

Saving Energy

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Reducing your Energy Costs)

Australian households every year generate almost 1/5 of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions. That's more than 15 tonnes per household each year through everyday activities such as:

- ▶ Transport
- ▶ Household energy use
- ▶ Household waste in landfills

Household heating and cooling appliances

Space heating and cooling generate a further 14% of GHG emission and approximately 39% - 50% of total energy use within the home.

Household hot water heating

Hot water heating is also a very significant contributor to total Greenhouse gas – 28% GHG emissions are generated from this one appliance, while 27% of the total energy used within a home comes from the hot water appliance.

To make the right purchase decision you must take into consideration:

- ▶ Cost comparisons
- ▶ Short term costs
- ▶ Long term costs and benefits
- ▶ Operational running costs
- ▶ Time and logistical restraints
- ▶ Product servicing and reliability

DID YOU KNOW?

It is estimated that a one degree difference between indoor and outdoor temperatures adds 10% to heating and cooling bills.

Tips For Saving Energy

Appliances

- ▶ Choose appliances by looking at their energy rating. The more stars in the rating, the more you will save on your energy bills
- ▶ Make sure the appliance is installed properly
- ▶ Make sure the refrigerator has the correct temperature set on the thermostat and that it is positioned in a cool spot in the home where air can circulate around
- ▶ Try to use the clothesline as often as possible, rather than the clothes dryer
- ▶ Turn off appliances at the power point when not in use

Hot Water Use

- ▶ Convert to a gas or solar Hot Water Heater
- ▶ Choose a hot water system with a high energy star rating
- ▶ Check that your hot water system and hot water pipes are well insulated
- ▶ Limit showers to less than 5 minutes
- ▶ Install water efficient shower head or water restriction valves
- ▶ Wash clothes using a cold water cycle

Heating and Cooling

- ▶ Insulate the floor, walls and ceiling of your home
- ▶ Seal out draughts
- ▶ Use close fitting blinds
- ▶ Choose and install an energy efficient heater and cooler
- ▶ Wear more clothes in the cold instead of turning up the heater
- ▶ Switch off heaters and coolers when you are not home

Lighting

- ▶ Turn off lights when you leave a room
- ▶ Install compact fluorescent lighting in areas that are used for long periods of time
- ▶ Install timing devices, light sensors or movement detectors for outdoor use
- ▶ Make use of natural light by positioning desks, tables and seating near windows