

PUB Water Saver Pack: How to Test Your Toilet for a Silent Leak and Cut Water Use at Home

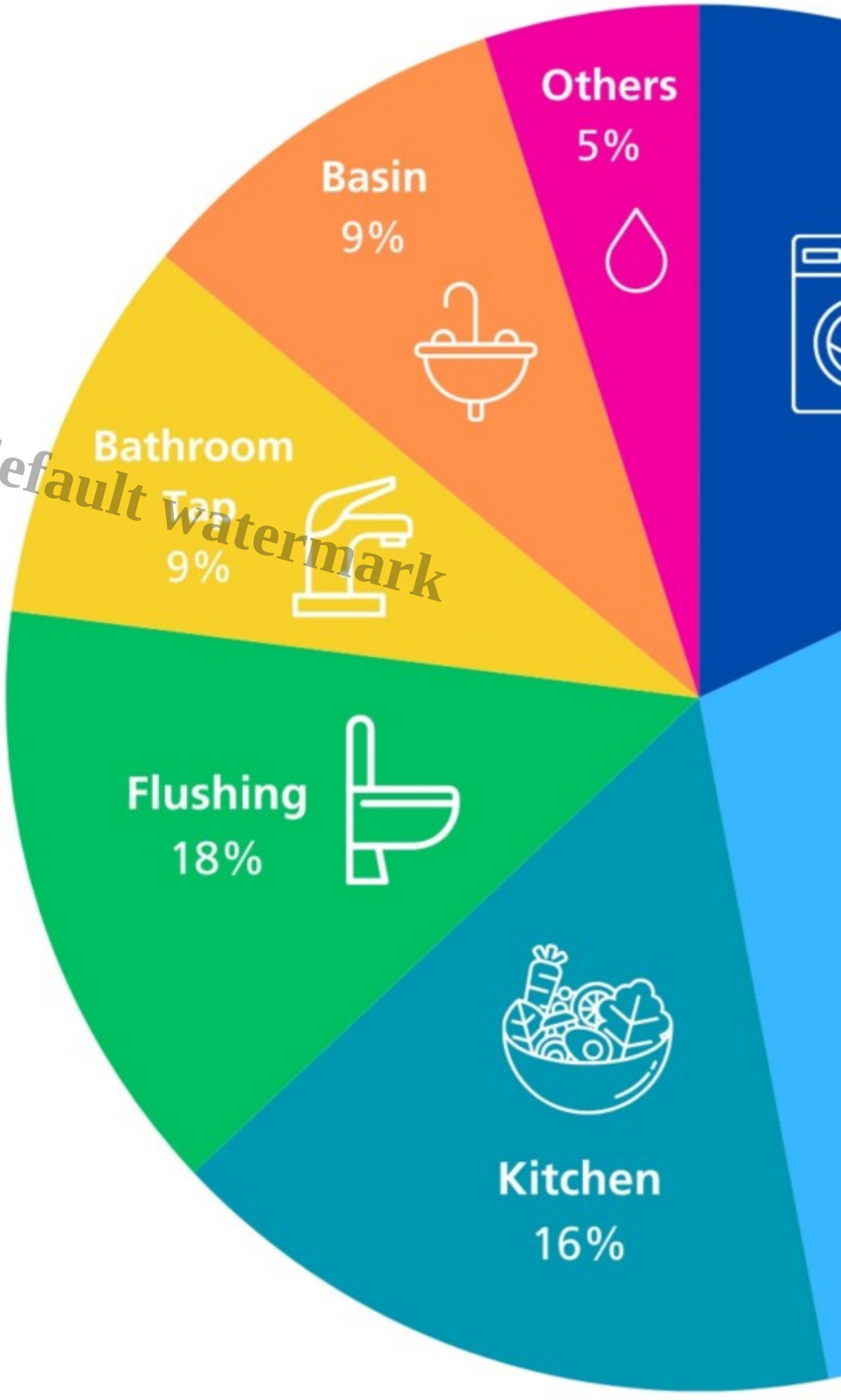
Description

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Your toilet could be leaking right now and you would never hear it. The PUB water saver pack is the quiet fix: a set of small water-saving items that PUB lets households request through its website, including a tablet that shows up a silent cistern leak in 10 to 20 minutes. Here is what is in it, how each piece works, and how to run the check this weekend.

Where your water actually goes

PUBâ??s 2024/2025 household water consumption study covered about 400 households. It found that showering, flushing, kitchen and laundry make up about 80% of home water use. Average household use in 2025 was 141 litres per person per day, down only slightly from 142 litres in 2024.



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Source: PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency

The breakdown on PUBâ??s own chart is worth a look before you buy anything:

- Shower: 29%
- Flushing: 18%
- Kitchen: 16%
- Laundry: 14%
- Bathroom tap and basin: 9% each
- Others: 5%

PUB says hybrid work, hotter weather and smaller households keep pushing per-person use up. Showers and toilets are where a flat gains or loses the most, so that is where the pack aims.

What the PUB water saver pack includes

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PUB lists three items on its Water Saving Items page: flush saver cistern bags, thimbles for showerheads and taps, and leak detection tablets. You request them from the page, and PUBâ??s site does not state a price, so check the request form for any charge. One caveat from PUB: the flush saver cistern bag is currently unavailable for request.

- Flush saver cistern bag: sits in the cistern and saves up to a litre per flush. PUB recommends it for cisterns bought before 2019 that fall below the 2-tick WELS rating. Skip it if your cistern is concealed.
- Thimbles: three- or four-hole inserts for taps and shower hoses that cut the flow rate, saving up to 5% of monthly use. They come in 19mm and 21mm sizes.
- Leak detection tablets: one tablet per cistern, used once, to confirm a silent leak.

How to test your cistern for a silent leak

PUB says a silent leak can waste more than 10 litres an hour. That is over 240 litres a day from a toilet you flush normally and never think about. The tablet test takes about as long as a kettle boil and a bit more.



Source: PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency

1. Open the cistern lid carefully.
2. Drop in one tablet, then put the lid back on securely.
3. Wait 10 to 20 minutes. Do not flush during this time.
4. Look at the bowl. If the water turns blue, you have a leak.

PUB says the tablets are non-toxic, safe for plumbing and should not stain the bowl when used as directed. Wash your hands after handling them. No blue means the cistern is sealing properly.

If the water does turn blue, you need a licensed plumber to repair or replace the flushing cistern. PUB keeps a list at go.gov.sg/licensed-plumbers-info, and it advises hiring only through credible platforms. Once the leak is fixed, there is no need to test again.

Other signs of a leak at home

Cisterns are not the only culprit, and PUB points to a few other clues. Run through these before you assume your bill is high just because everyone is home more.

- Unusually high water bills.
- Running water or constant dripping you can hear at night, with no appliance on.
- Mould, discolouration or peeling paint on walls, floors or ceilings.
- A foul smell in a spot with no obvious source.

For the toilet bowl itself, look for water streaks running down the bowl or a ripple on the surface. PUB also has a leak-spotting infographic at go.gov.sg/tipsonfindingleaks.

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Fit the thimbles in four steps

Thimbles are the easiest win, and no plumber is needed. PUBâ??s steps: remove the aerator or shower hose, remove the washer, place the right-sized thimble, then put the aerator or hose back. Not sure whether your tap needs one? Time it with a measuring jug and a stopwatch for 6 seconds, then multiply the volume by 10 to get litres per minute and compare it against the WELS tick rating.



Source: PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency

Free help for smaller flats: the SG Water Saver Programme

On 17 March 2026, PUB launched the SG Water Saver Programme for selected 1- to 3-room HDB households. It covers a home water audit, leak repairs and replacement of inefficient fittings. PUB targets households using above 200 litres per person per day and about 40 cubic metres a month.

PUB expects about 1,500 households to benefit over the first two years, with AWS Singapore as founding sponsor and Alcon Manufacturing & Logistics also sponsoring. There is no public sign-up

form, as PUB says it will reach out progressively to eligible households. If you qualify, expect to hear from PUB.

Pair it with Climate Vouchers

For bigger changes, such as a water-efficient washing machine or shower fittings, the Climate Vouchers can offset the cost. They are valid until 31 December 2027, and we have a guide to what the S$400 can buy. If you are fixing up an older flat anyway, our piece on a sagging HDB household shelter door is another weekend job worth ticking off.

Start with the tablet test. It is a ten-minute job, and finding a silent leak early is a far cheaper lobang than finding it on the bill.

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