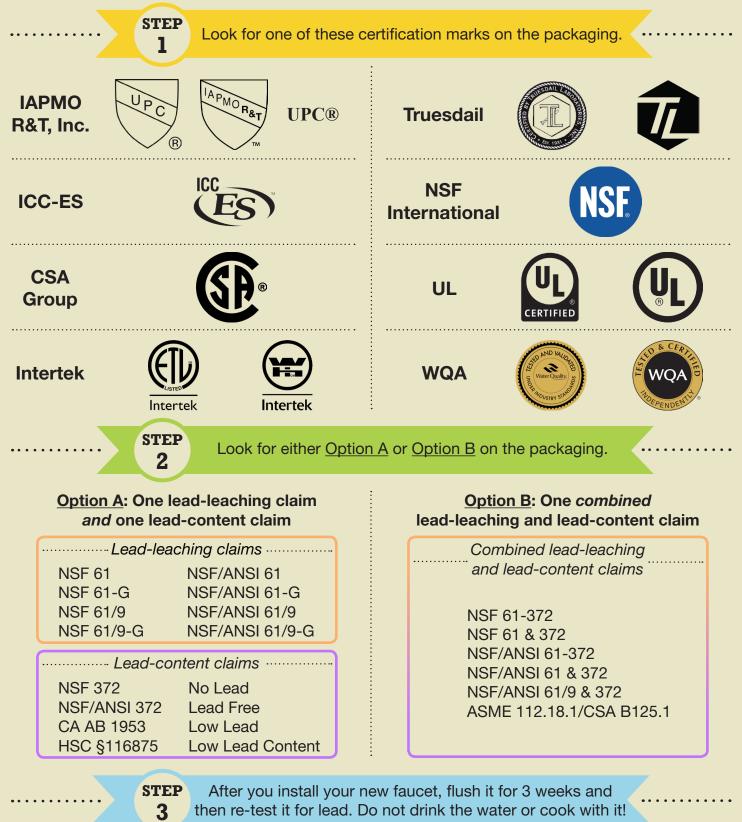
## How to Identify Low-Lead Faucets and Fixtures

If a lead action level exceedance has been found in your building, it may have come from a faucet or plumbing fixture containing high levels of lead. This guide will help you find low-lead replacements.



Adapted from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "How to Identify Lead Free Certification Marks for Drinking Water System & Plumbing Products, Rev. March 2015." Any mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

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Why do I need to flush and re-test my new faucet before I can drink the water or cook with it?

Scientists have found that many new faucets go through a "break-in period." During this period, new faucets may contribute high amounts of lead to the water running through it. You can "break-in" or "condition" your new faucet by using it regularly for non-drinking water purposes, or you can flush the faucet by turning on the cold water for 30 seconds. Flush your faucet at least 4 times a day for 3 weeks before re-testing your water for lead. Testing the water prior to completing the break-in period may cause high lead levels in the test results.

Do not use the faucet for drinking or cooking until test results show that the water meets required levels.

..... I'm shopping online. What if I don't see any certification marks?

Be cautious when you purchase online. Third-party sellers may offer products that do not comply with current California laws and regulations. For your safety, please only purchase from reputable hardware retailers and look for links to the manufacturer's technical specifications. If the technical specification sheet has the claims listed in Step 2, the product is likely to be low-lead.

..... What's the difference between lead-leaching and lead-content claims?

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A *lead-leaching claim* means that when a faucet was tested in a laboratory, it released (leached) very low amounts of lead into the water.

A *lead-content claim* means that the materials used to make the faucet contain very low amounts of lead.

For your safety, please look for both claims (or a *combined claim* that includes both) on the product packaging or in the technical specification sheet when you shop for a faucet.