

Home waterwise quiz

Save water the environment money

How waterwise are you?

Take this five-minute quiz and identify some areas around your home where you can save water.

Responses are graded from not water efficient (red) to highly water efficient (green). Simply circle your colour response for each question and then determine which areas of your home can do with some water saving improvements.

The responses given for each question are a measure of how water wise your use is. They do not reflect the actual amount of water consumed, and they cannot be compared between questions.

More information

Find more waterwise information and tips by visiting your local council or searching 'waterwise' at www.qld.gov.au



Take the home waterwise quiz!

	Not water efficient	Water efficient	Highly water efficient
Bathroom			
Is your showerhead water-efficient? Don't know? - test your showerhead:	WELS rated 2 stars or less	WELS rated 3 stars	WELS rated 4 stars or more
How long does it take to fill a 9-litre bucket of water?	Less than 1 minute	1 minute	Longer than 1 minute
How long was your last shower?	Longer than 8 minutes	4 minutes	4 minutes or less
Do you turn the tap off while you brush your teeth?	No	Yes	Yes, and rinse with a cup
What type of flush system do your toilets have?	Single flush; OR dual flush WELS rated 3 stars or less	Dual flush WELS rated 4 stars	Dual flush WELS rated 5 stars or more
Does your toilet leak?	Yes	No	No
Does your bathroom sink tap leak?	Yes	No	No
Kitchen			
How do you wash your dishes?	Dishwasher WELS rated 2 stars or less	By hand; OR using a dishwasher WELS rated 3 stars (full loads only)	Dishwasher rated WELS rated 4 stars or more (full loads only)
How do you prepare your dishes for washing?	Rinsing under running water	Rinsing in a half-full sink of water	Scraping the plate clean of waste
How do you wash your vegetables?	Under running water	In a half-filled sink	Using a small amount of water in a bowl or tub
Does your kitchen sink tap leak?	Yes	No	No
Laundry			
What type of washing machine do you use?	Older than 7 years; OR WELS rated 3 stars or less	WELS rated 4 stars	WELS rated 5 stars or more
Does your laundry basin tap leak?	Yes	No	No
Outside			
What time of the day do you water your garden?	Any time of the day	Early morning or evening only	Early morning or evening only
What is the usual source of water used in your garden?	Town/mains supply	Mostly non-billed supply (eg: rainwater or greywater)	Non-billed supply (e.g. rainwater or greywater)
How do you clean your driveways and footpaths?	With a hose	With a high-pressure water cleaner	With a broom or blower; OR I don't clean
How do you wash your car at home?	In the street or on the driveway, with a hose	On the lawn, with a hose	On the lawn, with a bucket to clean and a trigger-nozzle hose to rinse; OR I don't wash car at home
Do you have a swimming pool?	Yes	Yes, with a regularly used cover or a rainwater tank/diverter for top-up	No; OR Yes with a regularly used cover and a rainwater tank/diverter for top-up

All star ratings are for Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) water ratings. Available at www.waterrating.gov.au

How did you score?

Mostly red: The good news is there are a lot more things you can do to become more water efficient. You can find lots of water-saving ideas by visiting www.qld.gov.au and searching 'waterwise'.

Mostly yellow: Well done! Look at some of the helpful hints in our information sheets to help you be even more water wise!

Mostly green: Congratulations! You are very water wise. Keep up the good work and keep looking for new ways to save water.

Waterwise tips for indoors

1. Shower for 4 minutes or less. Reducing your shower by 2 minutes could save enough water each year to fill 3 fire engines!
2. Check your toilet for leaks. It could save you up to 18 buckets of water a day.
3. Scrape food off plates (don't rinse with water) and only run full loads in the dishwasher.
4. Listen for drips. Fixing a leaking tap could save almost 2 buckets of water a day.
5. While waiting for water to heat, collect it: put it in a bottle in the fridge or use it in the garden.
Visit www.qld.gov.au and search for 'saving water at home' for more tips.

Waterwise tips for outdoors

1. Water early morning or evening, use drought resistant plants and mulch in the garden.
2. Use a broom or rake to clean your driveway and hard surfaces. Don't use water and save 1 bucket a minute.
3. Wash your car or bike on the lawn and water the grass at the same time.
4. Only water as much as needed: check your watering system for leaks, and test the watering rate with a tuna can test.
5. Use a swimming pool cover and a rainwater tank or diverter to top your pool up.
Visit www.qld.gov.au and search for 'waterwise gardening' for more tips.