

Energy price increases: 10 tips to save £200 a year now and £900 over time.

Submitted by: Click On Results

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Electricity prices are up by an inflation busting 16% in some cases. All the major utility companies are announcing rises. But, what can be done to help minimise these rises? The energy saving (<http://www.conserveenergy.co.uk>) website ConserveEnergy.co.uk has researched 10 effective ways to easily cut the cost of household electric bills.

Divided up into: action to take now, action over the medium term and over the long term, if all advice is followed could result in an annual saving of £900. Just a change in habits to follow the immediate advice could result in a saving of over £200.

Some do require some up-front installation and purchasing costs.

Things that can be done immediately:

1. Turn off electrical appliances when not using them.

Leaving your appliances on stand-by costs the average home £33 a year.

2. Switch off the lights when you leave the room.

If the rating is 60 watts, and the bulb is on for one hour, it will consume 0.06 kWh. If electricity prices are 12p per kWh. The value of the energy savings would then be 12p for every hour turned off.

3. Only boil as much water in the kettle as you need.

This could save around £6 a year on energy bills. If everyone in the UK did this every time they used the kettle, it could save enough electricity in a year to power the UK's street lights for 2 months.

4. Switch energy supplier to a cheaper tariff, and switch to Direct Debit payment and an online account.

Claims of savings of £200 a year from utility switching websites, although some claim £450 saving.

Total savings of £249 if you do the above. You can save around £249 just by changing your habits today.

Things that can be done medium term:

5. Turn your thermostat down.

By turning it down by just one degree it saves around £55 a year.

6. Replace all your old lightbulbs with energy efficient ones.

Energy-efficient bulbs last up to 10 times longer than a normal bulb and can save £3-6 a year each in energy bills (for a 100W bulb) – saving up to £60 over the lifetime of the bulb in reduced energy bills and replacement costs.

7. Buy more energy efficient appliances.

Replacing an old Fridge freezer with a new A+ or A++ EU energy rated appliances can save around £38 per year.

Total savings of £153.

Things that can be done longer term:

8. Properly insulate your home.

Cavity wall insulation can save £110, internal wall insulation £365, external wall insulation £385. 270mm loft insulation can save £140 a year, floor insulation can save £50.

9. Upgrade your boiler to a A rated condensing boiler.

Upgrading from an old G rated to a new efficient A rated model can save £225 a year.

10. Install double glazing.

Double glazing cuts heat loss through windows by 50% and could cut your heating bill by around £140 a year.

Total savings of £475, and if you do all of the above you could save £249 + £153 + £475 = £877.

END

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*All figures and calculations were taken from the EnergySavingTrust.org.uk website and their lists of assumptions based on average usage and an average home size.

The above savings and figures do not include the cost of installing or purchasing the new energy saving methods. But armed with these figures you can use them to calculate how much saving you would make if you purchased and installed everything.

ConserveEnergy.co.uk

(<http://www.conserveenergy.co.uk/article/10-ways-to-save-energy-and-save-money-on-your-electricity-bills/>)

is a website dedicated to helping people save energy and money on their household utility and energy bills.