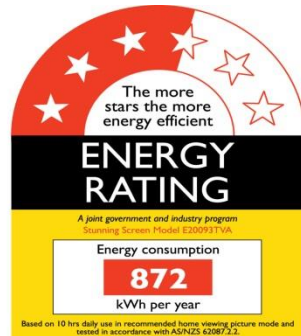


# Energy TIPS: Save energy and save money



## WHAT'S USING YOUR ENERGY?

- Identify where your energy is being used, look at your electricity bill and see your daily usage. Power and energy monitors help you identify where your energy is being used. For more information <http://www.livingsmartqld.com.au/homes-energy-module/living-smart-with-energy> <http://www.yourhome.gov.au/energy>

## APPLIANCES

- Even the most energy-efficient equipment should be switched off when not in use.
- Standby power boards and timers can be used to switch off appliances rather than leaving them on stand-by this can reduce your energy bill by up to 10%.
- Turn off computers and monitors once you're finished with them.
- Air or sun-dry clothes rather than using a dryer.
- Always fill the dishwasher before putting it on and use the eco/economy cycle which helps save water too.
- When purchasing or replacing equipment, choose the most energy efficient you can buy. Products that have the energy star standard will save more energy – and more stars mean more savings. For more information <http://www.yourenergysavings.gov.au>

## COOKING

- Keep lids on pots when cooking - this reduces the amount of time and energy used.
- Use the microwave oven, microwaves uses less energy than an oven.
- Thaw food in fridge which reduces cooking time.
- Boil only the amount of water needed.

## LIGHTING

- If you're not using it switch it off!
- Use natural light wherever possible - sky lights and solar light tubes provide free natural light.
- Replace halogens. Many people think that because Halogen down lights are low voltage they're also low energy - but they're not. Of the energy they produce, only 20% generates light - the other 80% produces heat, making your home or office hotter, making your air-conditioner work a lot harder.
- A CFL bulb will typically last up to 10 times longer and an LED bulb will last as much as 25 times longer than an incandescent bulb with the same light output.
- With a standard halogen bulb lasting approximately 4000 hours and a standard LED light lasting approximately 50,000 hours, you'll see energy savings of 75 to 90%.
- Use timers on outdoor lighting, or install sensor lights for pathways.
- Avoid having several lights activated by one switch.

- Paint rooms in pale colours so they need fewer lights.  
For more information <http://www.yourhome.gov.au/energy/lighting>

## HEATING AND COOLING

- Ensure fridge/freezer door seals are in good repair.
- Place refrigerators in well ventilated areas; near sunlight and hot areas such as windows and ovens increase the cooling load on refrigerators.
- If you have a second fridge only turn it on when you need it - this could save up to \$200 per year.
- Don't forget to keep filters on your extraction fan, fridge and air-conditioner clean – a build-up of dust and debris will make your appliances work harder than they have to.
- Use ceiling fans before air conditioners.  
Use ceiling fans to create a cool breeze; it's much cheaper than air conditioning. By raising your air conditioner thermostat by only two degrees and using your ceiling fan, you can lower cooling costs by up to 20%.
- Close the doors to unused rooms to reduce the area needed to be cooled or heated.
- Reduce the need for cooling and heating devices. Check the setting of your cooling and heating system - cooling should be set to 24-25°C and heating to 18°C for efficient energy use.
- Insulate walls, floors and ceilings of your house.  
For more information <http://www.yourhome.gov.au/energy/heating-and-cooling>

## HOT WATER

- Approximately one-third of your electricity bill comes from hot water usage; a solar hot water system can reduce this cost by 30 to 80%.  
For more information <http://csirosolarthermal.files.wordpress.com/2012/07/solarhotwaterfactsheet.pdf>
- Replace your old electric hot water system with a solar hot water system.
- Install water-saving shower heads - by changing the showerhead you will reduce water and reduce the amount of hot water and energy used.
- Check if hot water is on economy tariff. Most electric hot water, solar hot water or heat pumps can be connected to an Economy tariff.  
For more information <http://www.yourhome.gov.au/energy/hot-water-service>

## POOL PUMPS

- Check if your swimming pool pump is already connected to an Economy tariff.
- Reduce daily pumping time. Depending on your climate and pool usage it's usually enough to pump the entire volume of water through the filter once or twice a day.
- Install an energy efficient pool pump if your pump needs replacing.  
For more information <http://yourenergysavings.gov.au/energy/appliances-equipment/swimming-pools-spas-pool-pumps/reduce-pool-spa-running-costs>

## ENERGY

- Install Solar PVs – This reduces your power bill by generating your own clean electricity and can also increase the value of your home.
- Replace old electric hot water systems to solar hot water and get hot water from the sun.

- Consider Green Power - a government accreditation program that enables your energy provider to purchase renewable energy on your behalf.

## More information

### REBATES - Positive Payback program for households



Save on electricity costs and receive \$\$ rewards with Energex's **Positive Payback program for households**. Positive Payback rewards households and businesses who connect energy hungry appliances to economy tariffs or install technologies that reduce energy during peak periods.

<https://www.energex.com.au/sustainability/positive-payback/positive-payback-for-households>

<http://www.yourhome.gov.au/energy>

<http://www.energyaustralia.com.au/residential/energy-saving-safety/energy-saving-tips>

<http://yourenergysavings.gov.au>