

Leaking gate valve

A gate valve has a stem that closes the valve. To make the valve water-tight, it is wrapped with "packing", which is like a nylon rope.

The packing is compressed by the pressure of the gland, making it water-tight.

Given time, the packing can start to leak. To stop the leaking, tighten the gland nuts to press the gland down tighter onto the packing.

However, since the packing is no longer in "new condition", it is possible for it to start leaking again. The fix is to tighten the gland nuts again.

Eventually, tightening the gland nuts will not stop the leaking, at which time a plumber needs to remove the old packing and install new packing.

