

Big fat problem.



Lurking in our sewer system there are large congealed lumps of gunk that block pipes. We call them **fatbergs**. They're made up of cooking fat and all the other things (like wet wipes and make-up pads) that just shouldn't go down the drain.

These fatbergs are rock solid and grow to such a size that they block pipes and raw sewage may be forced back up into people's homes, causing them complete misery.

So don't feed the fatberg and clog pipes.

What causes blockages?

The only way to avoid blocked pipes is to make sure all of these things go in the bin and not down the drain.

Cooking fat or oil

Tights

Dental floss

Food

Chewing gum

Incontinence pads

Kitchen roll

Wet wipes

Condoms

Plasters and bandages

Tampons

Cotton buds

Nappies

Sanitary towels

Make-up pads

Habits that help.



Use an old container to collect cooled cooking fat and oil. Please put the fat in your bin or your oil recycling bin if your local council offer one.



Scrape leftover food into the bin, not the sink or dishwasher.



Only flush pee, poo and toilet paper down the loo. Use a bathroom bin for everything else.

For more information visit [thameswater.co.uk/binit](https://www.thameswater.co.uk/binit)

Bin it - don't block it.

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Don't feed
fatbergs.

A little guide
to what
goes down
the drain.

Your pipes are only 10cm wide so they can't take the strain.



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For more information visit thameswater.co.uk/binit



Some
fatberg
facts.

Calling out a
plumber to clear a
blockage can cost
over £200.



Running
the hot tap and
using washing up
liquid doesn't help to
break up cooking
fat that's in the
pipes.



We clear a
blockage every
seven and half
minutes.



A fatberg the size
of a bus was found
in Kingston upon
Thames.



All wet wipes
aren't flushable
because they don't
break down like
loo paper.

