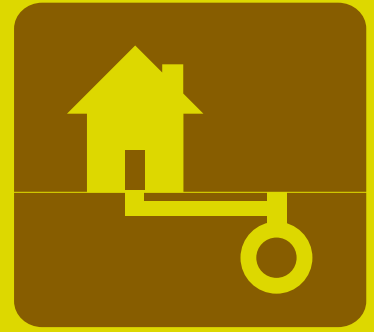


serious**



cesspool

Cesspools (sewage holding tanks) are usually only used where there is no other option, e.g. it is not possible to pump to a mains sewer, the ground conditions aren't suitable for the waste to soak away to land or there is no watercourse where treated effluent can discharge. There is no treatment, they simply store waste and also offer a solution where use is infrequent or intermittent. Because there is no outlet, cesspools can also be favourable where sites are sensitive and even treated effluent could be a pollution problem.

Maintenance

Waste needs to be regularly tankered away to prevent overflow of tank to land. The level must be checked at least fortnightly if a high-level alarm is not fitted. No other maintenance is required.

Failure to maintain

Drains backing up, unpleasant smells, overflow of tank and pollution of the surrounding area, risk of prosecution.