



# Food Waste Disposers for Australian Households

Food waste is a growing problem in our global society

Food waste per year:



Australia  
**7.6 million tonnes**



Worldwide  
**1.3 billion tonnes**

Sources: UN Environmental Programme and Australian government



## Did you know?

- Australians produce 540kg of household waste per person, each year, which amounts to 10kg for every single person, every single week.<sup>1</sup>
- The largest source of potential greenhouse gas emissions is methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) produced from the anaerobic decomposition of organic matter in landfills.<sup>2</sup>
- Food waste accounts for approximately 3% of Australia's annual greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>3</sup>

## Food waste challenges in the Australian home



Inadequate bin space for rubbish and recycling.



Hygiene issues from bin odour and leakages.



Waste management costs: pest control, cleaning, rubbish collection and disposal services.



Composting can be difficult due to the lack of space and the potential for offensive smells. As well as not being suitable for all food waste such as bones and dairy.



Changes to bin collection policies: reduced collection frequency, reduced bin size, introduction of "green" food and garden waste bins.

Food waste disposers are not only a potential solution for reducing and managing waste in apartment buildings, but also a tool that can improve the quality of life for residents and local communities.

## Food waste disposers as a tool for waste reduction

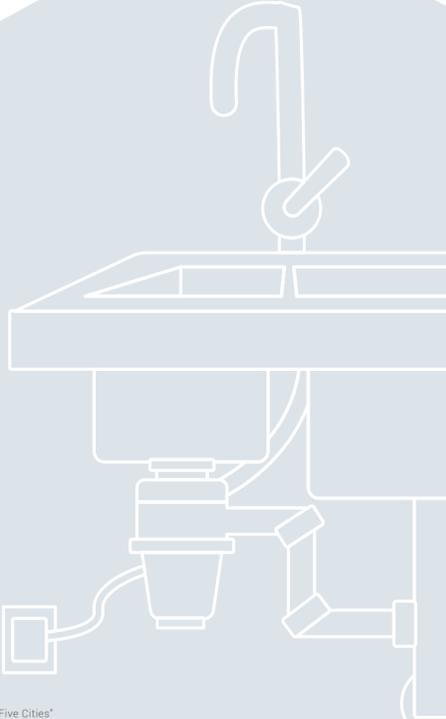
### What does the research say?

- Widespread use of food waste disposers in a local neighbourhood resulted in 30% reduction of discarded food waste.
- One full years' worth of solid food waste would be kept out of landfills after only three years of disposer use.

### Quality of life benefits

- ✓ Cleaner kitchen
- ✓ Increased recycling
- ✓ Less smells in the kitchen
- ✓ Improved home value
- ✓ Fewer bugs or pests

Source: InSinkEerator. "The Food Waste Disposer as a Municipal Tool for Waste Diversion: An Evaluation in Five Cities"



## Food waste disposers for independent living arrangements

78% and 81% of older Australians aged over 55 (depending on age cohort) want to live in their own home as they age.

### Quality of life benefits

- Make food preparation easier
- Make kitchen cleaning easier
- Reduce frequency of going to outside bins

Source: Australian Housing & Urban Research Institute



Download our Whitepaper here

1 Clean Up Australia. "Clean Up Our Waste." CUA. <https://www.cleanup.org.au/clean-up-our-waste>.  
 2 NSW Environment Protection Agency. "Emissions impacts of landfilling food waste." NSW EPA. <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/-/media/epa/corporate-site/resources/wasteregulation/fogo/22p4163-emissions-impacts-landfilling-food-waste.pdf>.  
 3 Australian government. "Tackling Australia's food waste." Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. <https://www.dcoew.gov.au/environment/protection/waste/food-waste>.