



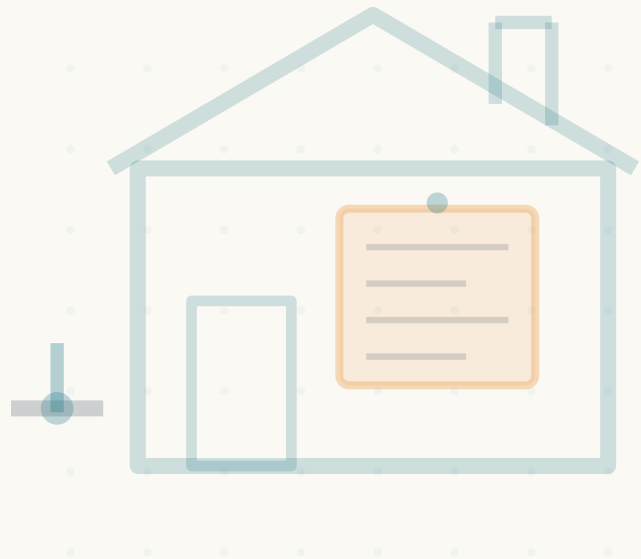
ARDENT WORKSHOP

AN ARDENT WORKSHOP PRODUCT

Home Shutoff & Breaker Map

Find every shutoff once, write down which way it turns, and never hunt again.

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Almost nobody knows where their shutoffs are until the afternoon they need one — in the dark, with water coming through the ceiling. This is the other version of that afternoon: one page, one calm walk around the house, and it is written down for good.

START WITH THE FILLED EXAMPLE

The next page shows this sheet **answered in full** for an invented household, so you can see the level of detail that makes it usable. Then print the blank one behind it and walk your own house. Everything on the example page is fictional.

Take about forty-five minutes. You do not have to operate anything — knowing where each shutoff is, which way it turns, and what tool it takes is most of the value.

One safety rule, and it applies to every page like this: record where things are and how the home runs — never the passwords, the alarm code, or a full account number. A page that is useful to a house-sitter is also readable by anyone else who walks in.

Shutoff & Breaker Location Map — filled-in example

Where every shutoff is, which way it turns, and what tool it takes — drawn once, on a calm afternoon, so that nobody is hunting for a valve in the dark with water coming through the ceiling. Sketch the plan, number each shutoff, then describe it in the table.

THE GAS RULE

If you shut the gas off at the meter, **do not turn it back on yourself**. Only the gas utility or a licensed technician should restore and relight it. And if you smell gas: leave first, then call from outside.

Sketch the floor plan or the lot. Number each shutoff (1, 2, 3...) where it actually sits.



Then describe each numbered shutoff

#	System	Where it is	How to shut it off	Tool needed
1	Water — main shutoff	Basement, front wall under the porch, behind the metal shelving	Ball valve. Quarter turn on the lever until it sits ACROSS the pipe	None — turns by hand
2	Water — curb stop	Sidewalk box at the curb, north end of the driveway	Lift the lid, turn clockwise until it stops	Curb key — hangs on the garage pegboard
3	Gas — meter shutoff	Left side of the house, under the kitchen window	Quarter turn on the tab so it sits ACROSS the pipe. Do not turn it back on yourself	12 in. adjustable wrench, zip-tied to the meter riser
4	Electricity — main breaker	Panel in the garage, right of the side door	The big double breaker at the top — flip it to OFF	None
5	Water heater — cold inlet	Basement utility room, on the pipe above the tank	Handle on the cold (right-hand) pipe — clockwise to close	None
6	Water heater — gas control	Front of the same tank	Turn the dial to OFF — not to PILOT	None
7	Furnace / AC — service switch	Looks like a light switch, mounted on the furnace body	Flip it down	None

#	System	Where it is	How to shut it off	Tool needed
8	Sewer cleanout	Front lawn, 6 ft from the porch steps, green cap under the mulch	Leave it shut — this is for the plumber. Just be able to point at it	The plumber brings their own
9	Sump pump — outlet	Basement, outlet on the wall above the pit	Unplug only if it is running dry and cycling	None

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Where the first five hide

An extract from the full guide, which covers 14 systems. These are the five to find first.

Main water shutoff (inside)

Where to look	Follow the water line in from the street side of the house. In a basement it is usually on the front wall, low, near where the pipe comes through the foundation — often behind shelving. On a slab it is more often in a utility closet, the garage, or near the water heater. It sits close to the water meter where there is one.
How it operates	Lever: a quarter turn. Open is the handle running ALONG the pipe; closed is the handle ACROSS it. Wheel: turn clockwise, and expect many full turns before it seats.
Tool needed	None — both types turn by hand.

Water — curb stop (the street valve)

Where to look	A small metal or plastic lid set flush into the sidewalk, the grass strip, or the end of the driveway, usually in line with where the service pipe runs toward the house. Often lettered WATER .
How it operates	Reached with a long T-handled curb key, turned clockwise to close.
Tool needed	A curb key. If you keep one, keep it somewhere obvious and write down where.

Fixture and appliance stops

Where to look	Underneath every sink, behind each toilet, behind the washing machine, and on the line to the refrigerator icemaker and the dishwasher.
How it operates	Oval handle: clockwise to close. Lever: a quarter turn.
Tool needed	None normally.

Outside taps and hose bibs

Where to look	Inside the house, on the pipe leading out to each outdoor tap — commonly in the basement ceiling joists, or in a cabinet on the same wall.
How it operates	Close the inside valve, then open the outside tap to drain the pipe.
Tool needed	None, sometimes a screwdriver for the bleeder cap.

Gas — main meter valve

Where to look	At the gas meter, outside on a side or rear wall in most homes, occasionally in a basement or a meter room. It is on the pipe coming out of the ground, BEFORE the meter.
How it operates	A quarter turn. In line with the pipe is on; ACROSS the pipe is off.
Tool needed	An adjustable wrench, roughly 12 in. Keep one at the meter — zip-tied to the riser, or in a marked box nearby.

BEFORE YOU TOUCH ANYTHING

This is general orientation for finding and labeling the shutoffs in your own home — it is not plumbing, gas, or electrical advice, and it does not replace your utility company, a licensed trade, or your local code. Valves seize, panels differ, and some homes are plumbed in ways no general guide predicts. If a valve is corroded, stiff, or you are not sure what you are looking at, leave it alone and ask someone qualified. In any emergency involving gas, fire, or an electrical hazard, leave the building first and call from outside.

The rest of the pack

This is one page of eight. The **Home Emergency & "If I'm Away" Printables Pack** adds emergency contacts, a house-sitter sheet, pet-care and medical cards, a family meeting-place card, a home-systems reference, and your utilities and providers — every one of them also shown filled in, the way this page is.

AND THE THINGS A SINGLE PAGE CAN'T CARRY

The full **Find & Label Your Shutoffs** guide covers all 14 systems — the curb stop, the fixture stops, the sewer cleanout, a well pump, the irrigation backflow — with a walking order for the whole house and a labeling method. There is also a **What to Write & Where to Post** guide, and wallet and fridge cards already imposed with cut marks. [See the full pack >](#)

More Life Admin & Peace of Mind tools at ardentworkshop.com. Free to use — please don't resell or redistribute it.

A note on what this is. General orientation for finding and labeling the shutoffs in your own home — not plumbing, gas, or electrical advice, and no substitute for your utility company or a licensed trade. If a valve is seized, corroded, or unfamiliar, leave it alone and ask someone qualified. If you shut gas off at the meter, do not turn it back on yourself. In any emergency involving gas, fire, or an electrical hazard, get everyone out first and call from outside.