

Where does all your **energy** go?

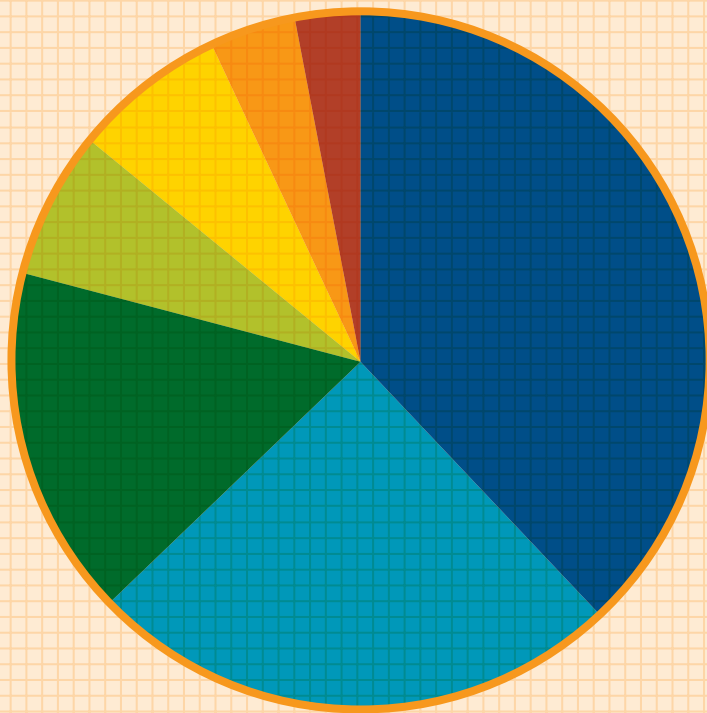
The winter energy saving guide

With winter upon us, now is the time to consider how your household uses energy.

We'll tell you our best energy saving tips to help you get through a chilly winter, **stay warm** and still **save money** on your energy account!

Home Energy Use

(Annual electricity usage in a typical Australian household)

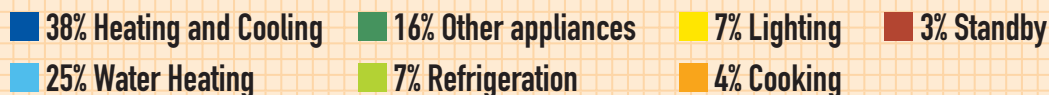


Your greatest energy costs year-round are **heating** (and cooling) your home and **hot water**.

In winter, when we all turn up the heat, your account may be at its highest.

This is the best time of year to think about **energy efficiency** and **keep your costs down**, too!

Source: Baseline Energy Estimates, 2008, www.yourhome.gov.au



Top Tips for saving energy

1. Don't crank up the heat

Operate your heater efficiently by setting the thermostat **no higher than 19 or 20 degrees Celsius**, and you'll start saving right away. Each degree above this temperature will cost you around **10% extra in running costs!**

2. Plug the gaps to stop draughts

Heat escapes through gaps under doors, the chimney and through windows that are open or without curtains. Make sure you plug any gaps with a door snake or anything that will **prevent heat escaping**. Close the doors to rooms that aren't being used and put up heavy curtains to stop heat loss.

3. Take shorter showers to save hot water

Use a shower timer to help you take **shorter showers**, or contact your local council to ask them about **water efficient shower heads**. They'll save up to 10 Litres per minute, and they won't affect the shower quality much at all.

4. Use energy efficient appliances

Often, the **cheapest appliances** to buy are the **most expensive to run**. The star ratings on appliances is a good guide, and remember, we use the most energy on space heating and hot water, so spend wisely on those appliances.

5. Install energy saving light globes

A simple way to save money, and help the environment, is to install **energy efficient light globes**.

6. Don't forget the little things

- a. **Turn off appliances at the wall** when they're not in use (to avoid standby use)
- b. **Put on a jumper** instead of turning up the heater and make sure the kids do the same
- c. **Dry clothes on the line** rather than in the dryer, or inside when the heater is turned on. If you do use the dryer, spin dry clothes on high first and this will save on drying time.
- d. **Get rid of the drinks fridge** – it'll save you around \$150 a year!

If you have any questions about your energy account, or would like to conduct your own Home Energy Assessment, please call us on 133 298 between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday or between 9am and 4pm on Saturdays.



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