



## SMART WATER ADVICE

# Saving water at Home

Do you know how many times a day you use water? Well, Water Night is the perfect opportunity for you to find out. You are sure to discover you use water a lot more than you thought. Sign up your household at [www.waternight.com.au](http://www.waternight.com.au) and discover how addicted you are to your taps. In the meantime check out these helpful tips.

### Bathroom

- ◆ Shorter showers save water and energy. Limit time spent in the shower to soap up, wash down, and rinse off.
- ◆ Use a shower timer. Choose from a manual 4-minute egg timer or an electronic timer.
- ◆ Avoid rinsing your razor under a running tap, instead fill the basin with a little warm water.
- ◆ Shave your legs before taking a shower, then use the shower water to rinse off.
- ◆ Adding cold water to cool very hot water is a waste. So, make sure your hot water system thermostat is not set too high - ideally no higher than 60°C.

### Toilets

- ◆ Buy a dual flush toilet with a four-star water efficiency rating. These toilets use just 4.5 litres for a full flush and 3 litres for a half flush.
- ◆ Old toilets use around 18 litres per flush, so put a water filled plastic bottle or a brick into your cistern to reduce the water used.

## Taps

- ◆ A running tap uses about 5 litres of water per minute so turn off the tap when brushing your teeth and wet your brush and use a glass for rinsing.
- ◆ A dripping tap can waste up to 12,000 litres a year. So if your tap is dripping get it fixed.

## Kitchen

- ◆ Don't rinse dishes under a running tap. If you have two sinks, fill the second one with rinsing water. If you have only one sink, stack washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a pan of hot water.
- ◆ When boiling vegetables, use enough water to cover them and keep the lid on the saucepan. Your vegetables will boil quicker and maintain precious vitamins in the food.
- ◆ Garbage-disposal units use about 6 litres of water per day. Put suitable food scraps into a composter or worm farm rather than down the kitchen sink.
- ◆ The dishwasher is the highest consumer of water in the kitchen. Install a water efficient model and save water and money.
- ◆ Only run your dishwasher when it's full.

## Pets

- ◆ When bathing your pets, run a shallower bath than you would for yourself.
- ◆ When cleaning the fish tank, use the 'old' nitrogen, phosphorous-rich water on your plants.



**Watch the 'How to' video guides on  
The Water Conservancy YouTube channel**

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Find out more at  
[www.smartwateradvice.org](http://www.smartwateradvice.org)

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