

Why is plumbing important?

Plumbing is the job of working with pipes, tubing and plumbing fixtures for any fluid (freshwater, waste water, grey water and gas) system. Plumbing is the one system that your house cannot be without. Plumbing is used to keep both you and your house clean and hygienic. Without plumbing there would be no hot water to shower in, no gas for cooking or to heat your house, no flush toilets and no air conditioners to cool the house.

What do plumbers do?

A plumber is a trained professional who fixes or installs piping systems, plumbing fixtures and equipment. Many basic everyday amenities such as the toilet, the air conditioner unit, the kitchen sink and the shower are just the end fixture of a large range of intricate piping, valves and fittings that allow these fixtures to work. It is a plumbers' job to make sure all of these amenities work correctly to keep you and your family safe.

Why do we need trained plumbers?

Plumbing is carefully regulated. The regulations are important because many aspects of plumbing are dangerous, such as sewage and waste contain harmful bacteria and poisonous gases. Plumbers are trained to manage the waste correctly. Plumbers also protect against the serious danger of water contamination, through damaged piping or wrong connections.

Regulations of plumbing also exist to ensure that the water in your hot water tank is of a sufficient temperature to prevent dangerous legionella bacteria.

Legionella are a naturally occurring bacteria that become dangerous when they multiply in warm water and damp spaces. Legionella cause Legionnaires disease once they multiply. Legionnaires disease can rapidly progress from flu like symptoms into pneumonia with a chest infection, high fever and chest pain.

Plumbers also need to incorporate valves that limit the temperature of water coming out from the shower to ensure it doesn't lead to scalding or burns.

How can you become a plumber?

In many countries plumbers must complete an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships usually last four to five years and are typically managed by local plumbers' union and associations.

TO FIND OUT ABOUT BECOMING A PLUMBER IN YOUR TOWN CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PLUMBING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION FOR MORE INFORMATION