

12 Simple Steps to Energy Efficiency

1. Use Efficient Lighting

Replace all your light bulbs with compact fluorescent or LED lighting. If you live in a 2000 sq. ft. home, in a year's time, you could save 1500 kWh and \$200! These bulbs can last 3-5 years!



2. Inspect Your Ducts

Inspect your duct system – cool your home, not your attic. Contact your local utility for information about inspection and duct repairs.



3. Reduce Appliance Use

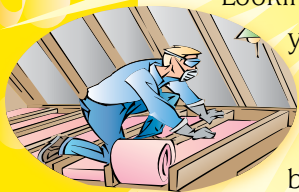
Extra refrigerators and freezers – are you using them? If they are sitting empty, they may be eating up kilowatts and your money.



4. Check Your Attic Insulation

Looking to make changes in

your home's roof or attic? Consider one of the follow options to reduce your air conditioning by 10-20% (\$70-\$140 saved each year): an attic radiant barrier, more ceiling insulation and better attic ventilation, a white metal reflective roof. Also, check your door's weather stripping.



5. Turn It Off

Whether it's turning off lights, ceiling fans or shutting down your computer when it's not in use, over time, these small efforts can save you big energy dollars.

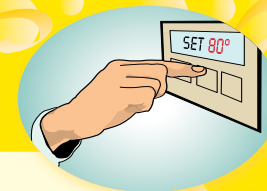


6. Change AC Filters – at least every other month.

Check cooling coils, too. If fouled, use a shop vacuum to clean or have an air-conditioning technician do it professionally.

7. Adjust Your Thermostat

Always set your thermostat to “auto” rather than “on,” and turn up the temperature while you are gone – even a few hours can make a difference in your utility bill.



8. Have a Swimming Pool?



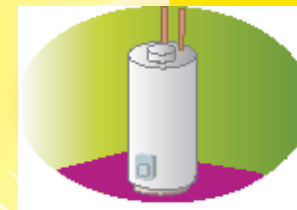
Studies have shown that changing from 8 hours a day of pool pumping to only 4 hours a day will still keep the pool sparkling clean while you save \$240 a year! If you heat the pool, select a solar pool heating system.

9. Choose an LCD TV

If you're buying a flat panel TV, choose an LCD model vs. the plasma type. You'll reduce energy use by 40-50% and save 400 kWh and \$50 a year.

10. Insulate Your Water Heater

Wrap the tank with an exterior insulation kit and insulate exposed pipes, too. It will save a few dollars a month in electricity costs and reduce cooling load. Consider a solar water heater and save \$200 a year.



11. Shade Your Windows

If you have a fully exposed window on the east or west, consider a landscape planting or awning to shade that area; it improves comfort, saves on cooling, and reduces glare. If windows cannot be shaded (or are on a second floor) consider window tinting.



12. Monitor Your Energy Use

Adding an electronic device to your home allows you to see energy use in real time (Manufacturers: The Energy Detective (TED), EnergyViewer and PowerCost Monitor). Monitoring and making equipment and behavioral change can save an average of 6-9% on your electric bill.

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