

Checklist: 5 Warning Signs You May Need a New Faucet

Blog: Faucet Replacement Tips from Plumbing Companies in Winder, Georgia

When you need running water in your home, you rely on a faucet to deliver it to you. While most faucets last for a very long time, you may need to replace one at some point. Here are a few warning signs that may indicate your faucet is on its last leg:

- 1. Dripping spout:** Just about everyone has dealt with a dripping faucet spout at some point. In many instances, a simple repair will fix the problem. You may need a new O-ring, washer, or cartridge. However, if the leak keeps coming back or the faucet is very old, it may be best to have a plumber replace it for you.
- 2. Water around the base:** Water should never escape your faucet unless its in use. If you notice stagnant water pooling around the base, you have a leak hiding somewhere. The seal around the base of the faucet may need to be redone. But, if the water returns after applying more plumber's putty, consider buying a new faucet. It's wise to have the faucet installed by a professional plumber to avoid more leaks in the future.
- 3. Corroded handles:** The handles of your faucet should turn with ease. If you struggle to turn on the faucet, there may be corrosion built up on the inside. Look inside the spout with a flashlight to see if there is any noticeable rust. You should also inspect around the base of each handle for corrosion. If you do spot some, it may be time to replace the faucet. Sure, you can clean off the corrosion and lubricate the handles, but the problem is bound to return at some point.
- 4. Squeaky handles:** You shouldn't hear any audible noise when turning the faucet on and off. If there is a grinding or squeaking sound, you should have your faucet inspected by a plumber. While the sound may be benign, there is a chance your faucet is wearing out. You may choose to replace it before it begins to leak.
- 5. Metallic smell:** The water that comes out of your faucet should be odorless. Any unpleasant aroma is abnormal. If the water has a metallic smell, it could indicate rust. A new faucet may be all you need to eliminate the smell. However, you should never diagnose an odor by yourself. Even though the aroma may be coming from the faucet, it can also point to a problem with the pipes or sewer line. Always call out a local plumber to inspect your entire plumbing system if you suddenly notice a strange aroma.