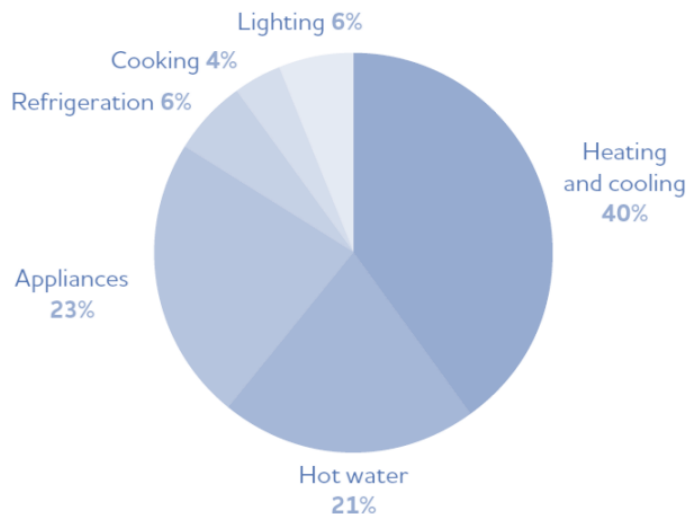


WHERE YOU USE ENERGY

To get ideas on how to save energy, it's a good idea to start by looking at how and where you use it.



A breakdown of how the average Australian household uses energy

COOLING YOUR HOME

You might be using up to 40% of your energy bill to cool your home. Small changes here could lead to big savings.

Tips for keeping cool

- After a hot day, open your windows or use ventilation fans to let the hot air out.
- Shut the doors of unused rooms to keep the space you're cooling to a minimum.
- On hot days, keep your air conditioner at 24°C. Each degree under this uses about 5% more energy.
- Use external blinds or awnings to keep the heat out.

Cool it on the air conditioner

- Unless the mercury goes over 30°C, use fans to cool your home instead of the air conditioner.
- Use your air conditioner for an hour less on hot days and you could save around \$100 a year.
- Only use your air conditioner when the temperature goes over 30°C and you could save around \$483 a year.
- Use your ceiling fans for twice as long as your air conditioner when the temperature goes over 28°C and you could save around \$187 a year.

HOT WATER

The average Australian home uses about 20% of its energy to heat water. It's quite easy to find ways to save money.

Washing dishes

- Rinse your dishes in cold water, not hot, before washing them or putting them in the dishwasher.
- Make sure your dishwasher is full before you turn it on.
- Switch your dishwasher off before the drying cycle and let your dishes air-dry.
- Leave your mixer tap in the cold position, so hot water isn't wasted cooling in the pipe.

In the bathroom

- Stick to short, four-minute showers. You could save up to \$39 a year.
- Switch from a standard showerhead to a 3-star rated head. You could save around \$328 a year.

HOME APPLIANCES

Your appliances could be using up to 23% of your home's energy

Switch things off at the wall, instead of leaving them on stand-by, and you could save around:

- \$52 a year²¹ from your TV, set-top box and game console.
- \$35 a year²² from your desktop computer, modem and printer.
- \$12 a year²³ by turning off your washing machine when you're not using it.

Cooking

As a rule, cooking with gas is the most efficient way to cook. But if that's not an option, try these simple ideas:

- Set your oven to fan-forced - it cooks quicker and more evenly than conventional settings.
- Cook with a pressure cooker, electric fry pan or microwave - your microwave uses up to 80% less energy than your electric stove.
- Keep a lid on simmering pots - this can reduce your energy use by up to 70%.
- Make sure the seals on your oven are in good condition to prevent heat escaping.

IN THE LAUNDRY

From the washing machine to the iron, cleaning clothes uses a lot of energy and water. Here's how to cut back.

- Dry your clothes on a line rather than using your dryer. Do this once a week and you could save up to \$60 a year.
- Washing a full load of laundry uses the same amount of energy as a half load. Try to do all your washing at the same time and make all your loads full ones.
- When it's time to buy a new washing machine or dryer, look for one with:
 - A fast spin cycle - some of the best machines have spin speeds over 1600 rpm.
 - A dryer with an auto-sensing control that switches off when your clothes are dry.
 - At least a 4-star energy rating and 4-star water rating.
 - A front loading washing machine, you'll use even less water and energy.
- Try to do your ironing in large batches - that way you won't waste energy heating and reheating your iron every time.

LIGHTING

Did you know that about 6% of the average home's energy bill comes from lighting?

Try these bright ideas

- Get into the habit of turning off the lights when you leave a room.
- If you don't need much light, use lamps or spotlights instead of lighting the whole room.
- Install motion sensors or timers on your security lights - so you don't have to remember to turn them off at night.
- Use solar lights to light up your garden pathways - they store energy during the day and then light up automatically at night.

These energy saving tips are intended as a guide only. Actual savings will depend on the appliance type, size of your home and number of occupants.