



## Who Can Perform Plumbing and Drainage Work Legally in Queensland?

The health and safety of the community is reliant upon professional licensed persons undertaking plumbing and drainage work.

In Queensland, legislation stipulates that any unlicensed persons (people who are not qualified to undertake plumbing and drainage work) cannot perform what is considered 'regulated work', stipulated in *the Plumbing and Drainage Act 2019*.

### What work can legally be undertaken by the Home Owner?

The following tasks are classified as 'unregulated work' and can be undertaken by the home owner.

#### For Sanitary Plumbing and Drainage

- Cleaning or maintaining ground level grates to traps on sanitary drains
- Replacing caps to ground level inspection openings on sanitary drains
- Maintaining an above or below ground irrigation system for the disposal of effluent from an on-site sewerage facility or greywater use facility

#### For Water Plumbing

- Installing or maintaining an irrigation or lawn watering system downstream from an isolating valve, tap or backflow prevention device on the supply pipe for the irrigation or lawn watering system
- Replacing a jumper valve or washer in a tap
- Changing a shower head
- Replacing, in a water closet (WC) cistern, a drop valve washer, float valve washer or suction cup rubber
- Replacing a domestic water filter cartridge



### WARNING

Handymen or persons who do not hold a Plumbing and Drainage contracting licence cannot perform "Unregulated Work"

### What happens if you undertake plumbing or drainage work illegally?

If work is carried out by an unlicensed person, the Act states that penalties and on the spot fines can be handed out, where individuals can look to face a maximum fine of \$32,637.50 for their first offence, and up to \$45,692.50 and one years' imprisonment for three or more offenses (or if the work they have undertaken is considered to be grossly defective).

The legislation also prevents anyone without a contractor's licence from performing plumbing works to the public.

It's important to inform the public of their legal obligations when considering undertaking their own plumbing or drainage work, to ensure we maintain the health and safety of our community.

### Further Information

For further information, visit [www.mpaq.com.au](http://www.mpaq.com.au) or you can contact Master Plumbers' Association of Queensland on 07 3273 0800.

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MASTER PLUMBER?



Master Plumbers'  
Association of Queensland

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