

Sump & Pump Systems: How are they used?

Sump and pump systems are usually installed in basements and sub-floor voids and self-activate via a float switch when water enters the sump pit. The water is then pumped through a discharge pipe to the outside of the building, with a non-return valve on the discharge pipe to prevent the back flow of any floodwater from outside of the property.

Pump systems work to reduce the amount of flood water within a property, and the length of time it remains after floodwater has receded, which reduces damage and helps to speed up the cleaning and drying process.



Image: The Flood Hub

Basement systems

Properties which suffer from groundwater issues can incorporate a sump and pump system which will kick in automatically when water in the sump reaches a certain height. Cavity wall and under floor drainage systems can also be installed to collect water and direct it into the sump.

Ground floors

Ground floors which don't have a cellar can also benefit from sump and pump systems which can either be installed into solid floors or placed into the void beneath suspended floors. Sump pumps can be hardwired into mains electricity and also operate automatically.



Image: © Lakeside Flood Solutions

Submersible/Puddle pump

Submersible/puddle pumps may offer a more affordable and convenient option to a sump/pump system. Puddle pumps are designed to pump down to very low levels, some can go as low as 1mm. As no sump chamber is required they can be placed in the best location for maximum benefit when required.



Image: © Lakeside Flood Solutions

Power supply

It is worth considering that electricity supplies can be lost or switched off manually as a safety precaution during a flood. Small generators can be used to maintain power in these situations and there are also battery powered pump options available.



Image: Canva/Denis Starostin