

Plumbing Photo Documentation Checklist

Most plumbing work disappears behind drywall, under slab, or beneath tile. When a dispute, warranty issue, or insurance claim surfaces — the question is simple: **can you prove what was there and how it was installed?** This guide gives your crew the exact shots to capture at each of 7 job phases.

THE 7 PHASES

Document Every Phase, Protect Every Job

01 PHASE Pre-Job Walkthrough

- Entire room / work area
- Existing fixtures and trim
- Visible pipe routing
- Water heater condition
- Existing shutoff valves
- Cabinets & surrounding finishes
- Floor and wall condition
- Appliances tied to plumbing
- Visible corrosion / prior leaks
- Meter and access points

02 PHASE Safety & Pre-Conditions

- Asbestos test paperwork
- Lead test paperwork
- Mold or moisture evidence
- Water-damaged framing
- Electrical hazards near water lines
- Old galvanized / cast iron condition
- Crawlspace or slab conditions
- Access limitations

03 PHASE After Opening the Wall

- Pipe routing inside wall or floor
- Framing condition around lines
- Rot, termite, or stud damage
- Vent path and tie-ins
- Drain slope and direction
- Fire blocking & penetrations
- Previous repair evidence
- Hidden water damage
- Structural conflicts



04 PHASE Valves & Rough Plumbing

- New supply line routing
- Valve placement and access
- Drain and vent configuration
- Pipe supports and strapping
- Nail plates at stud penetrations
- Cleanout locations
- Stub-outs at fixture points
- Shower & tub valve depth
- Pressure regulator / manifold work

05 PHASE Welding & Connection Quality

- Copper solder joints
- Brazed fittings
- PEX rings or expansion fittings
- Thread sealant application
- Gas line connections
- Dielectric unions
- Isolation and service valves
- Water heater hookups

06 PHASE Code & Test Documentation

- Pressure gauge reading
- Test duration and timestamp
- Gas or water stress test
- Backflow device installation
- Trap configuration
- Vent height or routing
- Pipe insulation
- Seismic / water heater strapping
- Cleanout accessibility

07 PHASE Before Closure & Handoff

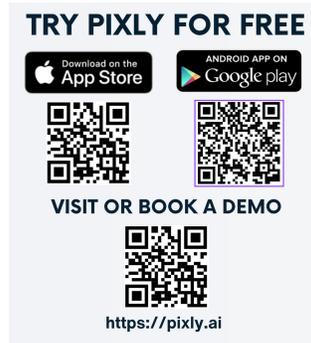
- Entire wall before close-up
- Wide shot with all lines visible
- Close-ups of each fixture connection
- Valve locations for future service
- Drain routing references
- Permits or inspection stickers
- Finished fixture operation
- No-leak final walkthrough
- Handoff to drywall or tile crew



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HOW TO USE THIS IN THE FIELD

Turn This Checklist Into Your Daily Workflow

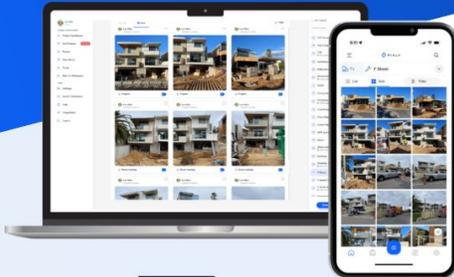
- 01 Start Every Phase With a Wide Shot**
Show the room, access point, or opened wall before close-ups. Context shots anchor everything.
- 02 Capture the Detail That Could Be Questioned**
Valve depth, solder joints, nail plates, trap layout, pressure gauge readings, and permit stickers win disputes.
- 03 Add Notes While the Crew Is Still On-Site**
A good photo with a short note beats a good memory every time.
- 04 Photograph Before Every Handoff**
Take final shots before drywall, tile, or another trade closes access. Once it's covered, it's gone.





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