

# Energy Saving Tips



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## Don't wash away your cash

Try to wash full loads as opposed to half loads. Fewer washes at a lower temperature uses less electricity and saves you money. Avoid drying clothes on radiators as this affects the efficiency of the radiator and can cause damp and condensation.



## Kitchen savers

Only boil enough water for what you need. Wash dishes by hand instead of using a dishwasher. Roasting meat in a pressure cooker could cut cooking times in half. Air fryers are also a cost-effective option. When replacing your white goods consider the more energy efficient models.



## Shower time

Try spending less time in the shower each day as this saves both water and energy. If you don't have an electric shower, by fitting a water efficient shower head you can reduce your hot water usage and save money.



## Switch off standby

Switch off / unplug any chargers that are not being used. Anything with a standby light, a display or that is hot to touch will be using electricity.

## Control your boiler



Use your timers and thermostats correctly. Only heat your home when you need to. Set your boiler to come on a short time before you need it and set it to turn off before you go to bed, this helps save money as you don't waste heat. You can also save money by turning your heating down by 1 degree. Keep your boiler in good working condition and have it serviced regularly.



## Switch off your lights

Switch off the lights when you are not using them. Try and replace standard bulbs with energy efficient LEDs.



## Radiator efficiency

Ensure your radiators are clutter free to allow free air flow so they can heat your rooms more efficiently. On exterior walls, reflector panels behind your radiators can redirect more heat back into the room thus making them warmer. This can also be achieved cheaply by using aluminum foil.



## Solar Gain

The sun can be used to increase the temperature in a room. Make the most out of solar gain by allowing the sunlight to enter your property wherever possible. To avoid the heat in your room from escaping, close your curtains and blinds at dusk.

# Additional Advice

## Priority Services Register

Check with your supplier if you should be on the Priority Services Register. If you are vulnerable due to health conditions or age you could be entitled to extra support in a power cut or additional services to meet your needs such as an Identification Scheme or a Meter Reading Service.

## Economy 7

If your heating was previously Economy 7 It is important you inform your provider of your new heating system and ask them to check you are on the most cost effective Tariff available and consider switching supplier if necessary.

## Switching Supplier\*

There are a number of officially accredited comparison sites that allow you to enter data about your energy consumption and preferred payment method in order to identify potential savings on fuel bills. Accredited switching sites have the advantage of being constantly updated so the information should always be reliable and current. Comparative energy prices can be found at:

[www.uswitch.com](http://www.uswitch.com)

[www.moneysupermarket.com](http://www.moneysupermarket.com)

[www.simplyswitch.com](http://www.simplyswitch.com)

[www.energyhelpline.com](http://www.energyhelpline.com)

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales)

It is more difficult to compare oil or LPG prices but it is worth contacting 2 or 3 suppliers for quotes before ordering or enquire locally if there is an oil buying consortium in your area.

## Warm Homes Discount

If you qualify, you'll get £150 off your energy bills this winter. To qualify you or your partner need to be with a participating electricity supplier and one of you must claim either the Guarantee Credit portion of Pension Credit or a different 'qualifying benefit'. You do not need to apply for this, the Government will make an assessment of your energy costs based on your circumstances. If you are a credit customer, the funds will be added to your electricity account. If you are on a pre-payment meter, you will receive a voucher that can be used in order to top-up your meter.