EIGHT ENERGY WINS TO SAVE YOU MONEY

When you move to a new place give some energy to your energy: these easy actions will help lower your bills and your carbon footprint everywhere you live from now on.

Make yourself accountable

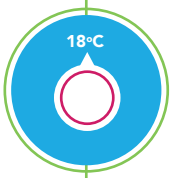
If you pay the bills ask your landlord for supplier details and set up an account (switch if you find a better deal). Take a picture of the meter/s the day you move in, submit readings regularly and pay by direct debit to get a small discount.

Wrap it up

Putting on an extra layer is always cheaper than heating the room. Put hot water bottles and electric blankets on your Christmas list.

Heating is central

Once you're layered up, turn your thermostat down: 21°C is fine for a living room and 18°C everywhere else. Shut doors behind you to keep heat in and turn rads low in rooms that aren't being used.



Call time on the spa

A 10-minute shower is expensive (especially if you have electric showers) and makes you late for lectures. Aim for four minutes.

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Hell's kitchen?

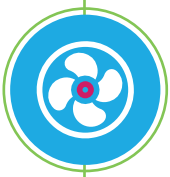
Kitchens can be money pits so keep lids on pans, batch cook, and use a microwave to reheat food or slow cooker to cook meals more cheaply.

It's curtains for cold nights

Close your curtains at night and tuck them behind radiators. If you have single-glazing, chill: you can buy a special plastic film that's easy to fix and really makes a difference.

The hot wash is history

Washing a full load on 30°C is the way to go and dry laundry outside or use a clothes dryer and open a window. Never put clothes on a radiator, that's a recipe for…



… damp and mould: a note on ventilation

Mould can mark paintwork, ruin clothes and cause or worsen conditions like asthma. So close kitchen and bathroom doors when in use, use extractor fans or better – and cheaper – open some windows; it takes at least 20 minutes for vapour to escape.

If you can tick these off you've gained top marks in home energy efficiency whatever else happens this year. Good luck!

SAVE MONEY, SAVE THE PLANET

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Check out more energy saving tips here:

severnwye.org.uk

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