

# Dishwasher Leak Diagnosis Checklist

Metro Vancouver Homeowner Reference 2026

## First step, find when the leak appears

Dry the area, run a short rinse cycle, and watch when the water appears. Leak during wash means a gasket, spray arm, or tub issue. Leak during drain means the drain hose, drain pump, or missing high loop. Leak when idle points at the inlet valve.

## The five common leak causes

- 1 Worn door gasket.**  
Hardened or cracked rubber. Run a finger around the seal. Replace if not pliable.
- 2 Cracked or jammed spray arm.**  
Pull racks. Lift arm off post. Inspect underside. Spin freely without binding.
- 3 Bad drain hose connection.**  
Open the sink cabinet. Verify high loop. Check for kinks behind the dishwasher.
- 4 Failing drain pump seal.**  
Leak appears only at the front of the unit during drain phase.
- 5 Tub crack or corrosion.**  
Plastic tubs over eight years old. Usually a replacement conversation.

## Five-minute homeowner checks

- 1 Inspect the door gasket all the way around.**  
Cracks, hardened sections, food residue.
- 2 Make sure the unit is level.**  
A bubble level on the bottom rack tells you in seconds.
- 3 Inspect the spray arms.**  
Lift, check for cracks, spin freely.
- 4 Check the drain hose high loop.**  
Hose must rise to the top of the cabinet and clip in.
- 5 Verify the inlet valve does not drip when idle.**  
Look at the back of the unit after an hour of no use.

## When to call a technician

Water with the unit completely idle and no visible source. Wet toe-kick with no door, spray arm, or hose damage. Breaker trips when the unit runs. Any electrical symptoms. Book a service appointment at [asap-service.ca/book-now/](https://asap-service.ca/book-now/) or call 604-441-2521.