

# EASY WAYS TO \$AVE

**HORIZON**  
**POWER**  
*energy for life*

**Would you like to reduce your electricity bill by hundreds of dollars a year? We've put together a guide to show just how you can do this.**

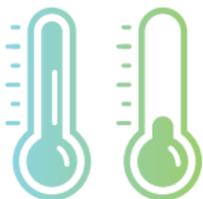
**Even if you aren't able to make all the changes we suggest, changing your behaviour just a little bit will have a positive impact on your bill.**

**Challenge yourself and see just how much you can save!**

**Get started right now with some of the easiest ways to save.**

Let's start with the changes you can make right now without any hassle. You'll be surprised just how much of a difference these little changes can make.





## Heating and cooling

### Bathroom heating

Do you really need to use your bathroom heater? Try using it only every second day during winter - you might be surprised at how much you can save.

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You save

**\$51 p/a**

### Adjust your air-conditioner or heater by one degree

Heating and cooling your home usually contribute the most to your electricity bill; in fact, on average 40 per cent of our customers' electricity costs each year goes on air-conditioning.

Did you know that increasing or decreasing your thermostat setting, even by one degree, can increase your running costs by up to 10 per cent? Set your air-conditioner between 18 and 20 degrees in winter and at 24 degrees in summer.

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You save

**\$194 p/a**

# Keeping comfortable for less

We know air-conditioners and heaters make life more comfortable. Here are some tips on what you can do to avoid running them as often without feeling any discomfort.



## In winter:

- Before turning on your heater this winter, reach for a jumper first.
- Use warmer bedding at night to stay snug in bed.
- Let warmth in through your windows, especially north-facing windows, by opening your blinds and curtains on sunny days to allow warm sunlight in. Draught excluders (door snakes) will prevent heat loss under doors.



## In summer:

- Encourage air movement by opening doors and windows to capture cross breezes.
- Turn on the ceiling fan rather than the air-conditioner whenever possible.
- Open up the house at night to allow heat to escape when it's cooler.
- Close off rooms which are not being used so you are not cooling them unnecessarily or block off the ducting outlets to unused rooms if you have a ducted system.



## Audio-visual and home entertainment

### One television at any time

Make a rule around the house that only one TV can be on at a time. It's a great opportunity to spend time together. If there are two great shows on at the same time, consider pre-recording one to watch later.

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You save

**\$104 p/a**

### No television during dinner

Turn off the TV during dinner. It will allow you to spend quality time with your family, while lowering your electricity costs at the same time.

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You save

**\$40 p/a**

### Family games night

Remember the board games you have stored away? Why not dust off the old Monopoly board and enjoy a good old fashioned family games night once a week?

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You save

**\$15 p/a**



## Kitchen

### Switch off your second refrigerator

Do you really need your second refrigerator? If you don't use it often, keep your drinks in the main refrigerator and just turn your second one on when you're entertaining, or, better still, use ice buckets.

You save

**\$225 p/a\***

\*Based on a 100 watt fridge

### Only use your dishwasher when it is full

Try to use your machine less by doing one full load rather than several smaller loads. This will save you both electricity and water.

You save

**\$29 p/a**



## Lighting

### Turn off the lights

If you're the last person to leave the room, make sure you turn the lights off.

You save

**\$26 p/a**



## Laundry

### **Only use your washing machine when it has a full load**

Try to use your machine less by doing one or two full loads rather than lots of smaller loads, saving you both water and electricity.

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You save

**\$35 p/a**

### **Ban the clothes dryer**

Clothes dryers use a lot of electricity, so see if you can avoid using it for one whole week. Use your outdoor line if the weather is sunny, or a clothes horse under shelter.

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You save

**\$90 p/a**

### **Wash your clothes in cold water**

Select the cold wash cycle on your washing machine whenever possible. Not only can it save you money, it will help keep your clothes looking brighter for longer.

Savings shown are for a front loader washing machine, predicted savings for a top loader washing machine are \$166.

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You save

**\$62 p/a**



## Standby

### Turn off all appliances at the wall

Go around your home and switch off all appliances at the wall, excluding the fridge and freezer, but not forgetting phone chargers, electric toothbrushes, TVs and computers. Only turn them on when you need to use them and switch them back off when you're finished.

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You save

**\$ 113 p/a**



## Pool

### Run your pool pump for two hours less a day in winter

Pool pumps use a considerable amount of electricity so use a timer on the pool pump and set it to run two hours less a day if possible.

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You save

**\$ 150 p/a**



# Spend a little time maintaining your electrical appliances to keep them running efficiently

## **Service your air-conditioner or heater**

Make sure you have your air-conditioner and/or heater serviced as often as the manufacturer recommends. At the least, make sure the filters and the air-conditioner unit outside are cleaned regularly to keep your air-conditioner free from dust and dirt.

## **Defrost the freezer**

Defrost your freezer if the ice is thicker than five millimetres. This will help your freezer operate more efficiently and use less electricity to keep your food frozen.

## **Dustbust the back of the fridge**

Vacuum the dust from the fridge condenser coil at the back of the fridge to help keep your refrigerator running at optimal efficiency.

## **Check your fridge temperature**

Check your fridge is running at the optimum temperature - between three and five degrees.

## **Clean the rangehood**

Regularly clean the grease vent in your kitchen rangehood or exhaust fan to keep it running efficiently.

## **Check your filters**

Regularly clean your dishwasher filter following the manufacturer's instructions to keep it running efficiently. For safety reasons and to ensure optimum efficiency, clean the lint filter on your clothes dryer after each load by following the manufacturer's instructions.



## Reduce your use in these areas and save even more

### **Use your microwave**

Microwave ovens use less electricity than standard ovens, so use your microwave when appropriate for cooking, re-heating or defrosting.

### **Flat based saucepans**

Use flat-based saucepans with tight-sealing lids and make sure you choose the right hotplate for the pan - it should always cover the entire hotplate to minimise electricity loss.

### **Keep the oven closed**

Make sure you don't open the oven door while cooking, as this will lower the oven

temperature, requiring more electricity to heat it back up again.

### **Shorter showers**

Every minute, the average shower uses 12 litres of water. Reducing the length of your shower from eight minutes to four minutes will save you both electricity and water.

### **Kettle etiquette**

Always fill your kettle from the cold tap and don't fill it to the top. Only heat the amount of water you need, and use your kettle, not the stove, to boil small amounts of water.

### **Power down your PC**

Your computer continues to use power even when the screen is black, so turn off your computer when it's not in use, or activate the standby/hibernate feature if you plan to be away for more than a few minutes.

Most computers come with in-built eco-saver power settings. Refer to your user manual for instructions on how to change these settings by reducing the amount of time before the screen saver comes on, or before your computer hibernates. Generally these settings can be found in the control panel.

## Other low cost easy ways to save

### **Flow restriction valves**

Consider installing a flow restriction valve or shower-rose on your shower to reduce the amount of hot water you use.

### **Switch to batteries**

For extra savings, consider switching your electric alarm clock radio for a battery powered clock.

### **Check your seals**

Check the fridge door seal for air leaks. Try slipping a \$5 note in between the fridge and the door. If it slides in easily you should have the seals replaced.

Similarly, check that your oven seal is in good condition and doesn't leak heat. If it does, replace the seals to keep it running efficiently and save you money.



## Investments that will save you even more

We've highlighted things we can all do right now to save money without a significant financial outlay.

The following tips are things to keep in mind when buying new appliances. The initial purchase price of these may be higher than others but ongoing running costs will be lower and you will recoup that additional outlay through savings in electricity costs. Keep these in mind when you replace your electrical appliances and reap the rewards.

### Upgrade your television

Have you ever considered how energy-efficient your television is? LCD and LED screens tend to be more energy-efficient than plasma screens, and new models come with built-in eco settings to help you reduce your electricity usage. Always consider the energy star rating when purchasing new appliances.

Visit [www.energyrating.gov.au](http://www.energyrating.gov.au) to view energy labelling for equipment and appliances.

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You save

**\$ 120 p/a**

### Upgrade your dishwasher

Old dishwashers tend to be less energy and water efficient than their newer counterparts, so if you've had your dishwasher for a number of years, consider upgrading to a newer, more energy efficient model. Always consider the energy star ratings when purchasing new appliances.

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You save

**\$ 42 p/a**

### **Upgrade your top loader washing machine**

Old washing machines tend to be less energy and water efficient than their newer counterparts. Top loader washing machines are generally less energy and water efficient than front loaders, so you may want to consider if a front loader will suit your lifestyle.

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You save

**\$ 144 p/a**

### **Swap your old incandescent globes for CFLs**

You can save even more money on your electricity bills by investing in low cost energy efficiency devices. Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) are relatively cheap to buy and can save you hundreds of dollars a year.

CFLs use 80 per cent less power – and can last up to eight times longer – than standard incandescent globes.

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You save

**\$ 229 p/a**

# Other ways to save

## Hot water installation

If you're installing a new hot water system, try to install it close to where most of the hot water is being used.

## Cooktops

Consider a ceramic or induction cooktop for precise temperature control and faster cooking.

## Consider a laptop

If you are purchasing a new computer, consider a laptop as they require less electricity to run.

## Solar hot water

Take advantage of the sun's free heating ability by installing a solar hot water system.

## Insulate

Insulation can be placed in roofs, ceilings, walls and flooring. Ceiling and roof insulation work together, with roof insulation keeping our radiant heat and ceiling insulation preventing heat transfer between the roof cavity and the house.

*Savings detailed in this brochure should be used as a guide only. Figures are calculated using average residential customer consumption patterns and the 2015/16 A2 residential tariff rate.*



## Appliance electricity costs

Just seeing the amount of money you can actually save is a great incentive to make a few changes to your habits around the home.

We have provided you with the below information about commonly used appliances, to assist you with reducing your use and lowering your electricity bill.

<b>Appliance</b>	<b>Watts</b>	<b>Estimated annual hours of operation</b>	<b>Estimated annual cost</b>
Reverse cycle air-conditioner	6000	1260*	\$1943
Refrigerator	1000	8760	\$225
Fans	60	5405	\$110
Oven	2400	150	\$93
Clothes dryer	3500	100	\$90
Hair dryer	1500	100	\$77
Computer with monitor	100	500	\$51
Iron	2400	75	\$46

\*Based on electricity use in the Pilbara and Kimberley

<b>Appliance</b>	<b>Watts</b>	<b>Estimated annual hours of operation</b>	<b>Estimated annual cost</b>
Dvd Player/games console	175	840	\$38
Lights	22	506	\$29
Microwave oven	1100	100	\$28
Hot plate - medium	1200	75	\$23
Vacuum cleaner	1400	60	\$22
Kettle	2400	25	\$15
Clock radio	2	8760	\$14
Router/modem	5	8760	\$11

# Contact us

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Power emergencies or supply interruptions **13 23 51**

If you have hearing or speech difficulties please ring  
1800 461 499 (TTY)

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