What is water hardness?

Hardness is a measure of the concentration of calcium and magnesium ions in water.

What is the hardness of my tap water?

Please look up your town in the table below.

Table: Water hardness for SGW supply systems

Supplying water treatment plant	Towns supplied	Water Hardness in mmol/L*			Description
(WTP)		Minimum	Average	Maximum	
Devon North WTP	Alberton Devon North Port Albert Yarram	0.16	0.27	0.38	Soft
Dumbalk WTP	Dumbalk	0.48	0.10	1.90	Soft to moderate
Fish Creek WTP	Fish Creek	0.18	0.34	0.58	Soft to moderate
Foster WTP	Foster	0.17	0.36	0.457	Soft
Lance Creek WTP	Cape Paterson Inverloch Korumburra Lance Creek Loch Nyora Poowong Wattlebank Wonthaggi	0.18	0.62	0.99	Soft to moderate
Leongatha WTP	Koonwarra Leongatha	0.37	0.60	0.87	Soft to moderate
Meeniyan WTP	Meeniyan	0.49	0.783	1.30	Soft to moderate
Toora WTP	Agnes Hedley Port Franklin Port Welshpool Toora Welshpool	0.16	0.34	0.50	Soft

^{*}Based on quarterly hardness monitoring of distribution system entry point sites in 10-year period from Sept 2015 to 2025

My new dishwasher requires a hardness value to be entered, which should I use?

For new dishwashers, check the manual to confirm that units of mmol/Litre are required (this is usually the case). If yes, then enter the **average** value for your town. If different units are required, then convert average value, as per below.

Hardness can be expressed in several ways (i.e. with different units). In the table above, hardness values are provided in millimoles per litre of alkaline earth metals (mmol/L). For conversions see below:

- To convert to milligrams per litre Calcium Carbonate equivalents (mg/L CaCO₃), multiply values in table (above) by 100.
- To convert to German degrees (°dH or dH), multiply values in table by 5.6
- To convert to French degrees (°f), multiply values in table by 10

Please contact us on 1300 851 636 if you require assistance or additional information.