

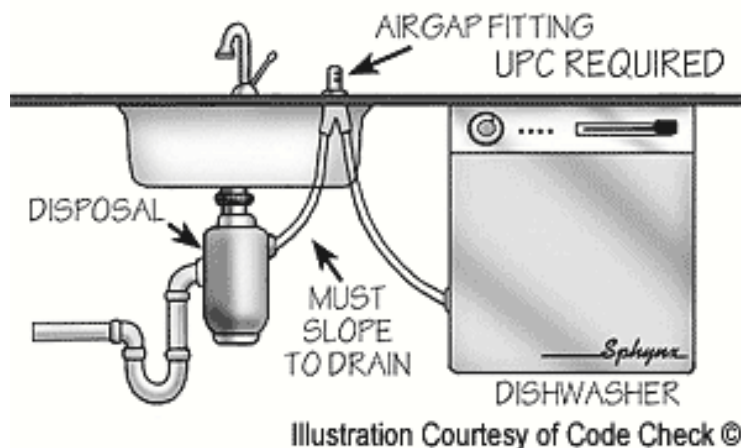
Why Trust Anyone Else?

Dishwasher Air Gaps are Required!

There seems to be some occasional misunderstanding regarding what function they perform. All dishwashers built during approximately the last 20 years have a built-in water supply air gap to prevent cross-connection and possible backflow to the water supply. If you look at a dishwasher out of the box prior to installation, you will see the hose looped above the water line and into a funnel-like device on the side or back of the dishwasher. This is the built-in supply air gap.



Most dishwashers do not have built-in backflow prevention from the drain hose side. This is where the drain air gap device functions; to prevent contamination of the inside of the dishwasher, not the water supply. This usually would occur if there was a kitchen sink drain backup.



The UPC (Uniform Plumbing Code) and the state of Wisconsin requires that an air gap device be installed to prevent

backflow into the dishwasher since 1991 (see illustration). This device prevents backflow by keeping the connection above the fixture flood level rim and having an opening to atmosphere (prevents a siphon).

As you can see, the countertop air gap device for the drain prevents only contamination of the dishwasher, a disgusting event, rather than contamination of water supply, a potentially hazardous event.