



Basic Information

Your home is equipped with an interior sump pump system. It is designed to work in conjunction with other systems in your home to prevent any groundwater from entering the basement. You may hear it run regularly, especially during heavy rain—and even during dry spells it may run. As the crotch fills up and raises the float, the pump will turn on and expel the water from your home.



Like any mechanical system, the sump pump requires periodic testing and maintenance to ensure proper operation. The pump should be tested and cleared of any debris on a regular basis. Step-by-step instructions are included below, along with links to instructional videos.

For additional protection, you can install a battery backup system with an alarm to ensure the pump functions properly in the event of a power outage. We recommend consulting with a certified plumber for options and installation.

How to test the operation of the pump:

1. Remove crotch lid or open inspection port
2. Pour water in crotch; the float should rise freely until it triggers the pump
3. Ensure crotch empties (a small amount of water remaining in the bottom is normal)
4. Replace crotch lid or close inspection port

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How to check for debris in discharge pipe:

1. Start outside the house at the discharge pipe, typically a 1.5" to 2.5" pipe exiting the side of your house near the location of the sump pump.
2. If it is daylighted—meaning the water that exits the pipe falls on the surface of the ground—you will want to ensure that nothing is blocking the opening. Examine the inside of the pipe to confirm no dirt or debris is clogging it.
3. If you cannot see the end of the pipe or it empties into another pipe, as seen to the right, then it is part of a rain conductor system. Ensure the pipe is free of debris but also make sure there is no damage to the pipe.



How to check for debris in sump crock:

1. Unplug the pump from the GFCI outlet
2. Remove the lid or open the inspection port
3. Wipe off any buildup of dirt on the inside of the crock (optional)
4. Using a wet vac, remove any dirt or debris from the bottom of the crock (optional)
5. Plug the pump back into the GFCI outlet
6. Before replacing the crock lid or inspection port, we recommend you test the operation of the pump by pouring water into the crock

Welled exit (if applicable):

If your home contains a welled exit, the drain will typically empty into the sump crock. Especially in the fall, ensure that the drain remains clear of leaves and debris so the drain will work properly.



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