

Seven Effective Ways to Save Energy in Your Home

Make An Immediate
Impact on your
Energy Bill



1. Appliance Efficiency

Look for the ENERGY STAR® label on home appliances—from refrigerators, clothes washers, and dishwashers, to room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and air cleaners. By choosing appliances with the ENERGY STAR® label, you can save an average of \$75 per year in energy costs while saving the environment.

2. Lighting

Switching from traditional light bulbs to CFLs is an effective, simple change everyone in America can make right now. Making this change will help to use less electricity at home and prevent greenhouse gas emissions that lead to global climate change. Lighting accounts for close to 20 percent of the average home's electric bill. ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs use up to 75 percent less energy than incandescent light bulbs and can last up to 10 times longer.



3. Phantom Loads

Eliminate phantom loads with power strips and timers. Many appliances are on when we think they are off. In fact, a gaming system that is off but still plugged in will use more electricity during the day than a running energy-efficient refrigerator.

4. Water Heater

Set your water tank thermostat to 122 degrees and add an insulation blanket. Insulate your hot water pipes as well. By doing this small renovation on your existing water heater, you can save up to 7% of your water heating bill.

5. Thermostat

With proper use, programmable thermostats can save about \$150 every year. Don't have a programmable one? Turn your heat down at least 2 degrees in winter and air conditioning up at least 2 degrees in the summer.

6. Air Seal

Air seal gaps and holes in your house. Start with your basement sills, then pipes, wires, and lights through the attic floor. Next, seal your walls, windows, doors and outlets. You can save up to 10% of your energy bill by sealing your home.

7. Insulate

Consider insulating your walls if you have not already done so. Make sure your basement and attic have proper insulation as well. These can be major projects, so contact a contractor and discuss your options. Savings may be significant.



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