



SAVING WATER IN THE LAUNDRY

15-20% of all water consumed in the home is used in the laundry. In addition to water, washing machines also use large amounts of energy and detergents.

Selecting a washer

- Choose a water efficient front loading washing machine.
- The Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme has a rinse performance test built into the rating, so you know your clothes will come out clean. Look for washing machines that have a four or more star rating.
- Clothes washers can use on average 50 L/ wash for a typical 7 kg.

Using your washer

- To save water and energy, always run your washing machine full.
- Washing in cold water saves energy and may not compromise the quality of the wash.
- Pre-treat stain before loading into the machine could prevent the need to select longer programs leading to additional cost.
- If you are on flexible electricity tariffs this could result in significant savings by operating the machine at cheaper off-peak periods. Look for programmable options on your machine including delay timers to make the most of the flexible electricity pricing.





Use water efficient taps

- Install water efficient tapware or retrofit old tapware with aerators or flow control valves.
- When installing tapware consider best practice flow rate is as low as 4.5 litres per minute. Reducing the flow rate from a hot water tap also has the added benefit of saving energy.

Fix leaking taps

- Check for drips around the hose connection of your machine. Also check the floor for any evidence of water which may be leaking from the fittings and connections. Signs of mould, odour, and rusty pipes could all be indicators that there is a leak present.
- Leaking taps can usually be fixed with a new washer, this is easy to do. Just remember to turn the water off at the mains before you start.
- If the tap still drips, call a plumber. The cost incurred will save you money on your water bills in the long run.



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