

Eight Energy Saving Tips

Below are some easy tips to keep your home's energy costs from reaching staggering levels.

By turning down your home thermostat two degrees, you'll save 24 kilowatt hours a month. Every little bit helps!

Avoid turning your thermostat up and down dramatically because it wastes energy and increases your heating costs.

Lower your hot water thermostat 10 degrees. This will save you 25 kilowatt hours a month, but still provide you with all the hot water you need.

Stop the draft coming off your window by lining your windows with a clear film insulator.

Fix leaky faucets because one drip a second is 20 kilowatts a month.

Look for the "Energy Star" when buying major appliances. This indicates that the appliance meets or exceeds standards set by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Consider a front-loading washing machine. They use 50 percent less energy and one-third less water. What's more, they remove far more water in the rinse cycle and that translates into big savings in dryer time.

Choose a roof for your home based on its energy efficiency rather than how it looks. Ones that are light-colored, such as white, galvanized metal or cement tile, do the best job of reflecting the sun and cool quickly at night.

Source: Bankrate.com