

## Star Rating

- ▶ The Energy Rating Label helps you compare the running costs of an appliance. The more stars, the more energy efficient it is.
- ▶ Compare models with the same star rating by looking at the energy consumption specification on the label.
- ▶ The lower the energy consumption, the more you save on running the appliance.

If you have a **Centrelink Benefits card** you may be eligible for the Low Income Household Rebate. It is paid in instalments by the electricity retailer. Each instalment appears as a credit on your household electricity bill. Find your electricity retailer's phone number on your bill and ring them.

A New South Wales resident who receives Family Tax Benefits A or B, and is an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), may be eligible for the Family Energy Rebate. For further information contact Service NSW on Phone 13 77 88.

## Anytime

- ▶ Switch off lights when a room is empty.
- ▶ Replace old lights in your home with compact fluorescent light globes/LEDs.
- ▶ Switch off appliances at the wall. Even phone and battery chargers still use power when left turned on.
- ▶ When replacing or shopping for a new appliance, like a fridge or TV, look for the Energy Rating Label - the more stars the better.

## Remember

An empty room does not need to have the lights or heater turned on. Closing doors improves heating efficiency.

LED lights are the most economical. They use up to 8 times less energy to light the same amount of space as other lights.

For further information about the Northern Lights Project and energy-efficiency tips, go to:

[www.northernlightsproject.com.au](http://www.northernlightsproject.com.au)

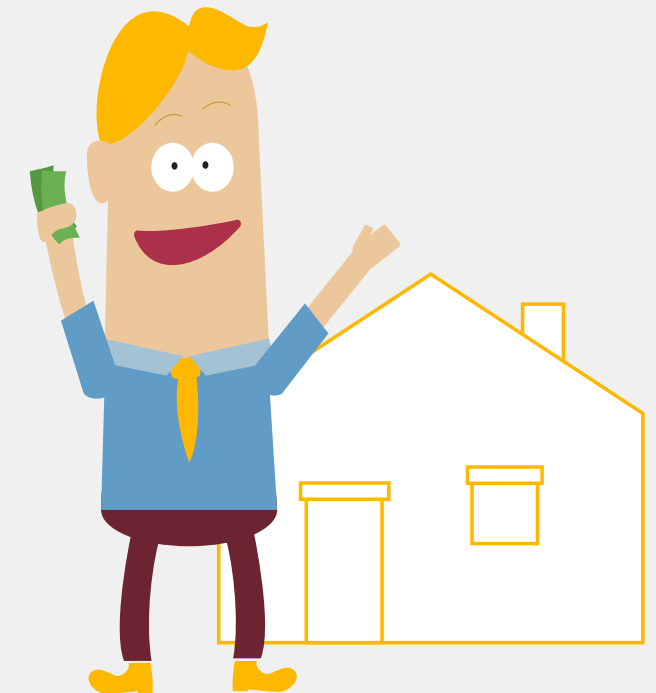
This activity received funding from the Australian Government and is an initiative of:



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## Easy tips to save power around your home



## In Summer

**Set** your air conditioning between 23°C and 26°C. Even better, use fans instead of air conditioners - or with them - to spread cool air further.

**Close** curtains and blinds during the day.

**Open windows** at night when the temperature has dropped to help clear hot air.

**Check** your fridge is operating efficiently - don't overload. Leave room for air to circulate.

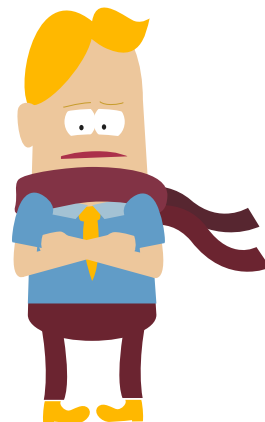
## In winter

**Set** your heating between 18°C and 21°C. Each degree warmer can add 15 per cent to your heating bill.

**Close** curtains, blinds and doors.

**Turn off** your second fridge.

**Dress** in warmer clothing.



## In the bathroom and laundry

- ▶ Wash clothes in cold water, they get just as clean.
- ▶ Hang your clothes to dry instead of using the dryer.
- ▶ Install a water efficient shower head and keep your showers to a few minutes - this will reduce the amount of hot water you are using.
- ▶ Fix leaking taps and insulate hot water pipes.

## In the kitchen

- ▶ Only use the dishwasher when it is full, use the energy-saving setting and let dishes air-dry.
- ▶ Cook with the microwave instead of the stove or oven - a microwave uses less power.
- ▶ Set your fridge at 3°C to 4°C and your freezer at -15°C to -18°C.
- ▶ Keep fridge door seals clean and replace if worn.
- ▶ Keep fridge ventilated, allow room for air to circulate on all sides.
- ▶ Use lids on pots to speed up cooking.



## In living areas

- ▶ Turn off lights when you leave a room.
- ▶ Switch off TVs, entertainment systems and computers at the power point when you're not using them - don't leave them on 'stand-by'.
- ▶ Use a power board with a switch and make sure you can reach it.

*Did you know that the average NSW home produces 8,000 kilograms of carbon pollution every year?*

*There are simple steps you can take around your home to lower your power bills and reduce your impact on our environment.*



## Learn to save power and money at home

You may be able to borrow a Save Power Kit for free from some selected local libraries in NSW.

The Kits are a fun and educational way for you to learn about your power use and how to reduce power bills.

The Save Power Kits provide a meter, compass, thermometers, detailed instructions and other tools and information to help you save power.



## Save Power Kits:

- ▶ Show you what uses the most power in your home.
- ▶ Suggest simple ideas and actions to use less power, reduce power bills and cut carbon pollution.
- ▶ Check with your local council library to see if they have an energy-saving information kit available.