



Did you know?

- A quarter-inch gap at the bottom of a standard exterior door wastes as much energy as a 3-inch x 3-inch hole in the wall.
- On average, compact fluorescent light bulbs last more than ten times longer and use 70 percent less energy than incandescent light bulbs, according to manufacturers' estimates.



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Save energy at home



Easy ways to
use less energy
and save money

Portland General Electric

Energy efficiency **starts** at home

PGE can help you improve comfort and save energy and money.

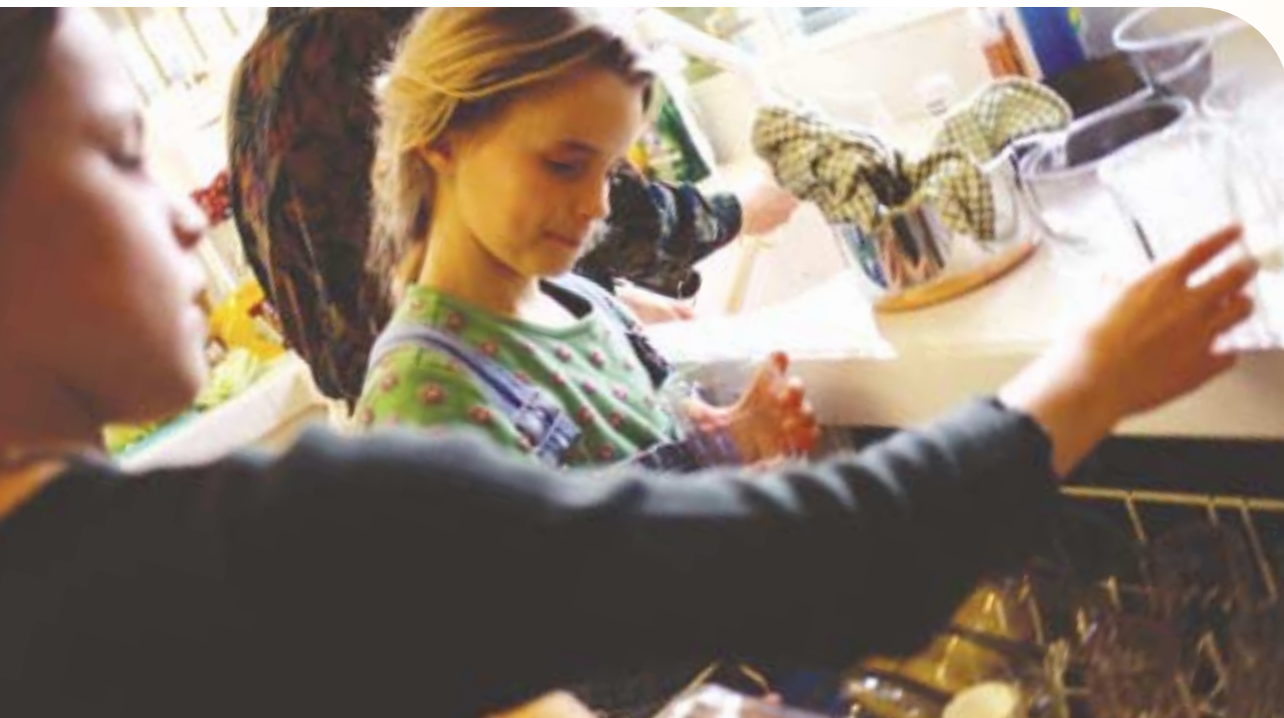
Your home may be wasting more energy than you realize. In the U.S., our homes lose nearly as much energy through poorly insulated windows and doors as the energy we get from the Alaskan pipeline each year. The good news is there are many ways to save.

Heating and cooling are the biggest home energy users, followed by water heating, lighting and appliances. There are many ways to use less energy and save money in all these areas. Some cost little or nothing, while others require a greater investment.

For easy, low-cost tips and do-it-yourself ideas, see the inside of this brochure.

For advice on more extensive energy-saving improvements, call PGE's Energy Experts. They can also connect you with the following resources to make your project pencil out:

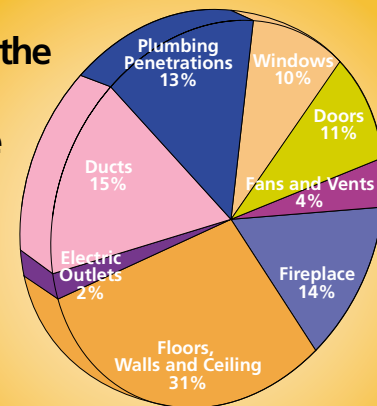
- Cash incentives from the Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., for qualified ENERGY STAR® appliances and home improvements
- State of Oregon tax credits for qualified improvements and appliances



Block energy wasting air leaks!

You'd be amazed at how much you can save by insulating and sealing air leaks in your home. It's the best way to reduce heating and cooling energy costs. Pay attention to exterior windows, doors, ceilings, walls, floors and heating ducts.

Where are the air leaks in an average home?



Visit us online for **smart savings.**

More great ways to save are just a click away. Just log on for more tips, a home energy audit and other resources to help you trim energy costs and make your home more comfortable.



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Give us a call: Portland: 503-612-3500, Outside Portland: 1-800-722-9287

Lift for energy saving tips



Quick & easy tips to **save** energy & money*

1 Turn down the thermostat

Cost: Free
Savings: \$9-\$15 per year*

Each 10 degrees reduction in water temperature generally saves 3 to 5 percent on electric water heating costs.

Steps:

- Turn off the electricity to the electric water heater at the main electrical panel.
- Remove the water heater thermostat covers.
- Use a screwdriver to reset both top and bottom thermostats to 120 degrees, the optimum temperature for water heating comfort and efficiency. (Set to 140 degrees if you have an automatic dishwasher that does not preheat its own water – but be aware that 140 degree water can scald.)
- Replace the insulation and the thermostat panel covers and restore power.



2 Fix leaky hot water faucets

Cost: .50 to \$1.00
Savings: Up to \$1 per month (based on a leak of 60 drops per minute.)

Don't forget to fix cold water fixtures as well to eliminate wasted water.

Steps:

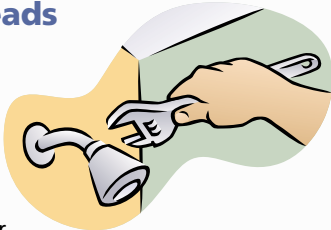
- Fixtures vary so check with home repair guides or your hardware supplier to confirm steps.
- Turn off water to the faucet.
 - Remove the faucet handle. (The screw may be hidden under a cap.)
 - Remove the packing nut by turning it counterclockwise with a wrench and pull out the spindle and washer.
 - Replace the worn washer (it'll look flat, misshapen and hard). Always use a brass screw to install washer.
 - Reassemble and turn the water back on.

3 Install water-saving shower heads

Cost: \$10-\$20
Savings: \$36 to \$60 per year

Steps:

- Wrap a cloth around the joint of the old shower head and pipe.
- Gently unscrew the shower head with a wrench.
- Following package instructions, apply pipe compound or Teflon tape to pipe threads. Screw the water-saving showerhead on to the pipe until it fits snugly. Do not overtighten.



4 Check furnace filters every three months and replace when dirty

Cost: \$3-\$6
Savings: Varies

Check your furnace owner's manual to determine the location and size of replacement filters that you need. The size will also be indicated on the old filter.

Steps:

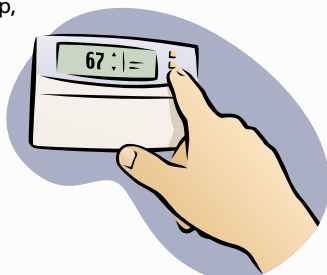
- Simply slide the old filter out and the new filter in.
- If your furnace filter is reusable, clean and replace.



5 Adjust your thermostat

Cost: Nothing
Savings: Generally, you'll save 2 percent of your heating bill for each degree lowered.

- Exercise careful thermostat control. It's a matter of personal preference, but 68 degrees during the day and 55 at night is recommended.
- If you have a heat pump, turn the thermostat down no more than 5 to 10 degrees at night.
- Consider installing a programmable thermostat to automatically lower and raise settings.**



6 Install exterior wall switch and outlet gaskets to prevent leaks

Cost: \$1-\$2 each
Savings: Varies

Steps:

- Make sure the power is off to any electrical outlet or switch you are working on.
- Remove the cover plate with a screwdriver.
- Insert gasket(s) per instructions.
- Replace cover plate and restore power at breaker.



7 Turn off the hot water while shaving

Cost: Free
Savings: Varies

Talk about money down the drain. Instead of running the water, fill up the sink and shave. Or try an electric shaver to save money (either battery or plug-in type).

8 Cool off with a fan when you can

Cost: Not much
Savings: \$5-6 per month

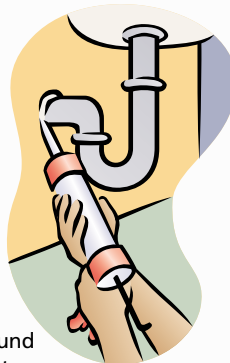
In warm weather use fans instead of the air conditioner to save energy and stay comfortable.

9 Seal holes in exterior walls

Cost: \$6 to \$10
Savings: Varies depending on application

Steps:

- Check around plumbing pipes, telephone wires, exhaust fans, dryer vents, sink and bathtub drains, around fireplaces and under countertops for small holes and cracks.
- Use expanding foam or caulking to seal holes.



10 Use compact fluorescent light bulbs

Cost: \$5 to \$15 per bulb
Savings: Up to 50% of your lighting energy bill.**

Steps:

- Take an inventory of your home's lighting needs for size and wattage requirements.
- Purchase compact fluorescent light bulbs as your budget allows.



11 Make cents of lighting

Cost: Nothing (except buying the bulbs)
Savings: Varies

Small changes in lighting can help save energy.

- Use the lowest wattage light bulb to accomplish the task at hand. In other words, why use a 100-watt bulb when a 60-watt bulb will do.
- Whatever bulb you use, be careful to not exceed the fixture rating.
- Use task lighting where possible.
- Keep bulbs and fixtures clean so dust doesn't reduce light output.
- And the old standby: Turn off the lights when you leave the room!

12 Clean up on savings with your clothes washer

Cost: Free
Savings: Varies

- Use the cold or warm wash/cold rinse option on your washing machine.
- Wash full loads.
- Buying a new clothes washer? Horizontal-axis washers use less water and energy. Look for machines with the ENERGY STAR® label. Some models may be eligible for cash incentives or tax credits.

13 Serve up savings with your dishwasher

Cost: Free
Savings: Varies

- Run full dishwasher loads
- Use the "energy saver" selection on your dishwasher.
- Air dry dishes when you can (unless your home has mold or mildew problems.)
- Dishwashers use less water than hand washing.
- Buying a new dishwasher? Choose one with the ENERGY STAR® label. Some models may be eligible for cash incentives or tax credits.

14 Keep a cool fridge

Cost: Not much
Savings: Varies

- Don't keep your fridge too cold. Recommended: 37 to 40 degrees for fresh food and 5 degrees in the freezer section.
- Defrost regularly if not frost-free.
- Check for gaps in your refrigerator door seals. Make sure they close tightly. If they don't, replace them.
- If purchasing a new refrigerator, look for a model with the ENERGY STAR® label. Some models may be eligible for cash incentives or tax credits.

15 Close fireplace and wood stove dampers and doors when not in use

Cost: Free
Savings: Could be a lot!

Warm air rises, right up an open chimney. It's like leaving a four-foot window wide open.



16 Freeze in some savings

Cost: Free
Savings: Varies

- If your freezer isn't frost-free, defrost before frost builds beyond one-quarter inch.
- A full freezer performs better than one nearly empty.
- Freezer temps: Between 0-5 degrees. Keeping temperatures lower increases energy use.

17 Don't dally at the door

Cost: Free
Savings: Varies

Take care not to linger at the refrigerator, freezer or oven with the door open. Losing all that cooled or heated air costs you money! The same goes for your home entry doors.

Call the **PGE Energy Experts** for energy saving advice and referrals for rebates and tax credits.

Portland: **503-612-3500**
Outside Portland: **1-800-722-9287**

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* Costs and savings estimates for these tips are intended as a general guide and are based on typical usage and typical installations. Individual savings and results will vary depending on weather, usage patterns, housing stock, family size, product use and other factors.

** Dispose of old thermostats and burned out compact fluorescent bulbs at a hazardous waste disposal facility. These products contain mercury.