# SAVE MONEY - SAVE ENERGY - STAY COOL

10 FREE THINGS
TO DO IN YOUR HOME

1. Keep curtains and blinds closed on hot days

More than 25% of the heat entering your home can come through windows! Close blinds and curtains in the morning, before the sun hits the window and heats the room. For all your north or west-facing windows, plan ahead with thick curtains, blinds, outdoor shades, screens, growing trees or vines.
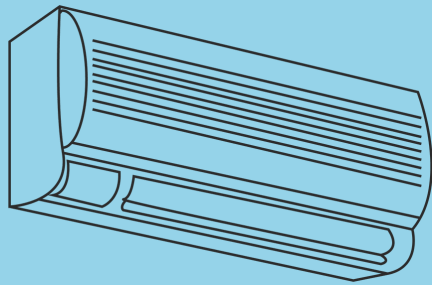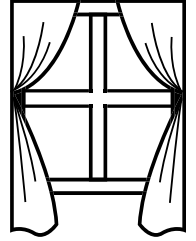
2. Set your air conditioner at 24 – 27°C

If you need to use an air conditioner, set the thermostat to cool between 24 - 27°C. Every 1°C lower in summer can add 10% to the running costs! Also don't forget to switch it to 'summer' or 'cooling' mode!

3. Check your fridge and freezer is running efficiently

Do all these things: remove any frost build-up in your freezer; set the fridge temperature between 3 - 5°C, and freezer between -15°C and -18°C; avoid having your fridge in direct sun; replace door seals in poor condition; if the unit has a coil, clean it to remove dust; and avoid opening the doors too often.
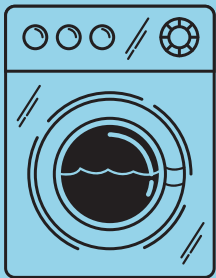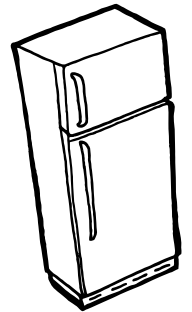
4. Use a cold wash cycle

Energy used to heat water in your washing machine makes up most of its energy consumption, so washing in warm water means a higher energy bill. Wash in cold water where possible!
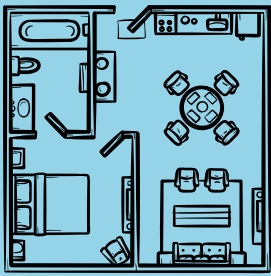
5. Use fans instead of the air conditioner

Ceiling and portable fans are the cheapest cooling appliance - they are much cheaper to run than air conditioners. Fans cool people, not the air, so enjoy their cooling breeze but switch off when you leave the room.
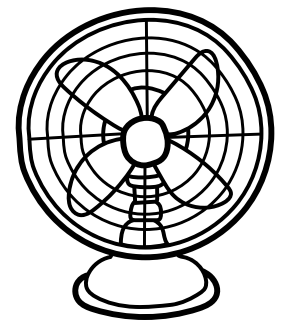
REDUCE YOUR BILLS AND EMISSIONS THIS SUMMER

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6. Only cool the rooms you are using

When using a refrigerative air conditioner, only cool the areas you need by closing internal doors, or by using the zone controls on a whole-of-house system. Evaporative coolers work differently though, and opening some doors or windows will increase air flow and improve effectiveness.

7. Air dry your laundry

Use free solar energy instead of your dryer! Hang clothes outside to dry, or inside next to a sunny window.
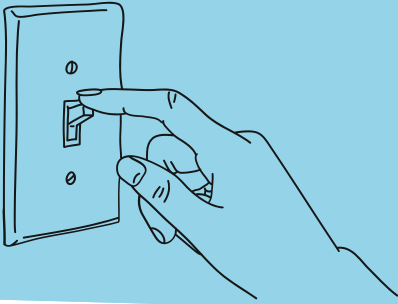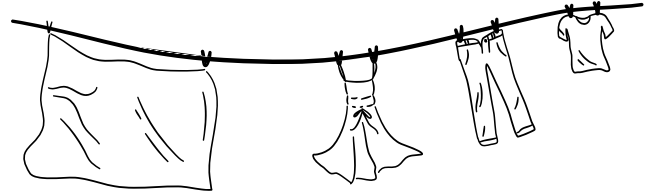
8. Turn appliances off at the wall

Switch appliances off at the wall when not in use, so they're not in standby mode or generating heat. Keeping your lights, TVs, computers, consoles and other appliances turned off at the wall will all add up to lower power bills.

9. Only run your dishwasher when it's full

Waiting until you have a full load in your dishwasher is another way to save energy and water, and reduce your bills.
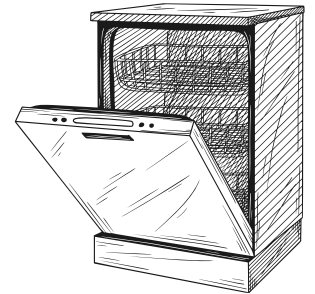
10. Use natural breezes

After the heat of the day passes, open your windows at night and use natural breezes to cool down your house.

HOME ENERGY TOOLKIT

Available from your local library, you can use this toolkit to audit energy use in your home and identify ways to reduce energy and save on bills.

Contact the **Energy Advisory Service** by phone 8204 1888 or email energyadvice@sa.gov.au for free, independent information on a range of energy topics.

For more ideas and resources visit:

resilienteast.com/climatereadyhomes

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