

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

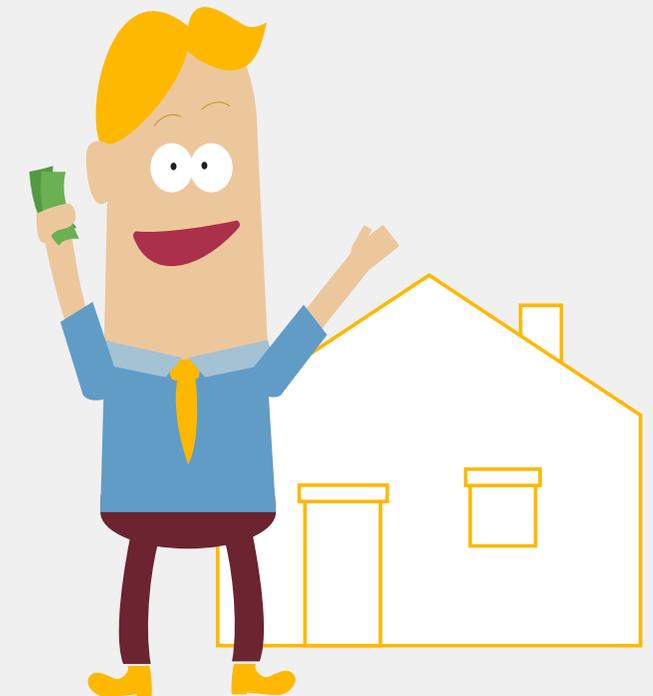
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Easy tips to save power around your home



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.