

Save Energy At Home

Information from:

http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/residents/green_living/sustainable_living/energyhome

How much energy do you use?

Energy in the home is mainly used for heating, cooling and hot water. The breakdown of typical energy usage in the home is shown in the pie chart below.

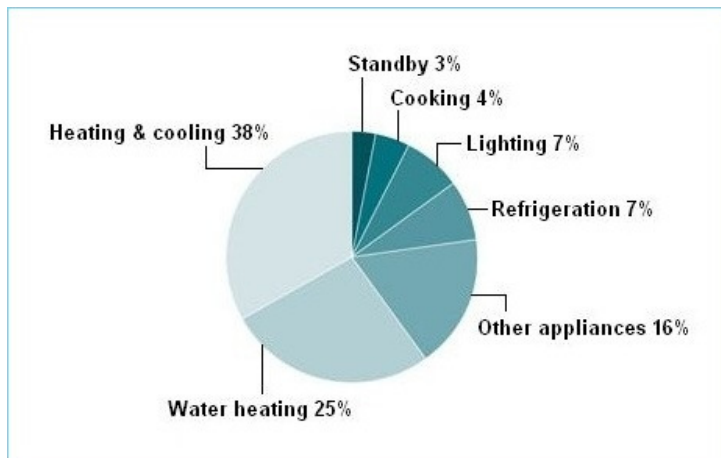


Figure 1 - Typical Home Energy Use

Source: *Baseline Energy Estimates 2008*

You can calculate your energy emissions online by using the Australian Greenhouse [Calculator](#).

You can find out more information on how to reduce your power bill by visiting <http://www.switchon.vic.gov.au/>

Reduce Your Energy Use at HOME



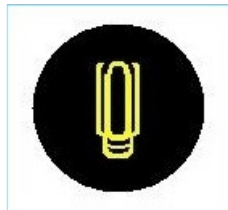
1. Turn off standby

Standby power is a hidden energy cost that could amount to 10% of your electricity bill. Standby mode can use energy even when the appliance is not in use. Sometimes it can be difficult to tell if equipment is on or off. If you switch appliances off at the wall when you aren't using them, it guarantees that you will save energy.



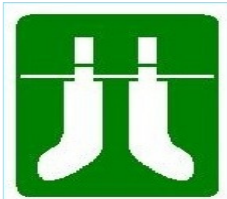
2. Draught proof your house

Save up to 25% on heating costs by draught proofing your home. Fit draught seals to the base of your doors, seal windows, fit covers to exhaust fans and use close fitting curtains and blinds to prevent heat loss in your home.



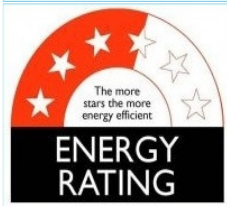
3. Use energy efficient lighting

Reduce the amount of energy you use for lighting by 50 per cent or more by making smarter lighting choices. With traditional globes currently being phased out, switch to more efficient technologies such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light emitting diodes (LEDs). [Click here](#) for more information



4. Use the clothesline

Electric clothes dryers are big energy users. Use the sun instead and hang your clothes on the line, or an indoor clothes rack, whenever you can.



7. Buy energy efficient appliances

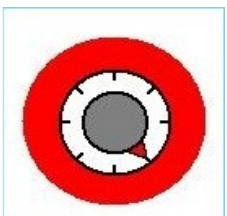
When it's time to replace an existing appliance, buy an energy-efficient one. Look for the [energy rating](#) label – every extra star can reduce your energy use and your long term running costs.



9. Switch to Greenpower

[GreenPower](#) is electricity generated from clean, renewable energy sources like the sun, wind and water. GreenPower is one of the most effective things you can do to reduce your household's greenhouse gas emissions. Your electricity supplier can supply part or all of your electricity as GreenPower. Contact your electricity supplier to make the switch.

10. Turn the temperature down



Every degree that you turn your air conditioner or heater down by saves energy and money. For your heating and cooling systems aim for between 18-21°C in winter and 23-26°C in summer. Remember you can always warm up by putting on a jumper or cool down by taking one off! Try to reduce your hot water system thermostat by 5 degrees. Make sure you consult the owner's manual to find out how, and don't go below the recommended 60°C.

Sources: [Sustainability Victoria](#) (2011), [DCCEE](#) (2010) and [ACF](#) (2005)

Reduce your energy use when you're OUT & ABOUT



1. Ride a bike

Lower your travel costs and reduce your impact on the environment by getting around on a bike. It's also a great way to improve your health and fitness. Check out Wyndham's [bicycle network](#) to plan your next route.



2. Catch public transport

Reduce your greenhouse gas emissions by catching the train or bus. It's less stressful, you don't have to worry about traffic or finding a park, and you don't have to pay for fuel or parking! Find out what public transport services are available in Wyndham [here](#).



3. Car pool

It's much more efficient, both economically and environmentally, to drive a full car. Find a friend who is heading in the same direction as you to car pool with. It will reduce costs *and* the number of cars on the road