If your house doesn’t have pressure-reducing valves, then you may have to install a pressure regulator.

In some homes the water meter is located in the basement. Many newer homes are equipped with digital meters, replacing older analog meters with digital models.

Your water meter keeps track of how much water uses on the property. If the flow indicator (triangle or star) is turning, it indicates a leak. If not, note the location of the pointer and the last two numbers on the far right windows. Do not run water for 30 minutes. If the meter has not slowed down, you’ve got a leak. If not, note the location of the pointer and the last two numbers on the far right windows. Do not run water for 30 minutes. If the meter has not slowed down, you’ve got a leak.

Remember to set your controller to water less in the early morning hours when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.

Fix leaky faucets. Look for a pre-1994 model. Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full.

Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust your irrigation system controller (sprinkler valve) so that water goes to the grass and not the sidewalk or street.

Check your home’s water meter to determine the possible cause of a leak. If the flow indicator valve after all water to the property has been shut off is still turning, it is another important factor.

If you are replacing an existing toilet that has a large footprint (i.e., the base covers a large area), consider that the installation of a smaller tank (typical of many of today’s high-efficiency toilet models) may leave those unpainted areas visible. As such, you may be required to install painter grade silicone under the toilet and the supply hose connecting that valve with the toilet space in your bathroom before replacing a round-front model with an elongated model. There have been cases where doors and drawers could not be opened or closed due to the bowl shape.

Some toilet seats are designed with either a smaller, round-front bowl or an elongated bowl. Round-front bowls are typically designed for compact bathroom spaces. Elongated bowls are typically designed for standard bathroom spaces. The round-front bowl is ideal for compact bathroom spaces. Elongated bowls are typically designed for standard bathroom spaces.

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