

DIY Home Water Audit

Why a Home Water Audit can reduce your use

Doing your own water audit is an easy way to find your water guzzlers. Once you know where the water in your home goes, you can take control and start to make changes that will reduce your water wastage.

Almost three quarters of scheme water is used by households, so being H₂ome Smart and saving water will make a big difference to:


- preventing total sprinkler bans (like they have in many Eastern States);
- reducing your water bill;
- reducing greenhouse gas (it takes a lot of energy to treat and pump water to our homes); and
- reducing your energy bills by using less hot water.

Most of us in Perth use around 290 litres of water (29 buckets) per person per day. The water audit is scored out of 50 buckets per person (the amount used by high water users).

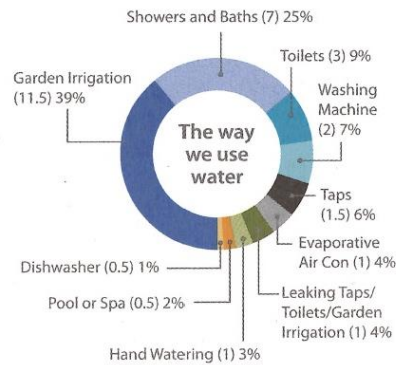
- Will you score 29 buckets or below?
- Can you find another 6 buckets of savings?
- Will you reach 20 buckets and qualify as a H₂ome Smart community leader?

Water Audit Hint

The ratings on the audit are all in buckets per person per day – this is to make sure that the audit rating is fair to large and small households alike. Fill in shared tasks, like doing the dishes, for the usual way anyone in the household does them.



Where you see this marker  try to estimate the average way your household uses water (e.g. if one person has long showers and the other short showers simply select the middle water use as; 'moderate showers').

Household water use (per person)



Figures in brackets are buckets per day.



ACTIONS	POTENTIAL SAVINGS (BUCKETS/DAY)	CONTINUE DOING 	NEW ACTION 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a straight sided container to measure how long it takes to give a 10mm standard drink for a lawn • Cut sprinkler* time by 4 minutes per station 	5 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watering fittings should never overspray or let water blow onto paving – seek advice on the right type for each station/planting area 	2 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterwise planting can reduce watering needs by more than half 	4 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mulch and soil improvers make the garden look better on less water 	2 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hand watering to a minimum and use a 'trigger' nozzle to control the flow 	1.5 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install a rainwater tank • Connect your rainwater tank to the toilet • Connect your rainwater tank to the laundry 	5 buckets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catching cold water when waiting for the shower to warm up is a valuable resource for the garden 	1 bucket		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install a pool cover to ensure you minimise water loss through evaporation 	2 buckets		

If you scored (used):

Less than 10 buckets – you are a H₂ome Smart Champion = 5 star. Pass your waterwise tips on to others in your neighbourhood.

Between 11 and 20 buckets – you're a waterwise community leader = 4 star. Can you save another 2 or 3 buckets a day?

Between 21 and 30 buckets – you are a 'normal water user' = 3 star. As a community we need you to try to save 6 buckets a day.

Between 31 and 40 buckets – your water use is a bit high = 2 star. Do you think you can find ways to save 6 to 8 buckets a day?

Between 41 and 50 buckets – you are a very high user and have plenty of opportunities to save water = 1 star. Try to make up a list to save at least 10 buckets a day.

Remember, all Water Audit use and targets are per person so everyone in the household needs their own actions.