

Get familiarised with the Water Efficiency Labels and Gradings



For more detailed information, please visit the website
http://www.wsd.gov.hk/en/plumbing_and_engineering/wels/index.html

What is the voluntary Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme?

The Water Supplies Department (WSD) in September 2009 launched the voluntary Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS) to help consumers select water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances for water conservation. Showers for bathing are the first product covered by the scheme and water taps are the next.

What does a Water Efficiency Label look like?

There are two versions of the water efficiency label – the full and the simplified versions.

The full version shows the following details:

- Brand, model and type of the registered water tap;
- The water efficiency grading (1 to 4): different grades shown with different colours and Grade 1 being the most water efficient (i.e. the most water saving);
- Water droplets: the fewer droplets, the more water efficient; and
- The water consumption figure based on tests by a recognized laboratory.

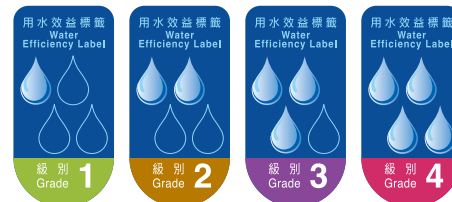
Full Version Water Efficiency Label



The simplified version shows only the water efficiency grading:

A full Version label must be affixed to the registered water tap or its packing. A simplified version label may be affixed to the water tap body.

Simplified Version Water Efficiency Label



Points for Choosing Mixing Type Water Taps

- Grade 1** – compatible with storage type water heaters, but not with flow-controlled or pressure-controlled type.
- Grade 2** – compatible with storage or flow-controlled type water heaters, but not with pressure-controlled type.
- Grade 3** – compatible with all types of water heaters (except electric pressure-controlled type) with minimal water saving.
- Grade 4** – compatible with all types of water heaters, but no water saving.

In general, flow-controlled type water heaters allow temperature setting whereas pressure-controlled type water heaters allow heating power setting (e.g. Hi/Lo or Max/Min). For further details of water heaters, consumers are recommended to contact relevant retail shops or water heater suppliers.

The Grading on the Water Efficiency Label

Water Efficiency Grade	Symbolic Presentation on the Water Efficiency Label	Mixing Type* Water Taps Nominal Flow Rate: f (litres/minute)	Non-mixing Type* Water Taps Nominal Flow Rate: f (litres/minute)
Grade 1	1 water droplet	$f \leq 5.0$	$f \leq 2.0$
Grade 2	2 water droplets	$5.0 < f \leq 7.0$	$2.0 < f \leq 4.0$
Grade 3	3 water droplets	$7.0 < f \leq 9.0$	$4.0 < f \leq 6.0$
Grade 4	4 water droplets	$f > 9.0$	$f > 6.0$

Conversion of Normal Flow Rates to Water Efficiency Grades for Mixing and Non-mixing Type Water Taps

* Non-mixing type refers to those taps which supply cold water only. Mixing type refers to those taps which supply both cold and hot water.

For more information about the scheme, please visit WSD's website at www.wsd.gov.hk or call **2824 5000**.