

Sump Pump Alarm Buying and Testing Checklist

Choose the right alarm, install it correctly, and keep it working

Choose the right tier

1 Basic high-water alarm

Loud local buzzer. Best for unfinished basements when someone is usually home.

2 Smart Wi-Fi alarm

Sends phone alerts and reports power loss. Best for finished basements and frequent travellers.

3 Battery backup pump with alarms

Keeps pumping during outages plus full alerting. Best for flood-prone homes.

Install it right

1 Mount the sensor above shut-off, below the floor

Gives you an early warning with room to act.

2 Keep the pit clear of debris

Debris is the top cause of a stuck float and a clogged intake.

3 Use a licensed electrician for hardwired work

Water and electricity in one pit is not a DIY guess.

Test twice a year

1 Pour a bucket of water into the pit

Confirm the float triggers the pump.

2 Press the alarm test button

Confirm the buzzer sounds and any phone alert arrives.

3 Replace backup batteries on schedule

Usually every few years; check the manufacturer's guidance.

Worried about water in your basement in Toronto and the GTA? We can help.

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