

RA3 Water Fact sheet

Raising aspirations, attitudes and achievement



- Brushing your teeth with the tap running uses 6 litres of water per minute.
- New toilets use 6 litres or less per flush.
- Old toilets use 11 litres or more per flush.
- Displacement devices such as hippos can save 1 litre per flush.



- Washing up by hand can use more water than a dishwasher.
- A tap that drips every second wastes 50 litres of water per week.
- New washing machines can use 50 litres of water per wash.
- Old machines tend to use more like 100 litres of water per wash.
- 2 half loads of washing use more water than 1 full load.
- Modern dish washers use as little as 15 litres per wash.
- Older dish washing machines may use up to 25 litres per wash.



- Sprinklers and hoses use more water than buckets as often the tap is turned on fully to increase the water pressure.
- Pressure washers vary from 300 litres per hour to 600.

Use the online BBC water calculator.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/629/629/5086298.stm

First you need to enter the amount of people living in your home.



DESCRIPTION OF WATER USE

WEEK'S TALLY

TOTAL LITRES USED

Showers taken in your household per week – multiply amount of showers by 10

Average time spent in shower (____ minutes) – 10 litres per minute

Baths taken in your household per week – 15 litres per bath

Minutes per day tap left running e.g. cleaning teeth – 6 litres per minute per tap

Flushes per person per day (litres per flush ____) – 4.5(old)/11(new) litres per flush

Amount of times you wash up by hand per week – 3 litres per bowl full

Number of dripping taps in your household – 50 litres per week per tap

Full loads of washing per week – 50(new)/100(old) litres per wash

Half loads of washing per week – 70 litres per half load wash

Dishwasher cycles per week (____ litres per cycle) – 15(new)/25(old) litres per cycle

Minutes per week spent watering garden/cleaning car with hose – 9 litres per min

Watering cans/buckets used each week – 5 litres per 5 litre bucket

Any other water use – guest-i-mate litres used in week

WEEK 1 - TOTAL LITRES = _____

Water calculator workings

There are many variables involved in calculating water usage and no two houses will be exactly alike. Below are the figures we have used in our water calculator and the sources for them.

You can also use these figures to manually work out your water consumption if you do not have the Macromedia Flash plug-in and cannot access the full version of the water calculator.

WATER CALCULATOR		
Appliance	Consumption	Source
BATHROOM		
Shower	7 litres/min	Waterwise
Power shower	12 litres/min	Waterwise
Bath	80 litres	Waterwise
Toilet	6 litres/flush since 2001 4.5 litres/flush (average) dual flush models 7.5-9 litres/flush models before 2001 11-13 litres/flush very old models "Hippo" or other displacement device saves 1 litre/flush	British Bathroom Manufacturers Association
Running tap	6 litres/min	Thames Water
KITCHEN		
Washing up	10 litres (2x5 litre bowl)	Various
Dripping tap	300 ml/hour at rate of 1 drip/second	Observation
Dishwasher	15 litres/cycle if under 10 years old 25 litres/cycle if more than 10 years old	Waterwise
Washing machine	50 litres/cycle if under 10 years old 100 litres/cycle if more than 10 years old Half load uses 55% of water of full load	Environment Agency
GARAGE & GARDEN		
Hosepipe	500 litres/hour	Waterwise
Watering can	4 litres	Various
Bucket	5 litres	Various
Pressure washer	450 litres/hour	Various