

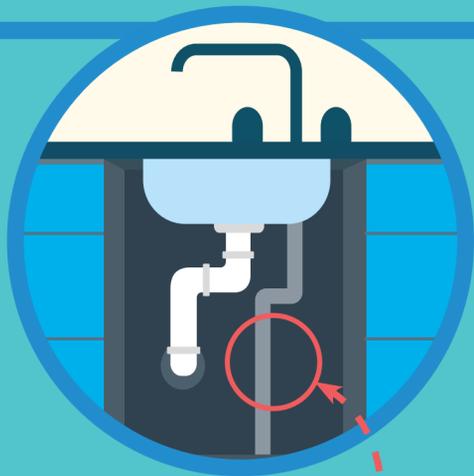
Is your house older than 1970? Then you might have lead water pipes

Lead pipework was used in many houses built in Northern Ireland before 1970 and much of it still exists.

Lead pipework may result in lead levels in your drinking water which are above the limits set out in drinking water regulations.



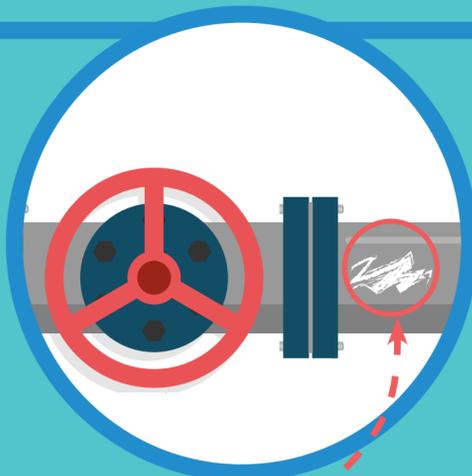
How you can find and deal with lead pipes?



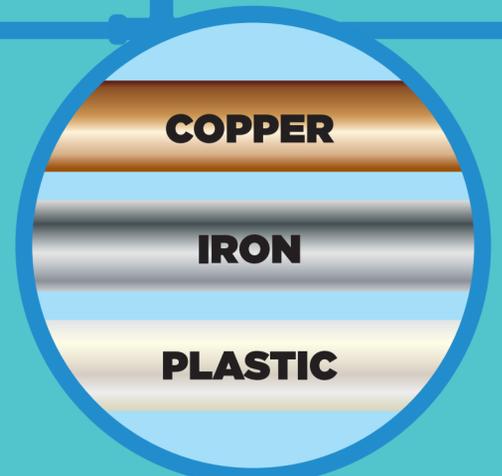
Look in or behind the cupboards in your kitchen;
Find the pipe leading to the kitchen tap;

Check if it is lead along as much of its length as possible - unpainted lead pipes are dull grey, and the surface feels soft;

If you scrape the surface gently, you will see the shiny, silver-coloured metal beneath.



Open the stop valve box outside your property. If you can, scrape the surface of the pipework inside the box gently.



Other pipe materials which are normal and don't need replaced include copper, iron and plastic.

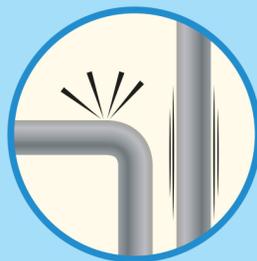


If you are still unsure, ask a plumber for a second opinion.

Short-term precautions if you have lead pipes:



Run the cold tap in the kitchen every morning to remove water standing in the pipes overnight.



Try not to disturb or knock lead pipes.



Boiling water doesn't remove lead.

Visit www.niwater.com/lead-pipes/ for further information

You can also have a test to check the level of lead in your drinking water, contact us on **03457 440088** to arrange a test.

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