

Energy Efficiency tips for renters



the place to live

1. Switch off lights and electrical appliances when you are not using them



Turn off your heater, cooling units and appliances when you go to bed or leave the house.

2. Switch to energy-saving LED light globes



Energy-efficient globes could save you up to 80 per cent off your lighting costs. LED bulbs use less power and last longer.

3. Shut doors and close curtains



Shut doors to areas you're not using, and only cool or heat the rooms where you spend the most time. Close curtains or blinds when the sun has gone down. Block draughts around doors and windows.

4. Save energy when you wash and dry clothes



Wash clothes in cold water. Choose a short wash cycle. Wait until your machine is full before starting the washing machine.

Clothes dryers use lots of energy. Hang clothes outside and let them dry naturally or hang them on a clothes rack indoors.

5. Save energy in the kitchen



Fridge: Your fridge runs 24 hours a day and is one of your most expensive appliances to run. Make sure the fridge door seal is tight and that no gaps or cracks let cold air escape. If you have a second fridge or freezer, only turn it on when you need it.

Cooking: Microwaves use much less energy than an electric oven.

6. Manage your heating and cooling



Every degree above 20 degrees can add 10 per cent to your heating bill. In winter heating can account for over 30 per cent of your bill. In winter, set your thermostat between 18 and 20 degrees. In summer, set your thermostat to 26 degrees or above.

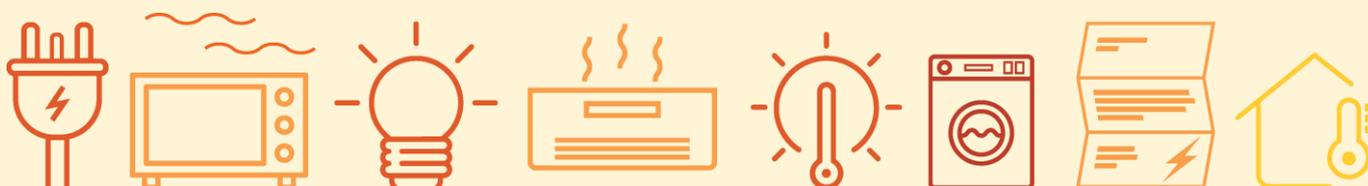
7. Get the best energy deal



One of the easiest ways to reduce energy costs is to compare energy offers.

Victorian Energy Compare is the Victorian Government's free and independent energy price comparison tool. It can help you find the best and cheapest energy offers. www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au

To use Victorian Energy Compare, you'll need access to a device connected to the internet, a recent bill, and some information about your household.



For more great tips go to www.darebin.vic.gov.au/savingenergyathome

Help to pay your power and water bills

Power Saving Bonus

If you are receiving a government payment you might be eligible for the Power Saving Bonus. It is a payment of \$250. You can apply online at compare.energy.vic.gov.au If you need help to apply, you can call the team at Good Shepherd on 1300 026 500. Applications close on 31 January 2022.

Difficulty paying energy or water bills

If you are finding it hard to pay your energy or water bills, you might be eligible for a payment under the Utility Relief Grant Scheme. The payment can be used to help you to pay your bills. Contact your water, gas or electricity retailer to see if you are eligible.

If you have a bill that is higher than you had expected, you can get advice from the Energy and Water Ombudsman www.ewov.com.au or call them on 1800 500 509.

Home energy monitor

You can get a free home energy monitor to learn more about how you use electricity in your home, and how you can save money: www.powerpal.net

You can also borrow a home energy efficiency tool kit from Darebin Libraries to measure how much electricity your home appliances use. You can also see where cold air is getting into your home.

Go to www.darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au and search the catalogue for tool kit.

Appliance Energy Rating

If you are buying a new appliance like a fridge, try and choose one with the most energy efficiency stars. More stars means that it uses less energy. It might cost a little more to buy, but will save you money over time. You can learn more at www.energyrating.gov.au

If you need a new essential household appliance like a fridge or a washing machine, but do not have the money to buy it, you might be eligible for a no interest loan from Good Shepherd. Go to www.nils.com.au or call 13NILS (13 6457) for more information.

Learn more and contact us at Darebin Council

Learn more about how to save energy at home at our website: www.darebin.vic.gov.au/savingenergyathome

Sign up to our Sustainable Darebin e-newsletter for more tips and information:

<https://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/waste-and-environment/sustainable-darebin/sustainable-living/sustainable-darebin-newsletter>

If you have questions, email us at climateemergency@darebin.vic.gov.au

For more great tips go to www.darebin.vic.gov.au/savingenergyathome

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