

BEGINNERS TOILET GUIDE

BY EURO PLUMBING LTD

A study with over 2500 people has revealed that on average we spend over 92 days of our lives on the toilet. How much do you know about your toilet?

We don't tend to think much about it, unless we are looking at buying a new one. At which point we need to understand the various connections, types, and functions.

This guide will help you make a more educated decision.

TERMINOLOGY

The term "Toilet"

The term "Toilet" derives from the French word "Toilette" which means dressing room. In the 17th century going to the "toilet" simply meant you were going to get ready or fixed up in the dressing room. Around the 1800's in America the more common term "Water Closet" was used which eventually started being referred to both the room and the device. Today this is known as a WC or toilet which now more commonly only means "doing business"

The pan (Wash-down WC Pan)

Refers to the part you actually sit on, or squat over depending on what makes you happier.

The pan can be purchased in vitreous china or stainless steel (vandal resistant).



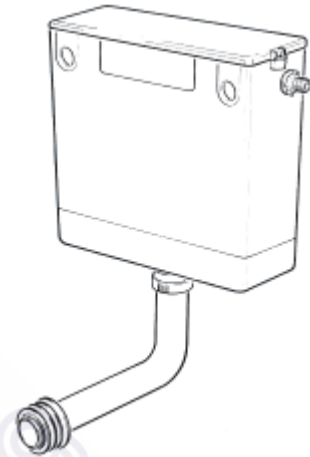
Water is flushed around the rim and falls into the bowl forcing the contents through the trap and over the weir. (see images below for reference)

How much water for flushing?

Flushing water required is 6 litres for a full flush and 3 litres for a half flush. The less water is required to move contents; the more energy stars the pan will have.

The Cistern

The toilet cistern is the part of the toilet that holds the water that is necessary to flush the toilet after it has been used. Depending on Toilet suite a cistern can be completely separated from the pan (in which case it will be connected via a flush pipe) or fixed directly over the top of the pan making it a close coupled WC.



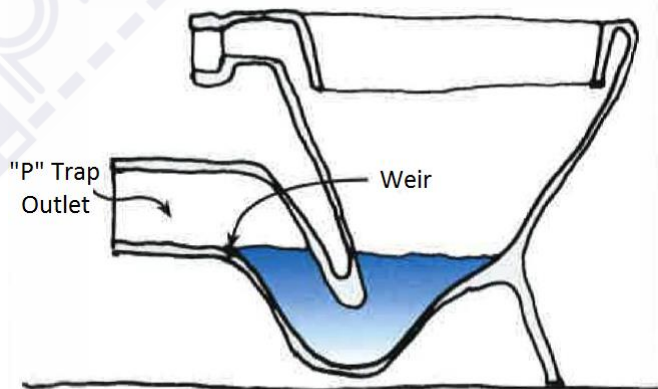
CONNECTION TYPES

What Connection types are available?

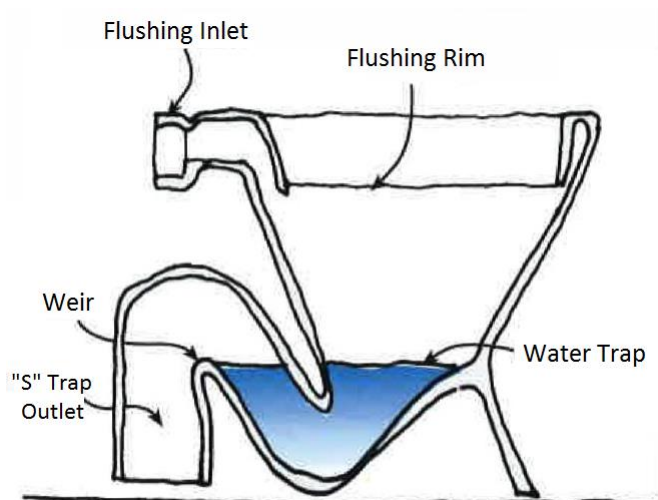
In New Zealand the most common connections are the “P Trap” and the “S Trap” Pans. Some models also offer a side outlet.



- Pans are designed to connect to a soil pipe (drain pipe) through the wall (via a pan connector). You can also purchase a P pan converter which will change your P Trap Outlet to a S Trap outlet, see pan connectors below.



- Pans are designed to connect to a soil pipe (drain pipe) through the floor (via a pan connector). S Pans account for the majority of new pans installed in NZ and tend to block much less because of the gravity drop.



TOILET MODEL TYPES

The type of toilet you chose will fully depend on your taste, site conditions and the amount of money you want to spend. When replacing an existing old toilet, you have no choice but to replace it with the same type of toilet to avoid having to reconfigure the plumbing services which will only add more cost.



CLOSE COUPLED

The close coupled (CC) suite has the cistern fitted against the wall and the pan is positioned away from the wall.

The gap between the wall and the pan varies according to the model.

Available in S and P traps



CLOSE COUPLED BACK TO WALL

The back to wall (BTW) close coupled (CC) toilet suite adds a streamlined, modern look to any bathroom. Positioned flush with the wall, there is no gap behind and all waste and inlet pipes are concealed, with the cistern then positioned above the bowl.

Commonly available in P trap, needing a spigot converter to achieve S trap conditions.

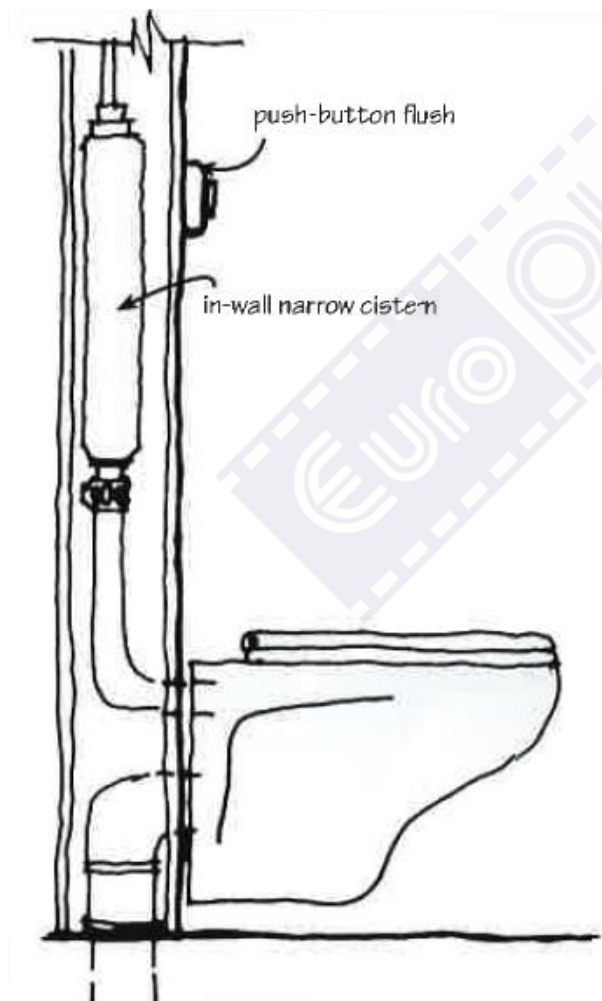


BACK TO WALL PAN

The back to wall (BTW) Pan adds a streamlined, modern look to any bathroom. Positioned flush with the wall, there is no gap behind and the waste pipe is fully concealed. The cistern is fully concealed in the wall.

See image example below.

Available in S and P traps



WALL-HUNG WC PAN

Fixed to the wall with special brackets the pan is suspended.

Waste and water connections are fully concealed.

Features include:

- Concealed cistern
- Slim cistern fits in 160 to 200mm wall space.
- Push-button flush device on wall.

The flushing mechanism and flush valve are integral.



PAN CONNECTORS

A pan connector is what allows you to connect the toilet trap outlet to the property soil or drainage pipe.

It creates a water and smell tight seal.



Pan connectors come in different sizes and offsets to suit any toilet model enabling the trap outlet to reach the pipe, as in most cases, especially in replacement situations the soil or drainage pipe cannot be moved to accommodate the new toilets connection set-out measurements.

You can also purchase a P to S trap converter.

Please note that any toilet repairs, replacements or new installations may only be done by qualified and registered plumbers.

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