

[Thousand Oaks Plumbers](#)

Q: Why is my tub draining slowly?

A: If you're lucky, it's just a hair clot that can probably be fished out with a sewer snake, or even an unbent wire hanger, so that's the first solution to try. If not, there could be buildup on the stopper mechanism that's blocking water drainage.

Q: Why is my garbage disposal humming?

A: Most kitchen equipment is not musically inclined, so chances are the mechanisms are jammed and trying desperately to work. TURN OFF THE POWER before reaching down to feel for what may be jamming it. If there is nothing you can feel, it may be a problem with the major parts; flywheel, motor bearing, or impellers. You're going to need more help with those.

Q: When should I replace my toilet?

A: There are several clues that your toilet is about to kick the bucket; if you have to unclog it every week, if it runs continuously, if the bowl or tank develops a crack, and if there are a lot of scratches making it harder and harder to clean. If more than two of the above are true, it's probably time. Also, if you find your water bill is a little hard to swallow, you might be flushing part of your paycheck away every day. Consider replacing your toilet with a more water efficient model. Older models flush up to three gallons every time, while newer models can do the same with half as much water.

Q: Why is water backing up through my drain and toilet?

A: There's a doozy. Sounds like a sewer line clog, which needs to be broken up and dissolved fast. If it's not raw material blocking, it could be sewer roots, in which case you'll need to call us out before it gets worse.

Q: What are sewer roots?

A: Tree roots tend to gravitate toward sewer pipes, especially older ones. They're full of oxygen, water, and all kinds of, um, discarded nutrients that trees love. They'll break right on into the pipes and grow there, filling it up and blocking it off until we get them cleared away.