



Article published on May 15th 2012 | [Home Improvement](#)

Most basements face the challenges of water damage and leaks. However, the causes for wet basements differ on the basis of a variety of different factors. It is important to understand exactly what causes a wet basement, before you can evaluate the action plan to remove the damp surfaces and create a waterproofing solution.

Old houses are based on construction techniques prevalent in their contemporary era. As such, many of these houses do not have the up to date technology assistance to water protection. These houses are most likely to be plagued with a wet basement problem. It is especially worse for houses of the older construction styles based in areas that are prone to rain flooding or water stagnations.

Plumbing leaks are another glaring cause of water damages in a basement. Many houses change some of their aspects but leave the plumbing as is (to avoid overall expenses and hassles of changing the complete pipes system). However, it is more sensible to get your house evaluated for the dangers of water damages. A precautionary solution might be to at least change the plumbing system around your basement to avoid water leaks that might go unnoticed for long time.

Alternately, you can also get your basement waterproofed to avoid any further complications arising from leaking pipes. In absence of a solution, the wet basement problems will only escalate. You might have to change the plumbing system and add heavy structural changes to your basement in a worst-case scenario.

The dampness of a wet basement can create a variety of problems. Initially the room is clogged with a musty smell, which is due to the damp encouraging growth of molds and fungi in the area. You will also find it likely that the area is infested with critters and insects within a short time. Most insects and pests find wet, dark areas suitable for their habitat. A wet basement can continue to put pressure on your house's foundation. The rot can extend up to the foundation and in some cases, you might have to break down parts of your house and rebuild it to avoid serious accidents.

In case you are planning to ignore your delay the professional assistance to your problem, you can take some preventive steps to avoid worsening of the situation. For starters, take out most of your stored possessions from the basement. Otherwise, in absence of immediate waterproofing, the rot might extend to these possessions. You should also consider putting in plastic shelves in the basements as a measure of waterproofing. Also in areas prone to rain flooding, the shelves should be at least a foot above floor level and nothing should be stored directly on the floor.

Waterproofing is an excellent solution to any and almost all of the above problems. Hiring a professional waterproofing contractor or firm will ensure that the basements are thoroughly checked for all problems and a solution is devised to address all of these problems. In some cases, you might have to take the additional help of professional exterminators to help get rid of the insects infestation before the actual waterproofing work can be started. You can also hire an annual maintenance contract with your waterproofing firm to ensure that your basement is regularly evaluated and maintained against wet conditions and causes.

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Article Keywords:

wet basement repair, waterproofing contractors, quality provider

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