

## How Do You Score On Water Usage

Use the table below to work out your water use, for everyone in the household.

Activity	Water used (litres)	X	Times per day	=	Daily Total
<b>Bathing and Showering</b>					
Bath	80 litres	x		=	
Power shower (5 minutes)	90 litres	x		=	
Standard shower (5 minutes)	35 litres	x		=	
<b>Flushing the Toilet</b>					
Older cistern (pre 1950)	13 litres	x		=	
Older cistern with HIPPO	10 litres	x		=	
Ordinary cistern (1950-2001)	9 litres	x		=	
Ordinary cistern with HIPPO	6 litres	x		=	
Low flush cistern (2001-present)	6 litres	x		=	
<b>Using the Handbasin</b>					
Handwashing (per person/wash)	5 litres	x		=	
Brushing teeth tap running (per brushing)	6 litres	x		=	
Brushing teeth tap on to rinse (per brushing)	1 litres	x		=	
<b>Washing Machine and Dishwasher</b>					
Washing machine full setting	70 litres	x		=	
Washing machine half load setting	55 litres	x		=	
Washing machine, water efficient model	50 litres	x		=	
Dishwasher full setting	20 litres	x		=	
Dishwasher half load setting	15 litres	x		=	
Dishwasher, water efficient model	10 litres	x		=	
<b>Using the Sink</b>					
Washing up, washing or peeling vegetables running water (5 minutes)	30 litres	x		=	
Washing up, washing or peeling vegetables in a basin	6 litres	x		=	
Dripping tap (per tap per day)	30 litres	x		=	
Cooking and drinking (per person)	10 litres	x		=	
Total for household per day					

Divide the total for the household per day by the number of people in the household to calculate the litres per person per day and compare this to the average of 145

Age of persons - Under 16  16-59  Over 60

Number in household

Postcode .....

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## Home Water Audit

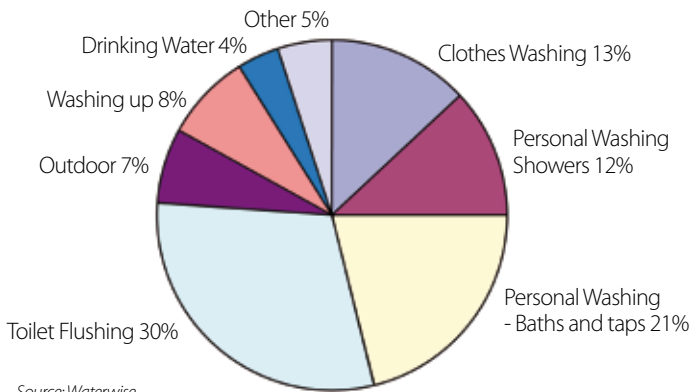


The aim of Northern Ireland Water is to

- provide cost effective water and sewerage services
- meet the requirements of our customers
- contribute to the health of the community
- protect the environment.

We are firmly committed to water conservation and providing water efficiently.

This leaflet gives advice on how to use water more wisely, with a few small changes significant savings can be made.



We get plenty of rain in Northern Ireland but this rainwater has to be cleaned at our treatment works before it goes into the taps. So the less water we waste the more cost effective the system is. We continue to reduce leakage in our pipe network and provide our customers with advice on how to use water wisely.

We each use about 145 litres of clean, treated water every day.

**How does your household compare with the average?  
Complete the table overleaf to find out.**

## Where Do We Use Water in the Home and How Can We Save it?

### The Bathroom

#### Bathing and Showering

A bath uses 80 litres of water. In 5 minutes a standard shower uses 35 litres and a power shower uses 90 litres of water

- Take a shower instead of a bath
- Fit an aerating shower head
- Take shorter showers

#### Flushing the Toilet

Low flush toilets use 6 litres, pre- 2001 cisterns use 9 litres and older cisterns can use up to 13 litres per flush

- Choose a low flush model with a dual flush system
- Check overflow is not running or water is not running into the bowl between flushes. If so the ball cock may be too high. Syphon or flush valve could be faulty.
- Put a HIPPO bag in cisterns of 9+ litres to save water  
HIPPO bags are available on request by calling Waterline on 08457 440 088

#### Using the Hand Basin

A running tap can use 6 litres of water per minute

- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth
- Use a beaker of water to rinse
- When shaving put the plug in the sink
- Fit a tap aerator
- Fix dripping taps

### The Kitchen

#### Using the Washing Machine / Dish Washer

Washing machines use approx. 60 litres and dishwashers use approx. 40 litres of water per cycle

- Fully load, use the half load/or economy setting
- Buy an energy and water efficient model
- Don't rinse plates before placing in the dishwasher

#### Using the Kitchen Sink

A dripping tap can waste up to 30 litres of water per day

- Use a washing up bowl rather than running the tap for rinsing and peeling vegetables. Place the dirty water on your garden plants.
- Mend dripping taps

### Outside

#### In the Garden

In 15 minutes a sprinkler uses over 135 litres of water. Overwatering grass encourages the roots to grow close to the surface making the grass weaker and less drought resistant.

- Add water retaining crystals to pots and containers
- Use a watering can rather than a hose
- Fit a waterbutt to collect rainwater to wash cars, windows and to water plants
- Water plants at cooler times of the day
- Mulch plants to retain water in the soil
- Choose drought resistant plants

#### Washing the car

In 15 minutes a hose uses 135 litres of water.

- Use a bucket of water and a sponge to wash your car
- Mend dripping taps