

A A whistling sound in water pipes is usually caused by water flowing rapidly through a constriction. First, you need to isolate the sound. If the whistling occurs when you open a specific tap, the problem is likely being caused by a defective washer in the faucet.

If the whistling sound occurs when any faucet is opened, the culprit may be the water meter and the nearby pressure-reducing valve. In most cases, the meter is

located where the inlet water service pipe enters the building. Try adjusting the reducing valve so that the pressure is increased or decreased. Adjusting the pressure might dislodge sediment, and this may correct the problem. However, the sediment may also find its way into aerator screens in faucets; it can also cause anything from a dishwasher to a toilet to behave erratically by obstructing a valve or sticking in a mechanism. Keep a lookout for this.

EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARDS

A few of our favorite new gadgets

Vovel \$140 * ▼

The Vovel looks odd, but the shovel-on-a-wheel is designed to outperform a small gas-engine snowthrower. Just sink its 26-in.-wide shovel into the snow, wheel it where it needs to go and flick the snow off. It provides carrying power without the usual snow-removal strain.

www.vovel.com

*includes shipping



360 Outlet \$8 ▼



The top and bottom receptacles on this outlet rotate 360 degrees, providing unfettered access to accommodate DC adapters and plugs entering from different angles, not just vertically. The device is rated for 15 amps, 120 volts, and installs in any standard receptacle box with connections made to side terminal screws. www.360electrical.com

L4 Liquid Wrench \$5 ▼

L4 comes as close to being an all-purpose lubricant and penetrant as you're going to find. Its success is due to a mixture of natural and synthetic lubricants with microscopic ceramic particles suspended in the blend. The particles act like miniature ball bearings, helping metal parts slide easily past one another and reducing wear. www.gunk.com



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