



Things that don't belong in a toilet!

Flushable Wipes: **ARE NOT FLUSHABLE!** Although Adult and baby wipes can be used to wipe your bottom, [they are not toilet paper](#). All wipes are thicker, sturdier, and do not break down easily, and can cause significant problems with plumbing and clogged sewer systems.

Band-Aids: Made of non-biodegradable materials, they easily tangle up with hair and fat to create blockages.

Cat Litter: Scoopable and flushable cat litter sounds sensible, but in reality, it causes problems. Flushing litter and feces down the hatch not only cause plumbing problems, but it's possible that a parasite found in cat feces is killing sea otters and seals-and it could be coming from flushed cat waste.

Chewing gum: Flushing what is basically an adhesive down the toilet is not a sound practice, for obvious reasons.

Cigarette butts: Although they seem flushable, cigarette filters don't easily biodegrade and they are full with chemicals, which leach into the wastewater.

Condoms: Easy to flush, but not so easy on the sewer system. Condoms can inflate like balloons and cause fairly destructive obstructions.

Cosmetics: Your old moisturizer and other beauty care products can be [potentially toxic](#) and disruptive to wastewater treatments plants and septic systems.

Cotton Ball and swabs: Cotton doesn't break down easily, and although it may take a while for cotton products to accumulate into a clog, they are difficult to dislodge once they do.

Dental floss: Seemingly innocent, dental floss is non-biodegradable and wraps around small clogs and tangles them into bigger masses.

Disposable diapers: It's hard to believe that one could even get a diaper to flush down the toilet, yet that hasn't stopped sewage workers from finding systems clogged with [disposable nappies](#).

Dryer sheets: Is bad enough to [tumble synthetic chemicals](#) with your clothes, but flushing a dryer sheet afterwards is even worse. They retain synthetic chemicals that can get into the water system, and they are made from non-biodegradable materials.

Feminine Supplies: The padding and absorbent nature of these products make them too thick for the plumbing.

Food fat: Grease and fat congeal once they cool down, turning into solid masses that block pipes and cause serious sewage problems. Sewer workers call the giant grease lumps "fatbergs."

Food: Although food is biodegradable, it can still lump together and cause clogs.

Hair: After cleaning your hairbrush, deposit the clump in the garbage not the toilet. It tangles, catches things, and clogs like crazy.

Paper towels and napkins: Too sturdy for the pipes.

Pets: Yes, pets. Goldfish are commonly flushed, but small rodents (hamsters and gerbils) are also found in sewer systems. They're sturdy and they create clogs; consider and proper burial.

Prescription medicine: NO, NO, NO. Marine life does not need to ingest your old drugs, not to mention that flushed meds can [work their way back into our drinking water](#). See [the Food and Drug Administration guidelines](#) for disposing of unwanted medications.