



Code of Practice on
Efficient use of electricity

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Efficient use of electricity

Share Energy is 100% committed to ensuring you maximise your savings when you are a customer. So, here's some quick tips to help you save on your electricity consumption and put more money in your pocket. Lots of good information can be found at:

The Energy Saving Trust

Web: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

NI Energy Advice

Tel: 0800 111 4455

Web: www.nihe.gov.uk/community/ni-energy-advice

Housing Executive Affordable Warmth Scheme

Web: www.nihe.gov.uk/housing-help/affordable-warmth-boiler-replacement/affordable-warmth-scheme

NEA

NEA are the national fuel poverty charity, working to ensure that everyone in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is warm and safe at home.

Tel: 0800 304 7159

Web: <https://www.nea.org.uk/northern-ireland/>

The key actions are:

- Switch to energy-efficient light bulbs
- Turn off appliances on Stand-by
- Don't leave lights on unnecessarily
- Take Energy Saving steps in the kitchen

You can also contact our team on **0808 304 9870** or email share@share-energy.com to talk about potential energy savings for you.

1.1. Top tips for efficient use of electricity

Here's our top 10 tips to save electricity at home:

1. Switch to energy efficient light bulbs

Switching to energy-efficient bulbs is one way to save electricity. The traditional types – known as incandescent

bulbs – only convert 10% of the energy used to power them into light. The rest is lost as heat.

When your old bulbs burn out, replacing them with LEDs will substantially reduce your bill and cut your carbon emissions by up to 40kg. LEDs have a lifespan of around 34 years, compared to just over one year for incandescent bulbs.

2. Switch off at the wall

Savings can be made by remembering to turn your appliances off, rather than leaving them in standby mode.

Almost all electrical appliances can be turned off at the plug without upsetting their programming. You may want to think about getting a standby saver or smart plug which allows you to turn all your appliances off standby in one go.

Check the instructions for any appliances you aren't sure about. Some satellite and digital TV recorders may need to be left plugged in so they can keep track of any programmes you want to record.

3. Being more energy-efficient with fridges and freezers

The coils at the back of your fridge get dirty over time. Wiping them clean can make a difference in boosting the energy-efficiency of your fridge.

The ideal temperature for your fridge is between 3°C and 5°C, while for your freezer, it's minus 18°C. Making sure they're at the right temperature prevents excessive energy usage.

4. Be more efficient when cooking

If it takes less time to cook something, then it also uses less energy too. For example, if you're making pasta, heating water in a kettle rather than on the hob helps speed up the cooking process. Keeping the oven door closed as much as possible will mean that less heat escapes and your food will cook faster.

5. Wash clothes on a lower temperature

According to the Energy Saving Trust, washing clothes at 30°C will save 40% of the energy that gets used when washing at higher temperatures. And a study by Which?

found that if the whole of the UK washed at 30°C, it would cut 858,000 tonnes of carbon being emitted each year. Nowadays, modern detergents can get good results at lower temperatures.

6. Make the most of lighting

Cleaning lampshades and bulbs is a useful way to make sure they give off maximum light and aren't dimmed by dirt and dust.

7. Don't overfill the kettle

From making a cup of tea to boiling water for a pan, only filling the kettle with the amount of water needed stops any energy being wasted. According to the Energy Saving Trust, this can save £8 a year.

8. Buy energy efficient appliances

Whenever you're replacing appliances at home, buying an energy-efficient model will use less energy and save money on power. Look out for the energy ratings label on any new product you buy. Products rated 'A' are the most energy efficient in their class, while those labelled 'G' are least efficient.

9. Taking shorter showers

If your shower is electric or you have an electric boiler, they can use quite a bit of power – even just a minute less in the shower will cut the electricity used.

10. Avoid the Tumble dryer

Avoid using a tumble dryer for your clothes: dry clothes on clothes airer where possible or outside in warmer weather. Avoid drying clothes on your radiators as this can cause condensation, damp and mould in the home.

For more information or assistance on measures to improve your energy efficiency or to enquire about grants available for energy efficient heating systems contact:

NI Energy Advice

Tel: **0800 111 4455**

Web: www.nihe.gov.uk/community/ni-energy-advice

