

W · WATER

MAKING WATER SAFE

How much water to keep, and how to make other water safe to drink.

HOW MUCH TO STORE

3 litres

per person, per day – the minimum for drinking

10 litres

per person, per day – also covers cooking and washing

3 litres × _____ people × 3 days = _____ litres minimum

Store tap water in clean, food-grade containers with lids. Label with the date, keep cool and dark, and refresh every six months (P9). Bottled water keeps until its date.

CHOOSE YOUR SOURCE

- Use the clearest water you can find. Let cloudy water settle, then pour it through a clean cloth.
- **Never drink flood water**, even filtered – it can contain sewage and chemicals.
- For the best result, filter first, then boil or use tablets.

FIVE WAYS TO MAKE WATER SAFE

 Bottled water	Ready to drink. Your bad-day water (P1) – save it for when you're tired, ill or short of time.	Check the date. Keep it sealed, cool and dark.
 Boiling	Bring to a rolling boil , then let it cool. Store covered, in the fridge if you can.	Uses fuel or power. Doesn't remove chemicals.
 Gravity filter	Pour water in the top and let it drip through, e.g. a Berkefeld.	Clean and replace filters as the maker says.
 Portable filter	Straw or squeeze filters (LifeStraw, Sawyer) remove bacteria and parasites.	Most don't remove viruses or chemicals.
 Purification tablets	Kill bacteria and viruses. Use exactly the dose and waiting time on the pack.	Less effective against some parasites. Filter first if you can.

Boil water notice? Use cooled boiled water for drinking, brushing teeth, ice, washing salad and fruit, and pets' water. Tap water is fine for washing, bathing, laundry and cooking food that gets heated.

Babies. Make up formula with cooled boiled water. If you use bottled water, check the label: sodium under 200mg per litre, sulphate no more than 250mg per litre.

