

WINTER ENERGY SAVING CHECKLIST

Here are some tips on how you can save money on your home energy bills this winter:

Reduce general energy usage by:

- Considering your energy use and patterns such as tariffs and appliances, and utilise appliances during off-peak periods as often as possible
- Switching to LED lamps and practicing “task lighting” by using light only when required
- Considering having movement and presence detectors installed in high traffic areas in the home such as bathrooms and hallways
- Considering having solar hot water systems with an electric boost on off-peak tariffs installed

Retain heat by:

- Covering your windows with blinds or shades of thick dark fabric to retain heat within the house or room
- Considering home insulation to assist in the retention of heat (this will also help to reflect heat in the summer)
- Preventing external draughts from entering rooms

When doing the laundry:

- Utilise the clothes line to dry laundry instead of the electric dryer which is costly and chews through energy quickly
- Use cold water in washing machines

In the kitchen:

- Use the appropriate cookware on stove tops
- Do not use the microwave to heat water in mugs, a kettle is the more economical option
- Ensure your oven glass is clean and the light is in working order to prevent excessive opening and closing of the oven door
- Check your fridge seals to make sure there are no leakages, and increase your fridge temperature by one or two degrees

Appliances:

- When using heaters or air conditioners, set the temperature at 24 degrees Celsius
- Use ceiling fans (if fitted) in reverse – there is a switch on the bell housing
- Use solar powered lamps for decorative garden lighting
- Have your electric blankets checked before use to ensure they are in good working order
- Consider using your laptop or notebook for updates rather than a large CPU
- Set your laptop or notebook screen saver to blank
- Recharge or have certain appliances put on off-peak tariffs

This information is brought to you by Master Electricians Australia – www.masterelectricians.com.au

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