



# Saving water inside the home

Almost 70% of water used happens inside the home. Every drop counts. So here are some easy ways you can save water inside your home.



## Fix leaking taps as soon as possible

One leaking tap can waste up to 2,000 litres of water a month. So fix any leaking taps as soon as you notice them.

To prevent future leaks, try to not turn off taps too hard and replace the washer as soon as you spot a leak.



## Make the switch to water-efficient appliances and save money on your electricity bill

Look out for the following efficiency stars when you buy a new appliance. Always choose brands with a good WELS (Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards) rating. Generally, expect the following minimum ratings from your appliances and fixtures:

- ✓ front-loading washing machine—4.5 stars
- ✓ dishwasher—5 stars
- ✓ showerhead—3 stars



## Save water in the kitchen

- ✓ Instead of running water while washing or peeling vegetables and fruit, use a large bowl or plastic tub. Put the produce in the container, add just enough water to cover. Use a vegetable brush to scrub the produce clean.
- ✓ Drain your unsalted cooking water into a large tub instead of pouring it down the sink. You can reuse this water for your plants once it's cooled.
- ✓ Steaming vegetables uses a small amount of water compared with boiling them.
- ✓ Use a microwave or your fridge to thaw food instead of running it under water.
- ✓ Wait until the dishwasher and washing machine is full before turning it on.



## Bathroom and laundry water-saving tips

- ✓ One of the easiest ways to save water in the house is to take shorter showers. If you find this difficult, buy a timer and set it to three or four minutes to remind you to get out. Another great way to keep track of time is to make a playlist of songs that are under four minutes long.
- ✓ Where safe, stand in large flexible bucket when showering to collect water for use in the garden.
- ✓ Keep baths for an occasional treat as they use more water than a short shower.
- ✓ Remember to turn off the tap when you shave and brush your teeth.
- ✓ Wait until you have a full load of washing before using the washing machine. And set the machine to the economy cycle.



To find out more, please visit:  
[dpiw.nsw.gov.au/watertips](http://dpiw.nsw.gov.au/watertips) or call **1300 886 235**