NAPLES COMPUTERS HOW-TO · BUSINESS I.T.

Laptop Got Wet? What to Do in the First Hour

What you do in the first hour after a laptop gets wet, from Florida rain, a pool or a boat, matters more than almost anything that happens after. This guide covers powering it off immediately, skipping the rice and hair dryer myths, and why bringing it in the same day gives it the best chance.

Why the first hour matters

It's not the water alone; it's water plus power.

Water and power don't mix
A laptop that's still on can short-circuit the moment liquid reaches the wrong spot.

Speed matters most
The faster the power is cut, the less chance liquid has to spread or cause damage.

Common "fixes" can make it worse
Rice and hair dryers are popular advice online, but neither one is actually recommended.

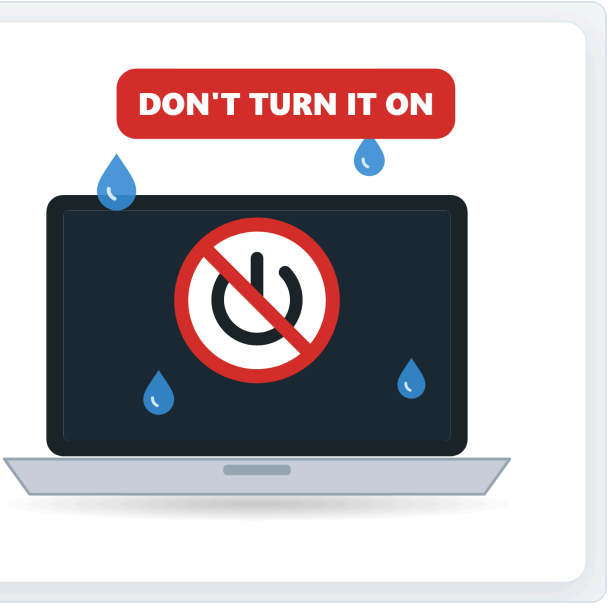
Step by step

FIRST HOUR

! Laptop just got wet?

What you do in the next few minutes matters more than almost anything after.

WHAT TO DO
We're Naples Computers, since 1993.



STEP 1 OF 3

! Power it off immediately

Hold the power button down, or pull the battery if you can; don't just close the lid.

WHAT TO DO

Don't turn it back on to "check" if it's fine; that's the single most common mistake.



Off first, before anything else

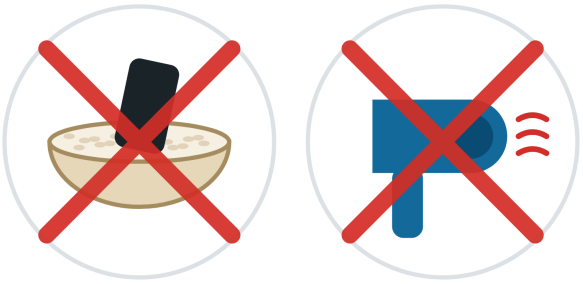
STEP 2 OF 3

! Unplug it, and skip the rice

No charger, no power source, and no rice or hair dryer; neither actually helps, and heat can make things worse.

WHAT TO DO

A sealed bag with a drying packet is fine for the trip in; that's about it.



No rice

No heat

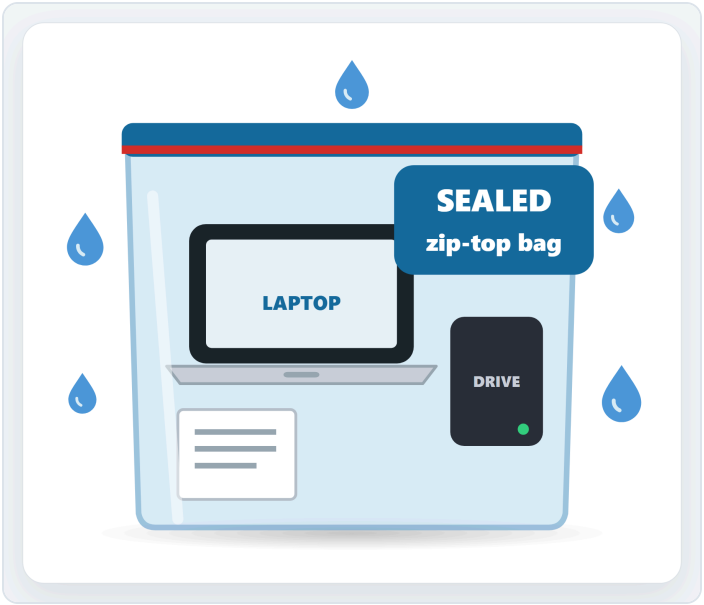
STEP 3 OF 3

! Bring it in the same day

Waiting gives liquid more time to cause damage inside; sooner is always better than later.

WHAT TO DO

We'll check it with a free diagnostic, and let you know what we find before doing anything.



A few more tips

- [ ] Don't shake or tilt it to drain the water out
  That can actually spread liquid to parts it hadn't reached yet
- [ ] Pat the outside dry with a towel
  Just the outside; don't try to open it up or dry the inside yourself
- [ ] Damage can show up days later
  Even if it seems fine right after, it's worth getting checked

Recap: laptop got wet

- [ ] Power it off immediately, and don't turn it back on to check
- [ ] Unplug it, and skip the rice and hair dryer
- [ ] Don't shake or tilt it to drain the water
- [ ] Bring it in the same day for a free diagnostic

Don't shake or tilt the laptop to try to drain the water out; that can actually spread liquid to parts it hadn't reached yet.

Laptop just got wet?

Call 239-513-1960

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