

Water is Important



- 1 Washing machines, dishwashers, toilets, taps and showerheads all have a water efficiency label. This tells us how well items use water (how 'efficient' they are), and how much water they will use.

Watch the video 'How to read the WELS label' to learn more!
waterrating.gov.au/choose/water-rating-label



More stars
mean better
water efficiency!



2 Which appliances in your home have a WELS label?



The WELS scheme helps us to make water-smart decisions before we buy appliances that use water.

WELS is a short way of saying:
Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards



3 Compare the WELS labels from each washing machine.

How much water could you save per wash?



The more stars the more water efficient

WATER RATING
www.waterrating.gov.au

64 litres per wash

Load capacity 9 kg

In accordance with AS/NZS 6400

LMW Model WFRL09KG

Using the Cotton Eco 40°C, 1600 rpm program

The more stars the more water efficient

WATER RATING
www.waterrating.gov.au

132 litres per wash

Load capacity 9 kg

In accordance with AS/NZS 6400

LMW Model WTOP09KG

Using the Cotton Eco, water level 3, warm wash program

The Saver family does five loads of washing per week. Multiply your answer by five to find out how much water they can save in a week.



4

Work in small groups to estimate how many litres of water are used for each item.

Container/activity	Volume of water (litres)
Bucket	
Brushing teeth with a tap running for 2 minutes	
Kitchen sink	
Dishwasher	
Bath – full	
Toilet flush – half flush	
Toilet flush – full flush	
Toilet flush – non-dual-flush toilet	
Shower – 3 minutes with water-saving showerhead	
Shower – 3 minutes with non-water-saving showerhead	
Shower – 10 minutes with water-saving showerhead	
Dripping tap for a week	
Dripping tap for a year	
Watering the garden by hose for 10 minutes	

The table below gives you the answers. These numbers are averages.

Container/activity	Volume of water (litres)
Bucket	9
Brushing teeth with a tap running for 2 minutes	10
Kitchen sink	15–18
Dishwasher	20
Bath – full	120
Toilet flush – half flush	3
Toilet flush – full flush	6
Toilet flush – non-dual-flush toilet	11
Shower – 3 minutes with water-saving showerhead	27
Shower – 3 minutes with non-water-saving showerhead	54
Shower – 10 minutes with water-saving showerhead	90
Dripping tap for a week	100
Dripping tap for a year	5000–10 000
Watering the garden by hose for 10 minutes	200

How accurate were your answers?