

## FIRST THINGS FIRST INSULATE YOUR PIPES, WATER TANK AND OUTDOOR TAPS

Keeping your tank, pipes and outdoor taps protected is straight forward, cost effective and doesn't take long to do, giving you peace of mind during freezing weather, avoiding unwanted and costly repairs.

### How to insulate them

Use ready-moulded lengths of insulation foam (known as lagging), to protect your pipes, taped together to close any gaps. Wrap the sides and top of cold water tanks in an insulating jacket.

### Tanks

- ❄ Check the size and location of your water tank
- ❄ Visit your local DIY shop and ask for advice on the best buys
- ❄ Fit the jacket over the tank and seal with tape and plastic sheeting.

**REMEMBER, tanks in your loft need the heat from below to keep them warm, so don't insulate the base.**

### Pipes

- ❄ Roughly measure the diameter and length of pipes inside and outside your home
- ❄ Buy lagging from your local DIY shop and cut to the length required
- ❄ Slip it over the pipes and join the gaps with masking tape.

### Outside taps

- ❄ Buy an outside tap jacket from your local DIY shop.



## IN CASE YOU NEED IT...

If you do have a burst or leak, find your stop tap, turn it off and phone a plumber.

Find an approved plumber near you on the WaterSafe website [watersafe.org.uk](https://watersafe.org.uk) and make a note of their number here:

In an emergency, call:



For more tips and advice visit [anglianwater.co.uk/winter](https://anglianwater.co.uk/winter)



Let's take away the worry of burst pipes so you can enjoy this winter.

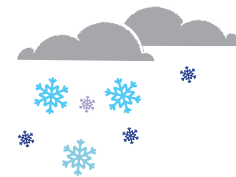
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# NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME TO PLAN AHEAD FOR WINTER

Take a few simple steps now to protect your home from leaks and bursts before temperatures start to drop, so you can carry on with all the things you want to do this winter.



## WHEN TEMPERATURES TAKE A TUMBLE



### Find your stop tap – and check that it works

You may need to get to it quickly and be confident that you can turn it off should you need to.

 Takes about 5 mins

### Fix dripping taps

Fixing a regularly dripping tap could prevent the slow build up of water freezing and blocking your pipes. If you need help, check the WaterSafe website [Watersafe.org.uk](http://Watersafe.org.uk) to find an approved plumber near you.

 Takes about 30 mins

### Stop draughts

Cold air from outside freezes pipes inside, so cover any gaps in doors and windows.

 Takes about 5 mins

### Use the frost setting on your central heating – or leave it on low when you're out or away.

Insulation is priority number one, but low-level background heating can stop pipes freezing, particularly if the property is empty. Check with your energy company to make sure you're on the most appropriate tariff.

 Takes about 5 mins

### Don't forget family, friends and neighbours

They may need some help too and you could agree to watch each other's houses if you're going to be away for any period of time.



### Check outdoor taps

These can be most vulnerable to the cold weather, so remove any hose pipes attached to outside taps, and – if you have one – turn off the valve (which may be inside) and drain down the tap and pipes. This stops them becoming damaged and cold creeping up the pipe into your house.

 Takes about 10 mins




### Let warm air flow

In extreme conditions it may be necessary to open the loft hatch to help keep pipes and tanks up there from freezing.

 Takes about 5 mins

### Check your meter

If your water meter is fitted to the wall outside your home, check that:

-  The pipes leading to and from it are adequately insulated and there are no gaps between them
-  The meter cupboard is packed with insulation material
-  The door is firmly shut.

 Takes about 20 mins

### Outbuildings

Check the insulation of outbuildings and, if possible, isolate water supplies to outside toilets, detached garages and outbuildings if they are not in use.

Consider turning off the valve for the supply to outbuildings, and draining down taps and pipes.

 Takes about 20 mins