WATER STORAGE CALCULATOR

Work down the page with a pen. The middle column is the rate per person per day; put your own numbers in the right-hand boxes. Everything is in US gallons.

1 · YOUR HOUSEHOLD

People in the household	—	
Days you are storing for Three days is the usual minimum. Two weeks is a serious start. Thirty days changes what you need to store it in.	—	
Infants on formula	—	
Total pet weight, pounds Add up every animal.	—	

2 · GALLONS PER PERSON, PER DAY

WHAT THE WATER IS FOR	RATE	YOUR NUMBER
Drinking Non-negotiable. This is the number people underestimate.	**0.75 gal**	
Cooking Rehydrating, boiling, cleaning as you go.	**0.25 gal**	
Hygiene Use the rate for the length of outage you are planning for.	**see below**	
PER PERSON, PER DAY		

HYGIENE SCALES WITH HOW LONG YOU ARE OUT

Up to 3 days: 0.25 gal · **Up to 2 weeks:** 0.5 gal. Past two weeks every extra day is costed at the full washing rate of 1.5 gal and averaged across the whole period, so **a month works out at 1.03** and **three months at 1.34**. A short outage is a wash cloth. A long one is laundry, dishes and a toilet.

3 · YOUR TOTAL

People × days × per person per day	—	
Add infant formula water 0.5 gal per infant per day.	**0.5 gal**	
Add pets 1 fl oz per pound of animal per day. Divide ounces by 128 for gallons.	**1 oz / lb**	
Hot climate? Multiply everything above by 1.5 if you are somewhere hot, or anyone is working outdoors.	**× 1.5**	
TOTAL GALLONS TO STORE		

WORKED EXAMPLE

A family of four, two weeks, temperate. 0.75 + 0.25 + 0.5 = **1.5 gal per person per day**. 4 people × 14 days × 1.5 = **84 gallons**. That is roughly two 55-gallon drums, or 24 WaterBricks, or a full bathtub bladder plus a case of bottles.

WHAT TO STORE IT IN

A number is only useful once it is sitting in something. These are the picks from our gear list, by the job they do. Current prices and links at **preplikenoah.com/gear**.

Store it Bulk, at home	**WaterBrick Stackable Container (3.5 gal), Collapsible Water Container, WaterBOB Bathtub Reservoir (100 gal)**
Filter it Removes bacteria and protozoa	**Portable Water Filter, Gravity Water Filter (no power), Berkey Water Filter, Grayl GeoPress Purifier Bottle**
Purify it Kills what a filter misses, including viruses	**Water Purification Tablets, UV Water Purifier**
Draw it When there is no pressure in the line	**Manual Well Pump, Low-Surge Well Pump**
Replace salts Heat, exertion or illness	**Electrolyte Powder, Electrolyte Packets**

TWO METHODS, NOT ONE

A filter and a chemical treatment fail in different ways, which is exactly why you want both. Filters clog and freeze; tablets do neither but will not touch sediment or improve the taste.

Primary method, and where it is kept

Backup method, and where it is kept

Nearest natural water source, and how far

Date stored water was last rotated every six months

WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE

Walk the house and write down what is actually there, not what you think is there. Add the capacities up and compare the total against page 2.

CONTAINER	GALLONS	WHERE IT IS KEPT	LAST FILLED
Total on hand			