

Be power prepared this winter

Power saving tips

Here are some things you can do to save on your electricity bill

General advice

- ✓ Save up to \$30 a year by fitting draught seals to the openings of external windows and doors to prevent warm air escaping.
- ✓ Open curtains during the day to let in the sun and close them before it gets dark to keep heat in.
- ✓ Use well-fitted curtains or blinds to trap cold air near the window.
- ✓ Save up to \$70 a year by installing underfloor insulation.
- ✓ Save up to \$260 a year by installing ceiling insulation to keep your house warm during winter and cooler during summer.

Appliances

Heating

- ✓ Set your heater's thermostat between 18 and 20 degrees. Every degree higher can add 15% to your heating costs.
- ✓ If you've got your ducted heating on, use the zoning function and close doors and vents in rooms you're not using.
- ✓ Clean your heater's filter regularly to help it run efficiently.
- ✓ Replace older heaters with energy efficient ones. You may be able to get a rebate for installing reverse cycle air conditioners under the Victorian government's Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades program at heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au
- ✓ Turn your heater off overnight or when you leave the house.
- ✓ Use fans to circulate hot air. Ceiling fans help push hot air down and can increase the efficiency of your heater.



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Fridge/freezer

- ✓ Set your fridge to 3-5°C and your freezer to -15°C.
- ✓ Clean your fridge and freezer seals and replace them if they are damaged.

Dishwasher and washing machine

- ✓ Only run your dishwasher when it's full.
- ✓ Save up to \$40-\$80 a year by using the 'cold water' setting on your washing machine.

Home entertainment

- ✓ Turn your TV and entertainment appliances off at the wall – they're still using power in standby mode.
- ✓ Install a 'standby-killer' switch or a standby power controller (SPC) to disconnect power to appliances when they're not being used.

Showers

- ✓ Save up to \$160 a year by replacing old showerheads with energy efficient ones.
- ✓ Take shorter showers.
- ✓ Fix dripping taps, especially hot water taps.
- ✓ Insulate hot water pipes from your hot water system into your house.

Cooking

- ✓ When using a stovetop, keep lids on pots to reduce cooking time.
- ✓ Only boil the amount of water you need when making a cup of tea.
- ✓ Check that your oven door seal is in good condition and replace it if it's damaged.
- ✓ Use small appliances where possible, such as the toaster instead of the griller.



More power saving tips

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Visit Sustainability Victoria's 'Save energy in the home' at

sustainability.vic.gov.au/energy-efficiency-and-reducing-emissions/save-energy-in-the-home

Visit the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's 'Ways to Save' at

delwp.vic.gov.au/ways-to-save

Need to get in touch?



Electricity faults and emergencies line
13 17 99 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)



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