

Don't feed the fatberg

A handy guide to what shouldn't go down your drain.



Fatberg facts

Don't let your home fall foul of sewer blockages.

6.7m

Blocked drains each year in the UK.

£200

The price you could pay a plumber to clear your blocked pipes.

6,000

Homes and gardens flood with sewage in the Thames region each year due to blockages.



10cm

Household pipes are only 10cm wide... and can block easily.

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How to avoid a fatberg

Our top tips on how to keep your pipes blockage free.



Use containers

Margarine tubs, plastic pots and jam jars make handy containers to capture cooled, leftover cooking fat and oil - which you can put in the bin.



Clear your plates

Scrape your plates of food and fat before washing up or loading your dishwasher.



Use a bin

Keep a bin in the bathroom for everything that isn't pee, poo and toilet paper.

thameswater.co.uk/binit

Be a good neighbour

This is what really happens when you put the wrong things down the drain. It's not a magic portal... it all has to go somewhere.



Never pour oil and fat down the sink. When it cools it sets hard clogging your pipes.

Myth-buster: Running the hot tap and pouring washing-up liquid down the sink won't prevent fats or oils from blocking your pipes.



Only flush pee, poo and toilet paper down the loo.
(Your pipes weren't designed for anything else)

Myth-buster: Wet wipes do not break down in the loo as they are made of plastic. Even if they say 'flushable' they should never go down the toilet.

Fat and wipes combine to create a stinking pipe-blocking fatberg.

What you flush could come back up through the toilet, sink or manhole, flooding your home or a neighbour's.



So, avoid a fatberg like this by putting these items in the bin.



FAT AND OIL

WET WIPES

SANITARY TOWELS

KITCHEN ROLL

COTTON BUDS

TAMPONS

FOOD WASTE

CONDOMS

DENTAL FLOSS

PLASTERS AND BANDAGES

TIGHTS

NAPPIES

INCONTINENCE PRODUCTS