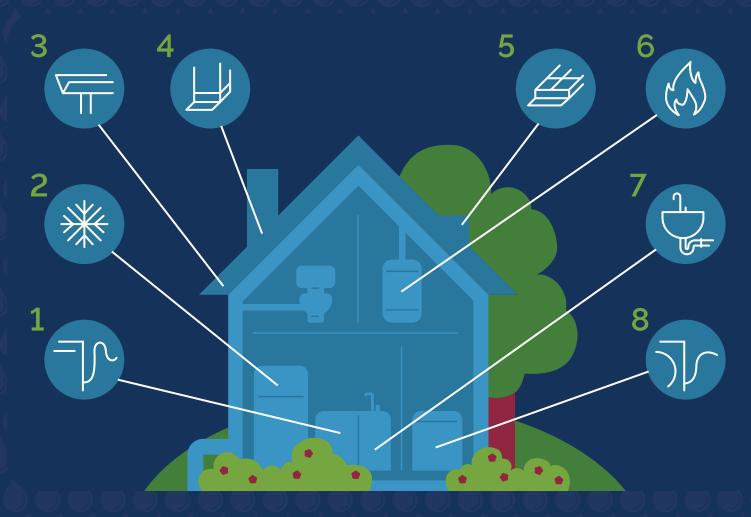
# 14 hidden trouble spots for water damage

From annoying drips to a flooded basement, there's no such thing as a small water problem. The good news? You can often stop water damage at its source. Here are 14 places to check.





# 1. Dishwasher hose

Can become brittle or cracked over time

#### 2. Ice maker

That little plastic line feeding your fridge

#### 3. Gutters

Leaves and debris can block the flow

# 4. Chimney flashing

Where your chimney meets the roof

# 5. Skylights

Check for moisture or stains

#### 6. Water heater

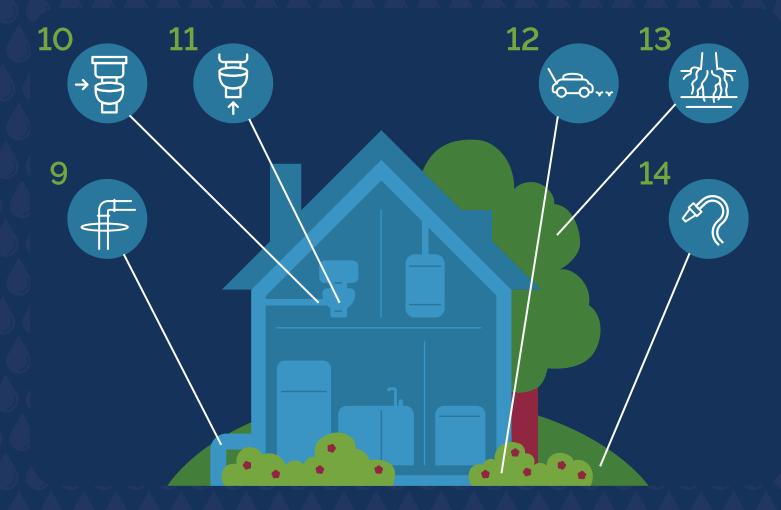
A drip tray can catch leaks while they're small

### 7. Under sinks

Out of sight shouldn't mean out of mind

# 8. Washing machine hose

Upgrade to braided stainless steel hoses



# Sump pumps and sewage pumps

Have a battery backup for both

#### 10. Behind toilets

Lines connecting to the shut-off valve can loosen or crack

#### 11. Underneath toilets

That wax ring under your toilet doesn't last forever

# 12. Landscaping

Make sure ground slopes away from the house

#### 13. Sewer drain

Tree roots love to invade sewer lines

# 14. Hoses and spigots

Install a faucet cover or insulation sleeve

Bonus tip: Low-cost smart water sensors can alert you right away when a water leak starts.



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