

# Unclog a Toilet Checklist

By Lauren Meir

- Necessary Items
  - A Plunger.
  - A Bucket .
  - Disposable Gloves.
  - An Auger This versatile tool clears out drain clogs for both tubs and toilets (a hand auger and a toilet auger, respectively). ;You may not need an auger to remove this clog, but chances are it will come in handy.
  - Rags, towels, or a mop in case of overflowing.
- Using the Plunger
  - Remove any overflowing or excess water with the bucket
  - Grab the handle of the plunger and push into the toilet.
  - Ensure plunger cap fits securely over the toilet drain opening.
  - Plunge back and forth quickly You should feel some resistance from the suction cap.
  - Keep plunging until the clog is cleared; toilet will flush automatically.
  - Carefully pour a bucket of water into the toilet bowl to clear any debris.
  - Repeat the process until the toilet is unclogged, or use the auger.
- Using the Toilet Auger
  - A toilet auger consists of a long handle and crank There is a plastic sleeve at the crank bend in order to prevent scratching the toilet basin.
  - Loosen the auger's setscrew.
  - Push the cable into the drain until it stops. You've found the clog!
  - Start tightening the setscrew and continue until ;you have approximately 6 inches of cable between the pipe and auger.
  - Too much cable will cause the coil to kink, and won't be effective in removing the clog.
  - Turn the auger clockwise and push through
  - The auger may clear the obstruction or snag whatever it is that's clogging the drain.
  - If the auger snags the clog, pull it out and test the toilet by flushing to ensure the pipe is clear.
- When to Call a Professional
  - You can't clear the obstruction with the plunger or auger.

- The auger pulled out an obstruction, but the toilet continues to fill slowly or not at all.
- The toilet continues to overflow or simply stops working.
- The toilet becomes clogged again almost immediately with no discernible cause.