

Here are 25 simple ways to conserve energy and save money in your home.

- 1) Electricity is less expensive than natural gas. Choose electric appliances over gas when possible.
- 2) Check for proper home insulation. A poorly insulated home will cause all energy costs to skyrocket.
- 3) In cold weather, place a rug or towel in front of each door and window; this will prevent cold air from entering and warmed air from exiting.
- 4) Seal up any interior or exterior cracks with cement, caulk or silicone.
- 5) In summer, close drapes in mid-morning to keep the sun out. Create cross ventilation by opening windows on opposite sides of the house.
- 6) Replace old drafty windows with double-hung, vinyl replacement windows. Vinyl windows are relatively inexpensive and will dramatically reduce energy costs.
- 7) Dial your thermostat down to 62 when you are gone and 65 at night.
- 8) Wash only whites in hot water; wash all other clothing in cold or warm.
- 9) Hang clothing out to dry in the sun, especially jeans and towels.
- 10) Install low-output shower heads.
- 11) Set water heater on lowest heat setting.
- 12) Unplug appliances that are not in use.
- 13) Turn off all lights when not in use.
- 14) Use your fireplace in winter.
- 15) Keep chimney and grate clean.
- 16) Clean all vents and filters regularly. This includes the furnace, air conditioner, dryer and vacuum cleaner.
- 17) Use hand appliances instead of electric when possible (can opener, mixer, etc.)
- 18) Choose Energy star appliances.
- 19) Wash dishes by hand.
- 20) Only run the dishwasher, dryer and washing machine when they are full.
- 21) Don't over-charge cell phones; not only does it waste electricity, it damages the battery.
- 22) Clean fan screens and blades so they run most efficiently.
- 23) Install fluorescent lighting (CFLs).
- 24) Turn the computer completely off when not in use.
- 25) Use electric skillets and cookers instead of the oven or microwave.

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