

ESSENTIAL PLUMBING TIPS FOR AUTUMN

By Positive Plumbing QLD

Welcome to the season of cosy sweaters, fluffy socks and chocolate eggs! As we embrace the cooler days of autumn and indulge in one too many six-packs of hot cross buns, it's easy to overlook our home's plumbing. I mean, who can resist the allure of hot cross buns over hot water units? *Not us!*

But as the weather changes, it's important to give some attention to our plumbing to ensure it can withstand the lower temperatures of the coming months. In this time of transition, our homes may surprise us with plumbing challenges that have been quietly lurking, waiting for their moment to shine.

Don't fret! Our big, burly plumber (and Maeve) are here to help. We've compiled a list of our Top 5 Essential Plumbing Tips for Autumn to keep your plumbing running smoothly over the Easter break and beyond.

Read on to find out how you can ensure your home is ready for the cooler months!



1

CHECK FOR WEAR AND TEAR

Regularly checking your flexi-hoses is crucial as they can be prone to wear and tear, leading to costly water damage if left unchecked. Look for signs of damage such as fraying, rusting, or stretching, and consider upgrading to newer, more durable hoses if needed. It's also wise to schedule professional inspections as part of your routine plumbing maintenance, aiming to replace hoses every 5-10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer.

Additionally, familiarise yourself with the emergency shut-off valve for your flexi-hoses to minimise damage in case of failure.

2

CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS AND DOWNPIPES

Autumn leaves can create a beautiful scene, but they can also wreak havoc on your gutters and downpipes, potentially causing water damage. To prevent issues, clean out your gutters and downpipes before the autumn rains begin (according to the BOM, they *haven't* started yet). This simple task can prevent water overflow and protect your home from damage. Additionally, installing gutter guards can further shield your gutters from fallen leaves and debris. Gutter guards offer several benefits, including reducing the need for frequent gutter cleaning and safeguarding your home from water damage.

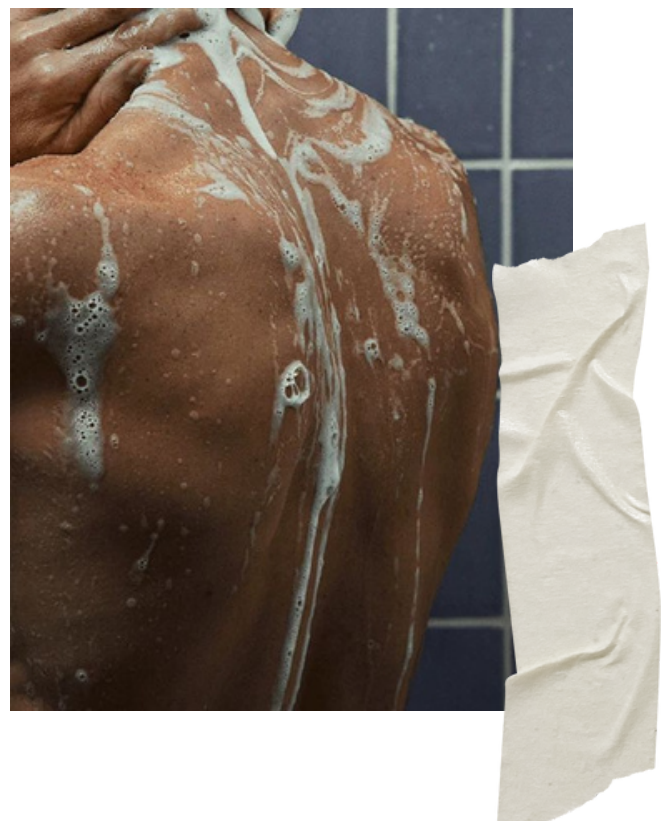
3

SERVICE YOUR HOT WATER UNIT

During autumn and winter, the last thing you want is a cold shower. To prevent this, be proactive and not reactive. Hot water units (HWU) are among the hardest working appliances in your home and, like any mechanical device, they require maintenance. Manufacturers recommend a basic service conducted by a licensed plumber (ahem, *moi*) every five years to ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your HWU.

Sediment buildup can lead to corrosion in your hot water unit. While the hot water anode rod collects corrosive elements in the water, it typically wears down within five years of installation. It's advisable to have your plumber replace your anode rod if it is no longer effective.

*Frosty tips (and bits)
are so 2000s - avoid a
shower faux pas and
service your HWU!*



4

INSPECT YOUR ROOF

Look for any signs of damage or leaks, such as corroded metal sheets, cracked or warped tiles, and areas where water could seep through. Also, keep an eye out for water stains on your ceiling or walls, as they could mean you've got a leak. Dealing with these issues now can save you from expensive repairs down the track and make sure your home is all set for the winter months. If you spot any problems, it's a good idea to get in touch with a professional roofer (like Scott) to assess and repair the damage.

5

CHECK YOUR SEWER LINES

If you're experiencing frequent blockages in your toilets and drains, it could be a sign of blocked sewers. Keep an ear out for gurgling sounds and watch for foul odours coming from your sewage system as additional signs.



*Check for
strange
sounds and
smells
coming from
your sewage
system*



FACED WITH A CODE BROWN?

Even with the best precautions, plumbing emergencies can still happen. If you experience issues with *your* plumbing, Positive Plumbing QLD are here to assist.

For plumbing emergencies, please call us at 0407 172 106.