

The power and the glory

A victory for home energy is a win for the back pocket – a win for household performance – and a win for the environment.

Flabby energy consumption costs Victorians dearly. The average household spews about 15 tonnes of greenhouse gases into the air, contributing to global warming. Standby power alone in Australia creates five million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually – equivalent to one million new cars on the road.

***Shed unwanted,
unhealthy energy habits.
Make your home an elite
performer today.***



Environment Victoria works with people from all walks of life to bring about a society living in harmony with a healthy environment.

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this pamphlet, or how you can make a REAL difference to Victoria's environment, please contact Environment Victoria on 03 9341 8100, email admin@envict.org.au or visit our web site www.envict.org.au

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***Is your home
on a power trip?***

***The average Victorian home wastes
up to \$570 a year on power bills.
This loss is needless. It's easy to
save hundreds of dollars.***

Read on.



Have you got energy to burn?

Elite athletes wisely conserve their energy, adopting healthy habits to ensure victory in the sporting arena.

Likewise your home can be an energy winner. Unfortunately, though, most houses today have unhealthy energy habits, wasting electricity, which makes the household budget and the environment the big losers.

Through a range of simple, easy-to-adopt measures you can avoid losing hundreds of dollars on power and water bills, while making your home a peak performer and scoring a goal for the environment.

Be powerful by being powerless

The average Victorian home wastes up to \$570 a year through sloppy, unfit energy consumption. This is equivalent to almost half the average annual \$1300 household budget.

Heating and hot water use about 30 per cent of the budget. For example, a hot clothes wash wastes 20 times more energy than a cold wash.

Don't be an energy loser. Get your home in shape.

Surprisingly, many appliances burn energy even when not in use. Standby products such as VCRs, computers and air conditioners lose about 10 per cent of total power just to provide a clock or remote control convenience.

But all this waste is needless. It is possible to cut up to half a home's energy use and save hundreds of dollars by being a star performer.

Activity	Money saved
Using cold water for clothes washing	\$75
Reducing standby energy use	\$35
Using low energy light globes (x4)	\$60
Showering with a AAA water efficient shower head	\$47
Installing proper ceiling insulation (R2.5 or better)	\$150
Using gas hot water systems, stoves and heaters	\$83
Using an energy efficient washing machine and refrigerator	\$52
Installing duct and draft sealing	\$65
Total	\$567

Don't dash your cash. Make a home run.

You don't need to be an energy loser. Your home can be a winner through these simple, easy-to-adopt measures.

Keep your cool:

- Use cold water for clothes washing and only wash in full loads.
- Shade windows and keep external doors and windows closed on hot days.
- Dress appropriately for the weather conditions.
- Don't heat or cool unoccupied rooms.
- When using an air conditioner shut windows, external doors and doors to unused rooms.

Switched on:

- Swap to low energy compact fluorescent globes, which last eight times longer than normal globes.
- Turn off lights, appliances and heating/cooling when leaving a room.
- Turn off TVs, DVDs and stereo units at the switch rather than using the remote control or better still buy "1 watt stand-by" products.
- Cook efficiently: use a microwave or fry pan rather than an oven. Use a fan-forced oven rather than a conventional oven, and a gas one rather than an electric.

A little pain for a lot of gain

If you're building, renovating, or simply buying new appliances take these extra steps to make your home a healthy, lean machine. Even if you are renting many of these additions can be made. Just take the products with you to your new home.

For example, always look for the highest star appliances on energy rating labels. Studies have shown some of the most efficient fridges are the cheapest to buy. Choose high star-rating gas heaters or reverse cycle air conditioners.

Tackle the tough stuff to make your home a powerhouse of energy efficiency.

- Replace electric hot water systems, stoves and heaters with gas models. (Gas has less greenhouse emissions.)
- Buy an energy and water efficient washing machine and dishwasher.
- Install water efficient AAA shower heads.
- Seal doors, chimneys and windows against drafts.
- Add ceiling insulation and curtains with pelmets on windows.
- In summer, add external blinds to the north and west windows for shade.
- Plant deciduous trees to provide summer shade to the north and west windows.