

10 Easy Ways to Save Energy in Your Home

Most people don't know how easy it is to make their homes run on less energy. Drastic reductions in heating, cooling and electricity costs can be accomplished through very simple changes, most of which homeowners can do themselves.

1. Find better ways to heat and cool your house.

As much as half of the energy used in homes goes toward heating and cooling.

2. Install a tankless water heater.

Tankless water heaters heat water directly without the use of a storage tank.

3. Replace incandescent lights.

The use of new lighting technologies can reduce the energy use required by lighting by 50% to 75%.

4. Seal and insulate your home.

Sealing and insulating your home is one of the most cost-effective ways to make a home more energy-efficient.

5. Install efficient showerheads and toilets.

Toilets consume 30% to 40% of the total water used in homes, making them the biggest water users.

6. Be energy-smart when using household appliances and electronics.

Appliances and electronics account for about 20% of household energy bills in a typical U.S. home.

7. Install daylighting as an alternative to electrical lighting.

Daylighting is the practice of using natural light to illuminate the home's interior.

8. Insulate windows and doors.

About one-third of the home's total heat loss usually occurs through windows and doors.

9. Cook smart.

Microwave ovens consume approximately 80% less energy than conventional ovens.

10. Change the way you do laundry.

Wait until you have a full load of clothes, as the medium setting saves less than half of the water and energy used for a full load.

