



## Top 5 tips for saving water in the kitchen

Did you know the kitchen is a major consumer of water in the home using around 10 per cent of total household water for consumption for cooking, cleaning, washing or drinking?

If you follow these simple tips you can reduce your use dramatically.

- If you have a leaking tap, replace the washer or other components as required. Dripping taps can waste 30 – 200 litres of water per day.
- Look for dishwashers that have a National Water Conservation or WELS Label. The best water rating achieved by dishwashers is 5 stars.
- To avoid wasting warm water from a running tap when you first turn it on, collect it in a bottle or a jug and store it in the fridge until it is cool enough to drink.
- Only use dishwashers when you have full load.
- When boiling vegetables, use enough water to cover them and keep the lid on the saucepan. Your vegetables will boil quicker and it will save you water and power.

Department of Water  
The Atrium  
168 St Georges Terrace  
Perth WA 6000  
Ph (08) 6364 7600  
Fax (08) 6364 7601  
[www.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.water.wa.gov.au)

Copies of this document are also available in alternative formats on request for those with special needs. The Department of Water is committed to quality service to its customers and makes every attempt to ensure accuracy, currency and reliability of the data contained in this document. However, changes in circumstances after time of publication may impact the quality of this information.

LWC-D00013617

WATER SAVING TIPS

Saving water  
in the home

*Looking after all our water needs*



In southern Western Australia, water resources are under pressure due to reduced rainfall, increased population and other factors.

With the current pressure on Western Australia's water resources, it's time for us all to do our bit to protect and maintain them.

## Did you know?

In the typical house, the use of showers, clothes washing machines and toilets can consume more than three quarters of all indoor water use. In the majority of homes, all of this quality drinking water is used once then goes to the sewer. There are now simple, low cost ways of reducing this water use whilst saving on your water costs.



## Water use in the home and garden

Consider the following to reduce water use:

- Don't use drinking quality water to water your garden. Use bore water and/or water recycled from showers and clothes washing machines (grey water).
- Use covers on swimming pools and spas, to reduce evaporation. Evaporation can remove more water from a pool per year than toilet use in a home.
- A home can be cooled in summer using good orientation, window shading, natural ventilation and fans. This could remove the need for an air conditioner, particularly evaporative, where large amounts of water are used.
- All new houses must adhere to the criteria of 5 Star Plus for water efficiency, but the guidelines can also be used when renovating to help create a more waterwise home.
- Install flow control aerators on taps. They are inexpensive and can reduce water flow by 50 per cent.

## Find out more

For information on greywater use and systems visit the Department of Health website at [www.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.health.wa.gov.au) For waterwise tips see the Water Corporation website at [www.watercorporation.com.au](http://www.watercorporation.com.au) and follow the "Being Waterwise" links.

To find out more visit [www.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.water.wa.gov.au)



## What you can do to help?

- **Buy and install water smart fittings and appliances in the kitchen, bathroom and laundry.** Low flow showers and taps, systems that store colder water while the hot tap is reaching the desired temperature, toilets with lower flush volumes, waterless toilets, front loading washing machines etc are all modern ways of saving on water use and cost.
- **Consider installing rainwater tanks.** The stored water can be used in a number of ways, even in Perth where there are less summer rain events. Such water can be plumbed into toilets and reduce the use of high-quality treated scheme water for flushing.
- **Install a waterwise garden and/or irrigation system.** The garden and irrigation system can be designed to minimize water use.

**Use products and services with the Smart Approved WaterMark label.** This is a water saving program for outdoor water use and ensures any product bearing the label will save water.

Visit [www.smartwatermark.org](http://www.smartwatermark.org) for more information