

## PlumbMaid

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Lunchtime School Friday 24th April with Sovay Berriman

### **DIY Plumbing Disaster Avoidance**

References and further reading

#### **Plumbing on social media:-**

Myth Busters exploding unvented cylinder video <https://youtu.be/vJ8GUAQJFUI>  
PB Plumber

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/pbplumber/?hl=en>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/user/ImSanderCohen/featured>

Plumbing Parts [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-jH\\_qeJDn8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-jH_qeJDn8)

Plumbhers <https://www.instagram.com/plumbhers/?hl=en>

The Blond Plumber [https://www.instagram.com/the\\_blonde\\_plumber/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/the_blonde_plumber/?hl=en)  
[the%20blond%20plumber](https://www.instagram.com/the_blonde_plumber/?hl=en)

Cosy Warm Plumbing [https://www.instagram.com/i\\_love\\_plumbing/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/i_love_plumbing/?hl=en)

Beta Talk Podcast <https://www.buzzsprout.com/509671>

#### **Regulating Bodies**

WRAS (Water Regulations Advisory Service) <https://www.wras.co.uk>

WRAS guidance on Dead Legs [https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/resources/interpretations\\_and\\_advice/installation/i21/](https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/resources/interpretations_and_advice/installation/i21/)

WRAS FAQs [https://www.wras.co.uk/plumbing\\_professionals/advice\\_for\\_plumbing\\_professionals/installation\\_faqs/](https://www.wras.co.uk/plumbing_professionals/advice_for_plumbing_professionals/installation_faqs/)

Building Regulations G3 [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/504207/BR\\_PDF\\_AD\\_G\\_2015\\_with\\_2016\\_amendments.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/504207/BR_PDF_AD_G_2015_with_2016_amendments.pdf)

HSE Legionella Guidance <https://www.hse.gov.uk/legionnaires/what-you-must-do.htm#>

#### **Other professional bodies' consumer pages**

CIPHE (Chartered Inst. of Plumbing & Heating Engineers) information for consumers  
<https://www.ciphe.org.uk/consumer/>

Gas Safe <https://www.gassaferegister.co.uk>

OFTEC <https://www.oftec.org/consumers>

HETAS <https://www.hetas.co.uk>

WIAPS [https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/approved\\_plumber\\_scheme/](https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/approved_plumber_scheme/)

HHIC (Heating & Hot Water Industry Council) Consumer fact sheets on the safe maintenance of appliances in your home <https://www.hhic.org.uk/resources/5>

## **Campaigns for clean water and sanitation:-**

Water Aid <https://www.wateraid.org/uk/>

Plumbers Without Borders <https://www.plumberswithoutborders.org>

Love Your Local Lav <https://www.ciphe.org.uk/consumer/love-your-local-lav/>  
<https://www.toiletmap.org.uk/>

Toilet Twinning <https://www.toilettwinning.org>

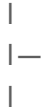
Who Gives a Crap <https://uk.whogivesacrap.org/pages/our-impact>

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## Dead Legs performed for RADMIN Festival, Bristol, 2019

**Dead Legs** are the cul-de-sacs and little used thoroughfares of a hot or cold water system. They lead only to rarely used outlets, blind ends, and dead ends; they're going nowhere •

Most **Dead Legs** are formed when a water outlet is removed but the pipe servicing it is left in place. The second edition of *WRAS (Water Regulations Advisory Service) Guidance 11.7, Recommendation 11.7*, states that if a run of pipe becomes redundant it should be, where practicable, cut out entirely, including the relevant branching tee. In some instances a branching tee may be allowed to remain, but the **Dead Leg** should be no longer than the twice the bore of the pipe; so if a 15mm pipe is in place the **Dead Leg** can be no longer than 30mm in length.



Sometimes **Dead Legs** are intentionally installed to 'help' with future installations of en-suites, etc. The idea being that the pipework is put in place while floor boards are up for other works, so part of the labour has already been carried out, thus saving time and disturbance when the customer is ready for the next step. But people change their minds and their priorities shift, so the **Dead Legs** are often left this way for years, becoming helpful only as homes to potentially deadly bacteria.



Within **Dead Legs** there is very little movement and water becomes stagnant. Within stagnant water bacteria, including Legionella, can flourish.



becomes stagnant.

As the bacteria grows so does

the risk



of contamination of your main water supply.

As the **Dead Leg** is connected to your hot or cold water system, the bacteria can creep out of the **Dead Leg** and make its way into the water that is heading to your outlets; showers, taps, then to glasses and stomachs.

It may, through back flow, make its way through your water pipes and back past your internal stop tap, on past your boundary stop tap, and into the supply for the street, from there it may find its way into your neighbours' water systems, and eventually their glasses and stomachs.

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To reduce risks back flow protection can be installed. Single or double check valves fitted on supply pipes, as close as reasonably practicable to the branching tee, to prohibit the creeping of the contaminated water into the main water system<sup>1</sup>.

In the event of a legionella outbreak, the affected water supplies will be investigated, and those found to be responsible - homeowner or competent person (installer) - will be prosecuted by the HSE (Health & Safety Executive). The HSE Approved Code of Practice(ACOP): Legionnaires' disease: The control of Legionella bacteria in water systems (L8)<sup>2</sup> contains practical guidance on how to manage and control the risks in your system. And is downloadable from the HSE website.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/resources/interpretations\\_and\\_advice/installation/i21/](https://www.wras.co.uk/consumers/resources/interpretations_and_advice/installation/i21/) [https://www.wras.co.uk/plumbing\\_professionals/advice\\_for\\_plumbing\\_professionals/installation\\_faqs/](https://www.wras.co.uk/plumbing_professionals/advice_for_plumbing_professionals/installation_faqs/)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.hse.gov.uk/legionnaires/what-you-must-do.htm> <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l8.htm> <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pUbns/priced/hsg274part2.pdf>