

Codema's Top Tips for Reducing Your Energy Bills



With rising energy costs many of us are looking for ways to reduce our energy bills. As a team we decided to come together and share our top tips for using energy efficiently and reducing our energy usage to save money and lower our energy bills. Many of these tips are free or low-cost measures that can be implemented quickly. We hope you find them useful on your energy saving journey!



Rebecca Cachia,
Energy Engineer

Hang your wash out to dry instead of using the tumble dryer. You can reduce your energy use from drying your clothes by hanging them out to dry on a nice (dry) day and can save energy with each wash.



Adam Doyle,
Energy Engineer

Where possible avoid using an open fire. Aside from being less than 30% efficient, burning solid fuel fuels creates significant localised air pollution. By using a chimney balloon you can save energy by preventing heat escaping through the chimney.



Lovelord Meda,
Energy Systems Graduate

If you are on a night tariff, maximise the lower unit cost by setting a timer for activities like running your washing machine and dishwasher.



Ciarán Murphy,
Policy Manager

Remember to plug out your appliances and electronics as they can still use energy even when they're not in use.



Conor Leahy,
Senior Energy Manager

Wash your clothes at 30 degrees instead of 40. Washing your clothes at 30 degrees uses 38% less energy than washing at 40 degrees. It also reduces wear and tear of your clothes.



Ryan Keleghan,
Energy Planning Intern

Try to not leave appliances and equipment plugged in and charging overnight as this will use unnecessary energy. Make sure to plug them out once they are full charged!



Edel Giltenane,
HR & Operations Manager

Reduce your energy consumption by understanding your routine and set timers for heating to come on and off when you need to. Radiators will continue to heat your home for a period after the heating is switched off.



Maria Diaz,
Energy Manager

Use the remaining heat of the hobs to pre-heat other pots/pans or continue the cooking process. Cover your pots and pans with a lid to keep the heat in. Batch cooking dishes also saves you time and energy.



Kevin Craven,
Project Finance Manager

If your plates, cups and cutlery aren't that dirty, wash them using cold water from the tap rather than using your dishwasher. This will save energy in heating up water unnecessarily.



Donna Gartland,
CEO

Use a dehumidifier to dry clothes indoors on a clothes horse instead of a tumble drier. A large dehumidifier uses 2.3kWh of energy for 8 hours of drying. This is around half the energy use of a tumble drier, and will stop condensation/mould when drying clothes indoors, and dries them faster than air drying!



John O'Shea
Energy Systems Analyst

Only heat rooms that need to be heated, turn off lights and extractor fans when not needed and try to get your boiler serviced at least once a year.



Claire Donoghue,
Office Administrator

Space heating accounts for approximately 60% of our energy use in our homes, so keep the heat in! Always close doors around your home and that lead to outside. Try not to leave doors wide open as you will lose heat and waste money.



Eoin Ahern,
Energy Manager

Taking public transport is far more energy and space efficient than using a car. The new 90 minute fare now allows you to transfer between Dublin Bus, Luas and most DART and commuter trains on a single €2.30 ticket. Additionally, a 20% average fare reduction on public transport services in Dublin is due to be implemented in May, alongside a 50% average fare reduction for young adults (under the age of 24).



Katie Harrington,
Energy & Climate Awareness
Officer

Hot water use accounts for 24% of energy use in an average Irish household. By taking shorter showers and reducing the flow rate of your showers & taps by purchasing aerated faucets and low-flow shower heads, you can save energy by heating up less water and reduce your energy bills.



Suzanne Fitzpatrick,
Communications Manager

Don't overfill your kettle - only boil what you need for a cup of tea or coffee. Anything with a heating element (such as a kettle) will use a lot of electricity. Boiling just enough water for what you need will reduce your energy use and you will see the benefits of this in your electricity bill.



Joe Hayden,
Senior Executive Engineer

Try to only run your dishwasher and washing machine when they are full. Running these appliances when they are only partially full wastes energy and water.



Shannen Healy,
Project Co-ordinator

Lower the thermostat on your radiators. By lowering your thermostat by just 1 degree you can save up to 10% on your energy bills. Also, don't forget to turn off your heating timer as the weather gets warmer!



Declan McCormac,
Project Manager

Sometimes your room is at the optimum temperature but you may still feel a bit cold. By putting on an extra layer of clothing rather than turning up your room thermostat you can save energy and money on your heating bills.



Emily Clarke,
Energy Engineer

Keep your curtains closed at night to keep the heat in and reduce draughts. Windows are not great insulators- even double glazed windows can lose around 50-100 watts per square metre, the equivalent to running an old-fashioned light bulb. Additionally, make sure to open curtains on south-facing windows during the day to maximise heat gain.

**For more energy saving tips visit
codema.ie/thinkenergy**

Are you interested in conducting an energy audit of your home? Borrow one of our Home Energy Saving Kits from your local library. Find out more at codema.ie/energysavingkit