



waterwise

## UK Water Efficiency Product Awards

### Runner Up

### Category: Plumbing

### AquaReturn

Key Features: Prevents flow before correct temperture is reached,

AquaReturn is an innovative small domestic appliance that prevents water from coming out of the tap until it has reached the right temperature, generating major savings for users and society. It has a mechanism that stops water flowing from the hot water tap and recirculating the water until it has reached a temperature of 35 degrees, which means that the cold and warm water that comes before hot water is not wasted. Even for people who are conscious of water wastage and try to reduce their consumption as much as possible, waiting for water to run hot is seen as unavoidable waste. AquaReturn solves this problem. This can be used for showers, baths and taps. After one year in the market a thousand customers gave feedback and all of it was positive.

So far AquaReturn has saved 400 million of liters of water, thanks to the current users. Tests conducted on AquaReturn show that it could save approximately 28 litres per person per day. This testing has been done in Spain, and the savings are bound to be greater in the UK because in colder



conditions the mains water temperature is low and it takes longer to heat it to the required temperature.

For the consumer, significant financial savings can be made. The expected water saving is estimated at 80 euros a year for a family of four, assuming the water takes just 20 seconds to get hot. Alongside water savings, AquaReturn has great energy savings. Recirculating tepid water to the heater rather than pouring it down the drain represents a thermal input to the water entering the heater and so it reaches 35°C more easily. In a typical family of four and with the thermal equivalent of a 21,000 kcal heater (more than 15 hours in operation a year), using AquaReturn would result in a further saving of 80 euros in gas per year. This saving of 160 euros in Spain is likely to be far greater in the UK due to the colder conditions.

AquaReturn solves a problem that has been plaguing even the most water conscious householder for years and delivers significant water and energy savings



The Waterwise UK Water Efficiency Product Awards celebrate products and technology that contribute to water efficiency, which benefits the economy, society and environment.