



Tips, tools, and knowledge to help you  
*Conserve Energy  
& Save Money.*



**DEMCO**

A Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative 

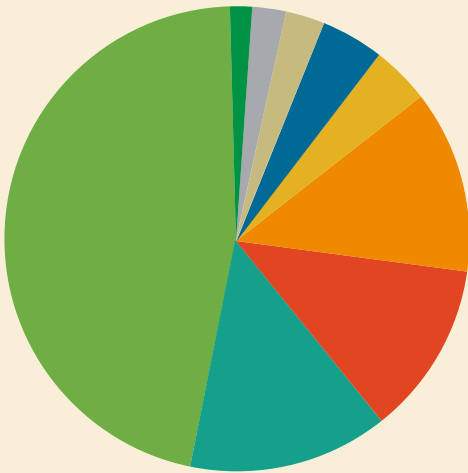
**On average, 35-45% of a home's electric bill goes to heating and cooling, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Try these tips to reduce the power you use and save on your bill.**

## **YEAR-ROUND SAVING TIPS**

- Setting your thermostat to 78° in summer and 68° in winter can save you 3-5% on your bill.
- Setting your hot water heater temperature to 120° can save energy.
- Washing clothes in cold water can save an estimated \$66/year based on 300 loads per year.
- Using dryer balls and low heat setting can use less energy.
- Using ceiling fans to cool people instead of rooms can save energy.
- Sealing up any leaks around windows and doors can prevent energy loss.
- Checking your insulation can prevent energy loss.
- Using blinds and curtains can regulate the temperature of your home.
- Using the microwave to cook or using your outside grill can save energy.
- Investing in an energy-efficient variable speed pool pump and reducing run time can reduce your pool expense by an estimated 75%.
- Closing blinds and drapes can keep your home insulated from harsh outside temperatures.



## TOP ENERGY USERS IN YOUR HOME



**COOLING AND HEATING:**  
47% of energy use

**WATER HEATER:**  
14% of energy use

**LIGHTING:**  
12% of energy use

**WASHER AND DRYER:**  
13% of energy use

**REFRIGERATOR:**  
4% of energy use

**ELECTRIC OVEN:**  
3-4% of energy use

**TV, DVD, CABLE BOX:**  
3% of energy use

**DISHWASHER:**  
2% of energy use

**COMPUTER:**  
1% of energy use



## HOME ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- Turning off computers and other office equipment when not in use can save energy.
- Limiting your shower time to seven minutes and using a 2.5 gallons per minute showerhead can save an estimated \$15-\$25 per year.
- Reducing electricity for appliances and electronics that are plugged in but not turned on can save an estimated \$5/month.
- Fixing drips can save up to \$1/month.
- Turning off your computer when not in use for 20 minutes or more and both the computer and monitor if away for two hours or more can save energy.



## AIR INFILTRATION

- Sealing around pipes, windows, doors, and other areas can prevent energy loss.
- Closing the flue when the fireplace is not in use can prevent energy loss.
- Making sure the attic access stairways fit tightly and include weather stripping can prevent energy loss.
- Ensuring your outside dryer vent door closes when the dryer is not in use and cleaning your dryer duct can prevent energy loss.



## HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

- Having your HVAC serviced annually can save up to 30% on your energy bill.



- Tuning up your furnace when you have your HVAC serviced can ensure efficient operation.
- Improving your home's HVAC duct system can save as much as 20%.

- Changing the air filter monthly can reduce energy consumption by 5%-15%.
- Checking for leaks at the return, air handler, and supply can prevent energy loss.
- Ensuring the heat strip relay is off can prevent energy loss.



## LIGHTING

- Replacing incandescent lighting with energy-saving LEDs can save up to 25% in energy.
- Turning off lights when not needed can save energy.
- Using smart bulbs, smart outlets, and smart switches can save energy.





## REFRIGERATION

- Making sure your refrigerator and freezer seals fit tightly can prevent energy loss.
- Keeping outside coils clean can prevent energy loss.
- Setting your freezer below 0° can waste energy.
- Eliminating unnecessary refrigerators can save energy.



## WATER HEATER

- Setting your water heater at its lowest point, 120°, can save energy.
- When replacing your water heater, consider a heat pump water heater with a much lower operating cost, such as a tankless water heater.



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These tips are general estimates based on industry standards and research and are widely circulated and accepted as reasonable guidelines for energy-efficient practices. It's important to note that the actual savings you may see can vary depending on factors such as your specific appliances, climate, and energy usage habits.

Get Power Smart!  
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**DIY HOME ENERGY AUDIT CHECKLIST**  
[DEMCO.org/power-smart](http://DEMCO.org/power-smart)



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