

# A GUIDE TO RAINWATER TANK SIZE SELECTION

## Percentage of time rainwater tank will meet full domestic daily demand at KENT TOWN (Average annual rainfall 583 mm)

### HOW TO USE THIS TABLE

- STEP 1** Identify proposed **roof area**.  
**STEP 2** Identify **Rainwater use option**.  
**STEP 3** Identify **tank capacity**.  
**STEP 4** Identify the category (colour code), the roof area, rainwater use option and tank capacity combination fall within.  
**STEP 5** Refer to **Legend**.  
**STEP 6** Select larger roof area (if possible), alternative rainwater use option and/or larger tank capacity and repeat STEPS 1-5.

### NOTES

- For all options within the orange (16-50%) and yellow (51-75%) range, it is recommended that the following variations to your proposal be considered to maximise the value of your rainwater tank selection:
  - increase the roof area to be connected to the rainwater tank, if possible
  - select a larger tank, and/or
  - change to water use efficient devices within the home, e.g. front loading washing machine (can save up to 20% of average daily water demand per household).
- This Rainwater Tank Selection Table DOES NOT ALLOW FOR WATER STORAGE FOR FIRE FIGHTING REQUIREMENTS.
- The internal water use estimates are based upon a 3 person household.
- For advice beyond the scope of this table (e.g. tanks larger than 9,000 L) please contact Water Sensitive SA on 0431 828 930 or [mellissa@watersensitivesa.com](mailto:mellissa@watersensitivesa.com)
- Total tank size may need to be greater to account for detention or bushfire requirements. Check with your local Council.

Rainwater use option		High internal use			Medium internal use 1			Medium internal use 2			Low grade uses			
Description		11L single flush toilet, 100% laundry (front load WM) & HWS			(6/3L) Dual flush toilet, HWS, AAA-rated shower head & 100% laundry (top load WM)			(6/3L) Dual flush toilet, HWS, AAA-rated shower head & 100% laundry (front load WM)			(6/3L) Dual flush toilet and 100% laundry (front load WM) <u>only</u>			
Tank capacity (L)		1,000	2,000	5,000	1,000	2,000	5,000	1,000	2,000	5,000	1,000	2,000	5,000	9,000
Roof area to be connected to rainwater tank (m <sup>2</sup> )	50	9%	11%	11%	17%	19%	19%	23%	27%	28%	51%	59%	65%	68%
	100	19%	26%	30%	30%	40%	47%	39%	50%	60%	65%	77%	87%	97%
	150	25%	36%	46%	37%	50%	63%	47%	60%	72%	71%	83%	95%	100%
	200	29%	42%	56%	41%	55%	70%	51%	65%	79%	74%	87%	98%	100%

### LEGEND

Category	Effectiveness of chosen roof area and tank capacity to meet full domestic daily demand	Comment
Red	Rainwater tank will meet full daily demand 0-15% of the time	Not recommended
Orange	Rainwater tank will meet full daily demand 16-50% of the time	Satisfactory, but alternative recommended for the intended use (refer to Note 1)
Yellow	Rainwater tank will meet full daily demand 51-75% of the time	Satisfactory, but alternative recommended for the intended use (refer to Note 1)
Cyan	Rainwater tank will meet full daily demand 76-90% of the time	Recommended – roof area and tank capacity selected are suitable for the intended use
Green	Rainwater tank will meet full daily demand 91-100% of the time	Recommended – roof area and tank capacity selected are suitable for the intended use

### Acronyms

HWS	Hot water service
WM	Washing machine
WC	Toilet

Note: Adapted from the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board Rainwater Tank Size Selection Fact Sheets