



Your inside stop valve, also known as stopcock or stop tap, is the easiest way to turn your water on and off. As it's in your home, it's your responsibility to install, maintain, fix and replace.

How to find your inside stop valve

Your inside stop valve is inside your house and is normally located just after the water pipe enters the house. This is often under the kitchen sink, but can also be:

- In an airing cupboard
- Under the stairs
- Under the floorboards
- Near the front door
- In the garage, utility room, bathroom, or cellar

For flats, you may have a communal inside stop valve if your water supply is shared with your neighbours. This is normally located where your water supply enters the building. Sometimes an additional inside stop valve can be found where the water supply enters your flat. If you can't find your inside stop valve or it's broken, there are other ways to turn your water off.

How to turn your water off using the inside stop valve

Turn the valve clockwise.

It may take a few turns to stop the water. You'll usually get to a point where you can't turn it anymore. You shouldn't need to use excessive force to turn it further. It may also take a few minutes for the water to stop running from your taps, as there will be some water left in the pipes from before you turned the water off.

Important:

Pop a monthly reminder in your calendar to check your inside stop valve is working correctly. This way you'll be confident you can turn off your water in an emergency.