

## How to Select a Toilet

When you're ready to purchase a new toilet stool, there are few ways to narrow down the search. Don't be overwhelmed by the selection because you can narrow your choices based off of what sort of performance you expect from your toilet.

Early water conserving toilets sacrificed performance for conservation, but in recent years, water conserving toilet stools have improved in performance, without sacrificing flush performance. Today's toilets are limited to flushing 1.6 gallons of water per flush.

A toilet's overall performance is based on its ability to remove waste, the size of its outlet into the drain pipe and the size of the flush valve. One at a time, here's what to look for:

### 1. Waste Removal Rating

- Look for a rating on the box that evaluates the toilet's performance in removing waste. The higher the rating, the better.
- In part, the design of the built in trap determines the ability to remove waste. Looking at the rear of the stool, the smoother (less snaky) the built in trap, the easier it is for waste to pass through.

### 2. Outlet Size (the opening in the bottom of the stool, where the toilet meets the drain pipe.)

- The bigger the opening, the more easily waste can pass through. Openings vary between 1 3/4" and 2 3/8."

### 3. Flush Valve Size (the size of the opening and valve between the tank and bowl.

- The larger the flush valve, the more force that the water drops into the bowl and through to the drain pipe. Again, the larger, the better performance. Valve openings vary between 2" and 4".

### 4. Other Considerations (now that you understand how to determine performance)

- Aesthetics
- Overall size: Are you installing the new toilet in a small bathroom with size restrictions?
- Bowl size: Round or Elongated
- Bowl height: Standard height or chair height
- Cost