

WHY SHOULD I DO IT?

Measuring your “carbon footprint” is a way of finding out how much carbon dioxide your household produces. Once you know how big your carbon footprint is, you can find out easy ways to reduce it. It is interesting to compare the savings you make over a year and to see how you have contributed to tackling climate change.

HOW DO I DO IT?

To measure the carbon footprint of your household you need to:

1. Collect a few of your recent gas, electric and water bills (from the last 12 months);
2. Write down the size (small, medium, large) of all the cars in your household and how many kilometres they travel each week or year;
3. Write down the number of flights that your household went on in the last 12 months (perhaps use the internet or the airline you used to find the distances to destinations that you have visited);
4. Go to www.dpi.wa.gov.au/livingsmart and complete the Living Smart Greenhouse Gas Calculator for everyone in your home.
 - Include all the things your household buys, your commute to work and holiday flights.
 - Don't include business travel (flights and car trips to meetings).

go to www.dpi.wa.gov.au/livingsmart and follow the prompts.

GHG calculator Clear Change to: GHG Energy

Number of people in household: 2

AIR AND SEA TRAVEL: Short haul - air/1000 km Long haul - air/10000 km Cruise or Passenger ship km

PRIVATE VEHICLES: Body size/type Fuel Consumption Kms Per Embodied Sub-total

Vehicle 1	Large car or medium 4wd (6-8 cyl)	Petrol	12 L /100km	16600	Year	With	7.7
Vehicle 2	Small car (4 cyl 1.3 - 1.8l)	Petrol	7.5 L /100km	8000	Year	With	2.9
Vehicle 3		Petrol			Year	With	

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Bus travel: 500 Kms per Year Train travel: 100 Kms per Year

ELECTRICITY: Generation source: WA - SW grid Usage: 5000 kWhs per year Green power: None

OTHER FUELS: Solar water heater Gas units Amount Wood Coal Oil/Kero

FOOD/GROCERIES: Weekly purchases: L1 L2 M1 M2 MH1 MH2 H1 H2

WASTE: Bin size: 240 lbs, filled to 80% on pick-up day. Do you recycle? Glass Paper Metal Plastic Compost food waste

HOUSE: Construction Configuration Area m2 House contents External items (Kgs)

GHG tonnes Per Year

Air and sea travel	5.2	15%
Private vehicle	10.6	30%
Public transport	0	0%
Electricity	5.3	15%
Other fuels	1.3	3%
Food/groceries	5.5	15%
Waste	3	8%
Water	0.7	2%
House	1.7	5%
Possessions	2.7	8%
Household Total	36	

Australian domestic average is 14 tonnes /person /year, the estimated Sustainable World Average is 3.5. Copyright Sept 2008. Your household average is: 18 tonnes /person /year, being 5.1 times the estimated Sustainable World Average.

There are many carbon calculators on the web. Many of them are linked to carbon offsets (from wind farms or tree plantations) or to advocacy groups interested in the environment.



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Measure your carbon footprint

Have you got 10 minutes to start to save the planet?

It will take less than 10 minutes to measure how your lifestyle contributes to climate change and to find out what to do about it.

WHAT IS IT?

A 'Carbon Footprint' is a measure of the amount of greenhouse gas (Carbon Dioxide equivalent) that is produced by your daily activities over a year, such as:

- turning on electrical devices;
- using gas (to cook or heat a room);
- running hot water;
- driving your car;
- taking a flight;
- putting rubbish in the bin (which then needs transporting and processing).

A full measure of your Carbon Footprint will also include:

- The 'hidden' (embodied) energy in the things that you buy.
- The energy and water that goes into the food that you eat.



potential savings

HOW DID YOU RATE?

The Living Smart Carbon Calculator works on information for everyone in your home and then adds a note on your individual carbon emissions.

The typical score for a household in Perth is around 35 tonnes of CO₂ per year. Larger households may produce more and smaller households less.

Aim for the smallest carbon footprint for your household.

WHAT NEXT?

By entering different figures into the calculator you can see how changes – such as driving a smaller car, saving electricity or even changing your diet – can reduce your carbon emissions.

Make as many changes as you can over the next few months. Living Smart has practical advice on the actions that you can take.

When you have reduced your carbon emissions as much as possible (and saved hundreds or even thousands of dollars each year), look at buying accredited Carbon Offsets for the rest of your Footprint. Depending on how close you are to being Carbon Neutral, just 10% of the money you have saved from making Living Smart changes will be enough to buy offsets for the rest.

		POTENTIAL SAVINGS			
Achievement	Key actions (examples)	1 person household	2 person household	3 person household	4 person household
Western Australian Average (estimate)	Turn off unused lights, be water-wise, plan your car trips.	20 tonnes	25 tonnes	35 tonnes	40 tonnes
Living Smarter (10% reduction)	Switch off stand-by power, set heating and cooling correctly, switch a car trip to an alternative each week.	18 tonnes	22.5 tonnes	31.5 tonnes	36 tonnes
Smart Consumer (30% reduction)	Use five star appliances, switch to Compact Fluoro globes, make regular trips by public transport, walking or cycling, buy GreenPower.	14 tonnes	17.5 tonnes	24.5 tonnes	28 tonnes
Living Smart Champion (60% reduction)	Make your home energy efficient (shading, insulation etc), upgrade to a smaller car.	8 tonnes	10 tonnes	14 tonnes	16 tonnes
Carbon Neutral (Congratulations!)	Take fewer flights, calculate your footprint and buy Carbon Offsets for what you cannot change.	4 tonnes (all offset)	5 tonnes (all offset)	7 tonnes (all offset)	8 tonnes (all offset)