



DIY Water Leak Detection Test

Simple Step-by-Step

Water Leak Detection Test

Anyone Can Do

How to do a Water Leak Detection Test

This is a simple step by step water leak detection check anyone can do with leak detector equipment found at any hardware store.

Believe it or not water leak detection is part of foundation repair. Keeping water in soils at an even point helps prevent soils under foundations from expanding and contracting. A water leak causing water to seep into soils under or around foundations can cause foundation heaving.

Here are a few leak detection steps anyone can do. Remember a leak test does not locate leaks. It just tells you whether or not you have a leak.

Tools you will need before you get started can be found in any hardware store and include:

- Shovel if need to uncover the sewer clean outs.
- Sewer Balloon to test for sewer leaks.
- Pressure Gauge that can be screwed onto a tap to test for water leaks.



Sewer Leak Detection

To test for leaks it is first necessary to locate the sewer clean outs. Normally sewer clean outs look like this.



A screw on cap



or A clamped on rubber cap

To test for leaks a sewer balloon such as this is pushed down into the sewer system then inflated with a pump.



Next the sewer is filled to the level of the pipe with water. If the water level in the pipe falls after the pipe has been blocked off

at the main, it means there is a leak in the sewer system. Sometimes it is necessary to pull a toilet and fill the sewer from inside of the house. Again if the water level falls there is a leak.

Water Leak Detection

To test for leaking water lines a pressure gage such as this is screwed onto a tap.

The house is checked to make certain there is no dripping or leaking fixtures. The water is turned off at the meter. If the pressure holds in the gage then there is no leak in the system. If the pressure falls, there is a leak in the system.



Next Steps

A leak test does not tell you where the leak is, only that there is a leak.

The next step is to have any leaks located and repaired. Remember leaking sewer or water lines can cause serious damage to your foundation. So get your leaks fixed.

If you think you have leaking sewers, call the professional plumbers.

- Dallas Plumber: [Halshall Plumbing](http://www.halshallplumbing.com) 214 467-9091
 www.halshallplumbing.com
- Houston Plumber: [Milburn Plumbing](http://www.milburnplumbing.com) 210-424-1862
 www.milburnplumbing.com

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