

Level:
Beginner



After you have tried to clear your drain with a plunger the next attack should come from a hand snake. A hand snake is a coiled metal cable or flat steel wire that winds down the drain and breaks up the clog with gentle twists and tugs. It is best if you use a slow, deliberate approach. This is not the time to be hasty! Many homeowners advance several feet of wire before starting to turn it. Then it either kinks up or flips out, scratching the fixture or splashing mucky water all over. Feed the snake in one foot at a time and then turn it; feeling the way as you go along. When you hit the block, work at it gently. Getting through the clog can take quite some time, even for the best of plumbers, up to a few hours. However, it minimizes the risk of damage to the pipe and you!