



## **5 Colossal Sewer Line Replacement Mistakes**

*And How to Avoid Costly Problems, Delays, and Regret*

## Introduction

Replacing a sewer line is one of the most expensive and stressful repairs a homeowner can face. Most homeowners only deal with this once—so decisions are made quickly, often under pressure, and without knowing what to look for. That's exactly when costly mistakes happen. This guide breaks down the 5 biggest mistakes—and one bonus mistake most contractors won't tell you—so you can protect your home and your wallet.

### *Mistake #1: Choosing the Cheapest Bid*

It's tempting to go with the lowest price—but this is where many homeowners go wrong. Cheap bids often mean: • Lower quality materials • Inexperienced labor • Corners being cut • Hidden costs later. What seems like savings upfront can turn into thousands in repairs. **What to do:** Focus on value, not just price. Ask what's included, what materials are used, and what warranty is provided.

### *Mistake #2: Not Verifying Licensing and Insurance*

Not every contractor is properly licensed or insured. If something goes wrong, you could be held responsible. Risks include: • Property damage • Injuries on your property • No protection if the job is done wrong **What to do:** Always ask for proof of licensing and insurance—and verify it.

### *Mistake #3: Skipping a Camera Inspection*

Some contractors give quotes without ever inspecting the line. That means they're guessing. Without a camera inspection: • Problems can be misdiagnosed • You may replace more than necessary • Underlying issues can be missed **What to do:** Always require a video inspection and explanation before approving any work.

### *Mistake #4: Not Understanding All Your Options*

You may not need a full sewer replacement. Depending on the issue, you could have options like: • Spot repairs • Pipe lining • Pipe bursting **What to do:** Ask what all your options are—and the pros and cons of each—before deciding.

### *Mistake #5: Ignoring Reviews and Reputation*

A contractor's reputation tells you everything. Skipping this step can lead to: • Poor workmanship • Delays • Bad communication **What to do:** Check reviews, testimonials, and past projects. Look for consistent positive feedback.

## Bonus Mistake Most Homeowners Don't Realize

### *Mistake #6: Settling for a Temporary Fix Instead of a Permanent Solution*

Many homeowners call a plumber to clear a clogged sewer line. While this may restore flow temporarily, it often does NOT fix the root problem. Common real issues include: • Root intrusion • Cracked or collapsed pipes • Aging sewer lines Some companies will clear the line knowing the issue will return in a few months. That means: • Repeat service calls • More money spent • Ongoing frustration **What to do:**

Always ask: • What is causing the issue? • Is this temporary or permanent? • What is the long-term solution? A trustworthy professional will help you fix the problem—not just delay it.

### Final Thoughts

A sewer line replacement is a big investment—but it doesn't have to be a gamble. By avoiding these mistakes, you can make a confident, informed decision and avoid unnecessary costs and stress. The right contractor will educate you—not pressure you.