

# The Journey of Clean Water



## Rainfall

All water which flows out of our taps begins life as rainwater, either flowing into streams and rivers to form 'surface water' or traveling through cracks and fissures in the ground to form 'groundwater'.

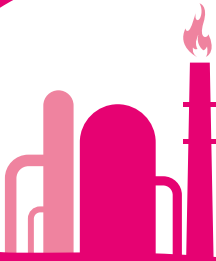
## Storage

Some water gets pumped directly to the treatment plant, but in many cases it is stored in reservoirs. Not only do these ensure a constant supply of water, but it's also a natural filtration method as the heavy pieces of dirt and sediment naturally fall to the ground.



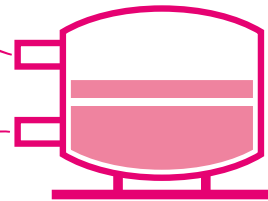
## Screening

After being pumped to the treatment plant, the first step is screening to remove any large branches or leaves before the water moves on to the next stage. Not doing this can cause blockages in the finer stages of filtration.



## Filtration

This stage takes out the smaller particles in the water which can prove harmful to humans. This is done firstly by flocculation - adding a solution to the water to make particles larger and easier to remove. It is then passed through both a rapid gravity filter and slow sand filter, which are designed to trap particles.



## Chlorination

Before the water is pumped out for domestic use, a small amount of chlorine - less than one milligramme per litre - is added to remove any bacteria which could still be present. The water is tested at every point to ensure there are no problems before it is deemed suitable for consumption.



## Arrives at the kitchen tap

Finally, the water is pumped back into the mains water supply for the general public to enjoy.

