

## Cleanouts and Caps

Definition: Cleanout: pipe that allows access to the buildings drainage system, and includes a cap.  
Cap: seals off the opening of cleanout to prevent the escape of sewer gas/liquid and to prevent the entrance of foreign objects into the sewer line.

Name none  
Variants:

Most metal, plastic  
Common  
Materials:

Most cap, riser, pipe  
Common  
Components:

## Location and Inspection of Cleanouts and Caps

Abilities or Knowledge Needed:	- Visual acuity for location & inspection - Mobility for access to all areas of the property - Understanding of items components
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Tools for Location & Inspection	Useful:	none
	Required:	none

Common Locations:	Inside/Units:	kitchens, bathrooms, washer and dryers
	Outside:	vertically along the building or horizontal on the grounds

How to Locate:	Visual Observation:	Look on the ground along the outside of the building for PVC or metal piping that has a cleanout cap. Locate the cleanout and caps by observing the vertical piping (stack) at the lowest level of the building. Look between the main drain and the buildings sewer or septic system.
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Possible Deficiencies:	Deficiency 1:	Cap is detached or is missing
	Deficiency 2:	Cap or riser has penetrative hole or crack

## Deficiency 1: Cap is detached or is missing

Rationale:	Maintenance:	Indicates maintenance staff is not identifying deficiencies or responding to self-generated or complaint-driven work orders.
	Health and Safety:	Decreases air quality thorough the exposure of sewer gases into a conditioned area. Increases potential for sewage to back up and overflow Increases probability of a trip hazard.
	Operability:	Prevents proper use of the cleanout.
Health and Safety:	Standard:	This is a standard health and safety issued requiring a correction, remedy, or act of abatement within 30 days.
How to Inspect:	Visual Observation:	Look at each cleanout and identify where the cleanout cap should be located Look to ensure that the cap is present and is securely attached to the cleanout.
	Action:	Gently touch or tap the cap to make sure that it is securely attached
Record deficiency if:	cap to the cleanout is detached or is missing.	

## Deficiency 2: Cap or riser has penetrative hole or crack

Rationale:	Maintenance:	Indicates maintenance staff is not identifying deficiencies or responding to self-generated or complaint-driven work orders.
	Health and Safety:	Decreases air quality through the exposure of sewer gases into a conditioned area. Increases potential for sewage to back up and overflow
	Operability:	Prevents proper use of cleanout.

Health and Safety:	Standard:	This is a standard health and safety issued requiring a correction, remedy, or act of abatement within 30 days.
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How to Inspect:	Visual Observation:	Look at each cleanout and thoroughly examine the riser and the cap. Look for any holes or cracks in the riser or cap that would allow for contaminated air or sewage to seep out.
	<b>Please Note:</b>	<b>This item is located on the ground and is often hit and cracked by lawnmowers so inspect carefully. Sometimes the property will intentionally drill a hole into the cap for easier access to the cleanout.</b>

Record deficiency if:	there is a hole or crack penetrating through a cleanout cap or riser.
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