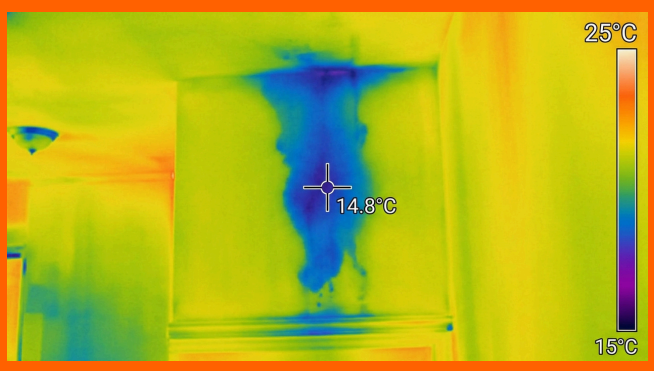
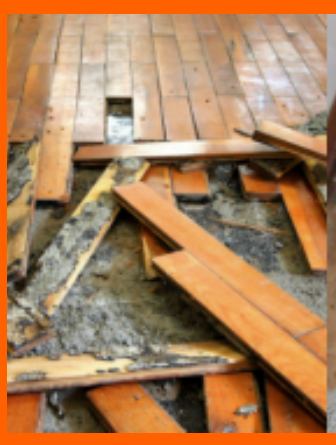
THE NZ PLUMBER'S UNDERGROUND LEAK & DRAIN DIAGNOSTIC CHEAT SHEET

Pinpoint Hidden Leaks & Blockages Faster Without Digging Dry Holes

Job Scenario	Best Method	Recommended Gear	Why It Works & Field Tip
Pressurised water leak under concrete, asphalt, or pavers	Acoustic Listening	**Gen-Ear LE Acoustic Leak Detector**	Amplifies the exact hissing/thumping frequency of escaping water through solid surfaces. Tip: Shut off noisy appliances and isolate zone valves first.
Hot water pipe leak in walls, ceilings, or under-floor heating	Thermal Imaging	**Pocket2 Thermal Camera**	Detects subtle temperature differentials behind GIB, tiles, or concrete slabs in seconds—zero invasive cutting required.









Pinpointing exact depth & path of a blocked or broken drain	Pushrod CCTV + 512Hz Sonde	**Forbest 5D3 Pro + TL2002 Locator**	Visually confirms tree roots, collapsed earthenware, or offset joints while the transmitter pinpoints exact dig location and depth above ground.
Heavy scale, fatbergs, or roots reducing pipe flow	Mechanical Descaling + CCTV	**RCX Drain Descaler**	Restores full internal pipe diameter safely in cast iron, PVC, and earthenware without risking water-jetting blowbacks inside buildings.
Deep council lines, stormwater mains, or boreholes	Robotic Crawler / Well Cam	**EasySight X5 Series / Strahl Well HD**	Captures council-compliant HD inspection footage and inclination reports for large-diameter civil and commercial tenders.

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The 5-Minute "Zero-Guesswork" Leak Location Protocol

1. **Isolate & Confirm:** Check the water meter with all fixtures off. If the dial spins, isolate internal vs. main supply lines to narrow the search zone to a single run.
2. **Scan Visually with Thermal First:** Sweep walls, floors, and hot-water cylinder manifolds with a thermal camera to catch obvious temperature plumes in under 60 seconds.
3. **Trace the Line:** Use a pipe/cable locator (or pushrod sonde for drains) to mark the exact pipe path on the concrete or grass with chalk/flags before listening.
4. **Pinpoint Acoustically:** Walk the marked line with ground microphones at 0.5m intervals. Mark the point of peak decibel intensity—that is your dig spot.
5. **Verify Before You Dig:** Double-check depth readings on your locator so your crew knows whether it's a 300mm shallow trench or a 1.5m excavation.



The Cost of Guessing vs. Pinpointing (Quick ROI Check)

- **Misdiagnosed Concrete Cut & Dig-Up:** ~4 hours wasted labour + concrete reinstatement = $650 – $1,100+ in lost margin (plus an unhappy client).
- **Adding Dedicated Leak & CCTV Diagnostics:** Charging $250 – $450/hr for non-invasive leak detection or drain reporting pays off a professional service kit in 12 to 18 jobs—and generates high-margin repair work on the spot.

Need Help Choosing Gear or Have a Tricky Job This Week?

Don't risk buying cheap overseas gear with zero local parts when a breakdown costs you $1,500/day in cancelled bookings.

✅ Free Onsite Job-Site Demos (Auckland, Waikato & Bay of Plenty)
✅ 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee + Up to 5-Year NZ Warranty
✅ Local Hamilton Repair Workshop + Free Backup Loaner Units (never lose a day's work)

Book a Free 15-Minute Demo or Get Same-Day Pricing:

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