

Avoid Putting These Things Down the Drain!

You should avoid putting the following down any drains, including your sinks, garbage disposal, bathtub/shower, and toilets:

1. **Cooking Oil-** Cooking oil mixes easily with other kitchen waste and is often dumped in the sink as part of clean-up. Try to always drain excess oil from pans and store for reuse or dispose of it in your trash. Remember, products like salad dressing and mayonnaise are oil based and should not be disposed of down the drain.
2. **Grease/Fat-** When cooking meats or using a large amount of cooking fats, follow the same practice as for cooking oil and drain your pans. Remember, dairy products, including cheese and milk, will coagulate when they cool and can clog your drains.
3. **Coffee Grounds and Eggshells-** Both are big offenders for causing drain blockages and are great if recycled for composting for your plants or garden or you can dispose of these in the trash.
4. **Rice/Pasta/Flour/Dough-** All of these can continue to swell or dry out/harden when dumped down the drain.
5. **Produce Stickers and Fruit Pits/Peels-** These often make their way into the kitchen sink. Stickers can gum up the disposal or drain and pits are too hard for the garbage disposal to grind up. Peels and rinds can get wedged in drains and do not break down easily.
6. **Paper Towels/Cotton balls/Q-Tips/Wet Wipes-** Unlike toilet paper, these common bathroom items do not break down when flushed down the toilet. Some even have a tendency to absorb water and expand.
7. **Condoms/Feminine Hygiene Products/Disposable Diapers-** These items do not break down when flushed down the toilet.
8. **Hair-** Avoid washing large quantities of hair down the drain. Do not clean your hairbrush and dispose of the hair in the toilet. Hair tends to snag other bits of waste and tangles everything together to create clogs that are difficult to get rid of.
9. **Animal Byproducts and Litter-** Animal feces and litter/shavings can not only clog drains, but can carry harmful parasites. Even “flushable” cat litter should not be disposed of in your toilet.
10. **Household Hazardous Waste-** Please follow all [hazardous waste disposal](#) collection guidelines and do not dispose of chemical solutions, cleaning products, or other hazardous materials down the drain.