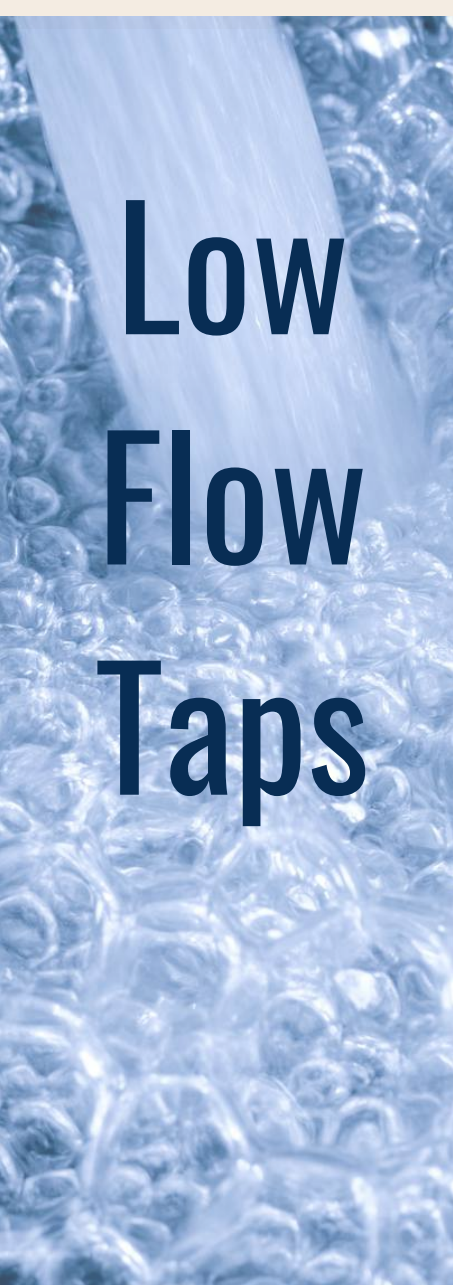




Reducing Tap Water Waste



Lowering tap flow rate is a game changer in reducing your water waste forever!

Your plumber can install low flow taps - go for at least a 4 star Water Efficiency Labelling Standards (WELS) rating or apply flow restrictor aerators which simply screw on to all existing taps.

You can choose the lowest effective flow rate for your practice's needs (some are as low as 2 L per minute!) and this could vary depending on use. Some of your taps may be better suited to higher flow rates (filling mop buckets etc) compared to those used for handwashing.

Low-flow taps and flow restricting aerators work by mixing air into the water-flow. This gives the feel and impression of full water-flow even though the water volume is greatly reduced.



Fix any dripping taps.



Turn off the tap when scrubbing for surgery.



Consider using a surgiscrub to cut down on scrub time and water use.



Consider installing a foot pedal to operate the surgical scrub sink. These are available from plumbing supplies.



Prevent leaks by not turning taps off too hard and replacing washers regularly.



Use a bowl or plugged sink to wash and rinse surgical kits.



While waiting for hot water collect any cold water in a bucket to use on plants or elsewhere.

If the hot water is taking too long or is never hot enough, your mixer tap may have been incorrect installed, allowing cold water to enter the hot water circuit. Ask your plumber to check this. A good place to start is the dental area or wash down troughs that have both mixer taps and extendable hoses.



Catch any rinse water from washing fruit/vegetables etc and use it to water plants.



Recap; How to measure tap flow rate

Grab a large bucket - put it under each tap/ taps you use frequently.

Measure how many litres of water you collect in 30 seconds. Multiply by two. Anything over 10 - 15 L per minute is not great - this could easily be reduced by half!