

Presenting sanitary drainage installation for inspection

Plumbing Advisory Note

Issued March 2026

Inspections must be booked in accordance with the Plumbing Standard published by the Technical Regulator.

Legislative requirements

The *Water Industry Act 2012* (the Act) is a comprehensive piece of legislation enacted by the South Australian government to regulate and oversee the water and sewerage industry in the state.

The Plumbing Standard published by the Technical Regulator pursuant to section 66 and 67 of the Act specifies mandatory inspection booking requirements.

The categories listed for inspection bookings include but are not limited to sanitary drainage and underfloor installations. Refer to the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) advisory note for instructions on how to make bookings.

Being prepared for an inspection

When making a booking for a sanitary drainage or underfloor inspection the installation shall be prepared for inspection as follows.

- The installation shall be complete and ready for backfilling
- The inspection shall take place prior to backfilling any sections of the installation
- Concrete shall be installed where required
- Bracketing of any suspended branch drains or waste pipes that are within a footing shall be complete
- Lagging shall not be installed until after the inspection
- The installation shall be under hydrostatic test

Installation is not ready for inspection?

If an OTR authorised officer attends a site inspection and the work is not ready or not compliant, you may be charged a fee to have an authorised officer re-inspect the work at a later date.

If you can see that your work won't be ready for the agreed inspection time, call the OTR on 1300 884 005 as soon as possible to cancel your appointment and to organise a new inspection time.

You may also contact the nominated Authorised Officer scheduled to attend the inspection.

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General installation illustrations



Figure 1 demonstrates an acceptable visible base of trench with a completed installation ready for inspection

Figure 1 - Base of trench installation



Figure 2 demonstrates star picket pipe supports that have been installed for branches located within footings. Lagging is to be installed around pipes, fittings and joints after hydrostatic testing has confirmed there are no leaks and after the inspection

Figure 2 - Star picket pipe supports installation



Figure 3 demonstrates a section of sanitary drainage laid on a compliant and visible base of trench ready for inspection

Figure 3 - Sanitary drainage installation

Contact the Office of the Technical Regulator for more information

Online otr.sa.gov.au

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South Australia**