

Quick tips to save energy at home

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With energy bills skyrocketing,

there has never been a better time to review our habits and environment to save money and reduce energy consumption. Aside from the big ticket items like insulating your home, there are some less expensive immediate changes that can make a difference. You may be surprised how a few simple changes in your home could make a big difference.

Changing our habits

Wet appliances

Wet appliances such as washing machines, tumble dryers, kettles and anything else that uses water account for **25%** of electrical use in an average household. Making the below adjustments could therefore represent a big saving:

1. Washing at 30 degrees and air drying clothes

For your normal laundry load, a 30 degree wash cycle is perfectly fine with the quality of most detergents nowadays, but bear in mind that it's counterproductive if you don't wash full loads - washing a small load at 30 degrees is more wasteful than washing a full load at 40 degrees.¹

2. Kettle boiling the minimum amount of water you need or once boiled keep in a flask.

We wouldn't dare suggest drinking less tea or coffee, but reducing the amount of water in the kettle to how much you need will save money and energy!

Lighting and electrical devices

"It looks like Blackpool illuminations in here!" – We've all heard it, but simply turning off the lights as you leave a room can make a big difference to your energy usage. In an average household, lighting accounts for **16%** of electrical use. Similarly for household electrical devices: leaving them on standby accounts for **19%.**

There are many other methods to reduce energy usage, such as:

- For each degree you cut the thermostat, expect to cut bills by around 4% -<u>Money Savings expert</u>
- Bathing less and taking shorter showers.
- Don't overload your fridge and freezer, as this increases the energy they use.
- Closing curtains at night.
- Instead of heating an entire bedroom, consider using an electric blanket to keep warm.
- Fluffy onsies may not be a high fashion item but they certainly keep you toastie warm and are a small investment.

"It looks like Blackpool illuminations in here!"

How much could you save?

Switch off standby Draught-proof gaps Turn off the lights £20 Wash at 30 degrees and reduce use by one run a week Avoid using the tumble dryer Take a 4-minute shower Swap one bath a week for a shower Don't overfill the kettle and fit a tap aerator Reduce your dishwasher use by one run a week Insulate your hot water cylinder 0 20 40 60 energy £ saving per year saving trust Potential saving in £

Add up the potential \pounds savings available for each energy saving action.

Source: energy saving trust

Changes to your environment

Switching to LED bulbs

You can save **£2-3 per year** for every traditional halogen bulb you switch to a similarly bright LED bulb. This is not exclusively about your standard bulbs either - many security lights, floodlights and decorative lighting still use halogen bulbs as standard.²

Draft exclusion

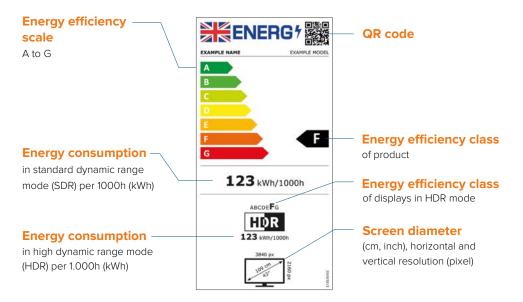
By catching those pesky draughts around doors and windows, you could save up to **£45 per year**. This will vary depending on the age of the building you live in, as can the cost of draught proofing. Whilst professional draught proofing can cost around £200, it can be done much cheaper with a trip to the DIY shop.³



Other changes

You can make better choices with the appliances you buy too - the energy label tells you how much energy that appliance uses, comparing it to similar appliances. This can help you find appliances that use the least amount of energy and therefore save you some money on your bills.⁴

The rescaled energy label for televisions and electronic displays



Source: energylabel.org

- Your radiators work by radiating heat into the room however it is also radiating into the wall that it is fixed to. Radiator reflector panels can be fitted behind your radiators and work by reflecting that heat, that would otherwise be lost into the wall, back into the room.
- Water saving shower heads can give around a 2% saving <u>Energy Saving Tips</u> (moneysavingexpert.com)

For more information used within this brochure, visit these sites >>

- ¹ Washing at 30 Degrees | Whitegoodshelp
- ² Getting the best out of your LED lighting Energy Saving Trust
- ³ <u>A helpful guide to draught-proofing Energy Saving Trust</u>
- ⁴ Guide to choosing home appliances Energy Saving Trust

www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/energy-saving-tips

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