

Learn how much water you use in your home



Ever wonder how much water you use? Use the information below to calculate how much water you use for everyday routine activities and if your water fixture is efficient. If you need to replace a fixture, always look for the WaterSense® label to save even more water.

You will need:

- ☐ Calculator
- ☐ Stop watch
- ☐ Pen or pencil
- ☐ Measuring cup, large (32 ounces minimum is preferred)
- ☐ Bucket, regular size (Used for mopping or washing your car)
- ☐ Someone to assist



Kitchen or Bathroom Faucet

1. Place measuring cup under faucet.
2. Turn water on to normal flow position for 5 seconds, then turn water off.
3. Note number of ounces collected and multiply by 0.09 to determine gallons per minute (gpm)

$$\frac{\text{Ounces collected in 5 seconds}}{\text{Ounces collected in 5 seconds}} \times \frac{0.09}{0.09} = \frac{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}}{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}}$$

A standard residential inside faucet should use no more than 2.2gpm. A WaterSense® model will use no more than 1.5gpm.



Showerhead

1. Hold bucket under showerhead.
2. Turn water on to normal flow position for 5 seconds, then turn water off.
3. Pour water into measuring cup (If measuring cup fills up, empty and refill, adding ounces together)
4. Note number of total ounces collected and multiply by 0.09 to determine gallons per minute (gpm)

$$\frac{\text{Ounces collected in 5 seconds}}{\text{Ounces collected in 5 seconds}} \times \frac{0.09}{0.09} = \frac{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}}{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}}$$

A standard model should use no more than 2.5gpm. A WaterSense® model will use no more than 2.0gpm.

Use the formula below to determine the total gallons used by your faucet or showerhead per day, or per month.

$$\frac{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}}{\text{Gallons per minute (gpm)}} \times \frac{\text{Minutes of use per day (entire family)}}{\text{Minutes of use per day (entire family)}} = \frac{\text{Gallons used per day}}{\text{Gallons used per day}} \times \frac{\text{Days in the month}}{\text{Days in the month}} = \frac{\text{Gallons used per month}}{\text{Gallons used per month}}$$



Toilet

1. Time number of seconds the toilet uses water from beginning to end of flush
2. Multiply the number of seconds by 0.42 to determine gallons per flush (gpf)

$$\frac{\text{Number of seconds to flush}}{\text{Number of seconds to flush}} \times \frac{0.42}{0.42} = \frac{\text{Gallons per flush (gpf)}}{\text{Gallons per flush (gpf)}}$$

Standard models should use no more than 1.6gpf. A WaterSense® model will use no more than 1.28gpf.

3. To determine the total gallons used per day, or per month, use the calculations below.

$$\frac{\text{Gallons per flush (gpf)}}{\text{Gallons per flush (gpf)}} \times \frac{\text{Flushes per day (entire family)}}{\text{Flushes per day (entire family)}} = \frac{\text{Gallons used per day}}{\text{Gallons used per day}} \times \frac{\text{Days in the month}}{\text{Days in the month}} = \frac{\text{Gallons used per month}}{\text{Gallons used per month}}$$