

Frequently asked questions

Is there a difference between a AAA rated showerhead and a ★★★★★ star shower?

No. In July 2006 the 'AAAAA' water efficiency rating scheme was replaced with the 'star' rating. The new scheme uses six stars, the more stars the more water efficient the product is. Existing stock is labelled under the 'AAAAA' scheme, but products produced after July 2006 will have the 'star' rating.

Will a ★★★★★ rated showerhead deliver a Good shower?

Yes. Australian Standard 3662 ensures AAA rated showers meet stringent criteria with regard to spray pattern, droplet size and temperature gradient.

The ★★★★★ rated showerheads are a vast improvement on older versions which delivered a poor quality shower in either a dribble or a mist.

Where can I buy a ★★★★★ rated shower from?

For NSW households with an electric hot water system, 3 star showers are being given away to help reduce household energy use and greenhouse gas generation. As part of the giveaway you also receive 6 energy smart light globes.

Contact Council on (02) 6670 2440 for more information.

Are ★★★★★ showers compatible with all types of hot water systems and pressure types?

No. They are not compatible with some hot water systems (e.g. instantaneous gas systems) Contact the Energy Smart Information Centre for more details. See phone number below.

Want more information on ★★★★★ showers?

Call the Energy Smart Information Centre on **1300 138 638** or visit **www.energysmart.com.au**

- ✓ Reduce the risk of running out of hot water!
- ✓ Save around \$100 per year on your water & energy bills.
- ✓ Save around 22,000 litres of water per year for every person living in your home

Other Brochures in this Series:

- ✓ Green Living Checklist
- ✓ Household Recycling Guide
- ✓ Household Composting Guide
- ✓ Rainwater Tanks
- ✓ The "Big 3" for Green Living

All of these & more can be found at

www.tweed.nsw.gov.au



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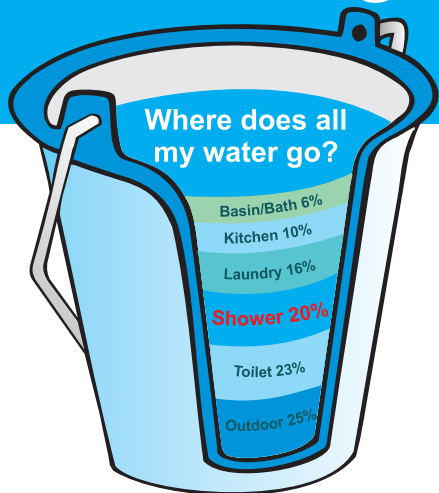
Water Wise Showers



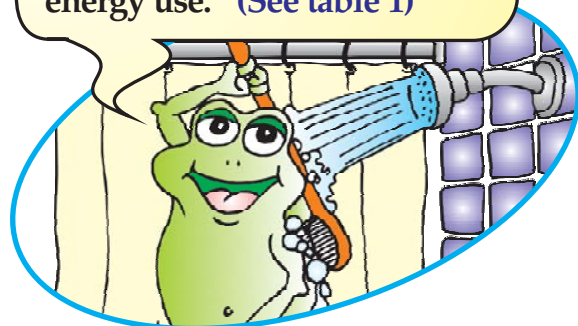
Guaranteed
to give you a great shower
using 50% less water!



Where does all your water go?



Installing a water wise shower is one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to reduce your household water and energy use. (See table 1)



★★★ (3 star) showers are a vast improvement on the old flow restricted showers, which tended to deliver either a dribble or a mist. (Refer to back pages for more details).

How much will a water wise shower save you?

Table 1: Average annual savings for ★★★ showers*

Size of the household	Water Savings *	Water bill savings **	Electricity bill savings ***
	22,000 Litres	\$23	\$25
	44,000 Litres	\$46	\$50
	66,000 Litres	\$69	\$75
	88,000 Litres	\$92	\$100
	110,000 Litres	\$114	\$125



*Calculations based on 1 x 5 minute shower per day. Standard shower flow rate of 21L/minute. ★★★ Shower flow rate of 9L/minute. **Calculations based on average water savings & a water charge of \$1.04/1000L. *** Approximate reduction in electricity bills based on average NSW dwelling with electric hot water heating. ALL SAVINGS LISTED ARE INDICATIVE ONLY. Your actual savings may be different than those indicated above.

How water wise is your existing shower?

Before you head out to acquire a water wise shower, it's worthwhile checking out how much water your current shower uses. To find out, all you need is a bucket with litre measurements and a watch that shows seconds.



1. Fully OPEN the cold water tap.
2. Hold the bucket under the shower for 20 seconds, then remove the bucket and turn the water off.
3. Measure the amount of water in the bucket and multiply this amount by 3. This will give you a flow rate per minute, e.g. if the shower runs 8 litres in 20 seconds, then $8 \times 3 = 24$ litres. This is how much water your shower is using every minute.

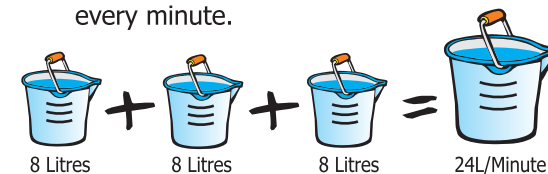


Table 2: Rate your existing shower as follows;

Litres/Minute	Rating	Water Efficiency
Less than 9	★★★	High
9 to 12	★★	Good
12 to 15	★	Moderate
15 and above	No Rating	Poor