

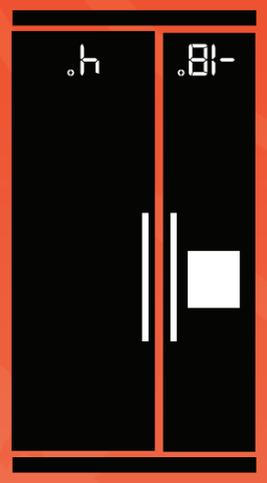
**How cold are you?**  
 In winter, keep your heater temperature to a maximum of 20°C and put on warm clothes – every extra degree costs you more money and dressing warmly makes a difference!



**How hot are you?**  
 In summer, use a fan instead of an air conditioner. If you do use an air conditioner, set your temperature no lower than 26°C.



**How cold are your fridge and freezer?**  
 Set your fridge to 4°C and freezer to -18°C. If you have an extra fridge or freezer, save \$110 a year by turning it off when you're not using it.



Easy Ways to **Save Money by Saving Energy**



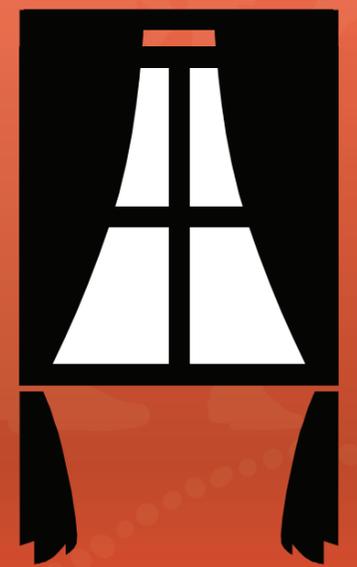
Keep your family happy, healthy, and comfortable

\*Cost savings are estimates based on standard Victorian homes, as researched by MEFL

**Turn it off**  
 When you're not using them, turn off your TVs, DVD players, Video Game Consoles, and computers at the power point.



**Letting cold air in?**  
 Save \$100 a year and reduce heating and cooling costs by using thick curtains to reduce air leaks and closing gaps around your windows and doors with weather strips and door seals.



**Using a washer or dryer?**  
 Save \$150 each year by washing your clothes in cold water and drying them on a clothes line.



**How long are your showers?**  
 Save \$100 a year on hot water by shortening your showers to four minutes.



# Easy Ways to Save Money by Saving Energy



**The Living Room**

How many lights are on?

- Turn off lights and appliances in the rooms you're not using

Use lamps or spotlights

- If you only need a bit of light, use lamps or spotlights instead of main lights

**The Kitchen**

Do you use an oven or microwave?

- When you can, use the microwave instead of the oven – microwaves use less energy
- Don't open the oven door too much – each time you do the temperature drops by up to 15°C

Using a stovetop?

- Keep lids on pots when cooking to reduce the amount of time and energy used. Dinner will be cooked faster too!

Boiling water?

- Use an electric kettle not the stove
- Use cold water for the kettle

Dishwasher

- Use the economy cycle for everyday washing and only run the dishwasher when it's full
- If your dishwasher heats its own water, use this function

Refrigerator

- Fridges and freezers work more efficiently when they are full but not overloaded
- Leave space around the back of your fridge or freezer for air to circulate
- If you can, don't put your fridge or freezer in the sun or next to your oven

**The Bathroom**

Use water wisely

- Make your showers less than four minutes
- Use a water-saving showerhead in your shower to save water and energy

**The Laundry**

Washing clothes

- Only wash full loads
- Wash your clothes in cold water and spin them well before drying
- When possible, choose a front loading washing machine for efficiency
- Use shorter wash cycles

Drying clothes

- Use a clothesline instead of a dryer
- Fill but don't overload your dryer
- Spin or wring dripping wet clothes before drying them
- Clean the lint filter after each load
- Use the low heat setting on your dryer

## Do you live in public housing?

- The Office of Housing has to keep your home in good condition. If you need repairs, call the Housing Call Centre to report your maintenance request on 13 11 72 or email [tenant.maintenance@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:tenant.maintenance@dhs.vic.gov.au)
- You will need to contact your local housing office to ask permission before you make any modifications to your home
- For more information on public housing maintenance, repairs & improvements go to <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au>

## Have a complaint about your high energy bills?

First, call your energy company and try to work out the problem. If you can't work it out, contact the Energy and Water Ombudsman (Victoria). Free call: 1800 500 509  
Email: [ewovinfo@ewov.com.au](mailto:ewovinfo@ewov.com.au) Website: <http://www.ewov.com.au/>

## You might be able to save money by changing your electricity retailer in Victoria

Check out the different options at: <http://yourchoice.vic.gov.au/>