



Act on Energy is an independent organisation based in Warwickshire, dedicated to educating the public in the problems associated with climate change and other energy issues. We also provide householders and small businesses in the surrounding region with realistic solutions to reduce energy use.

free advice line  
**0800 988 2881**

get in touch!

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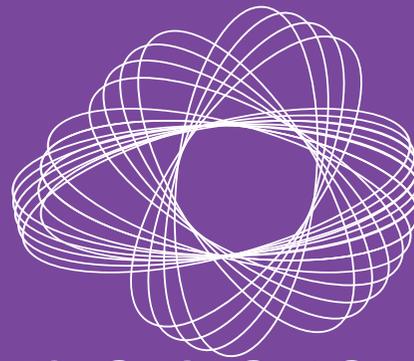
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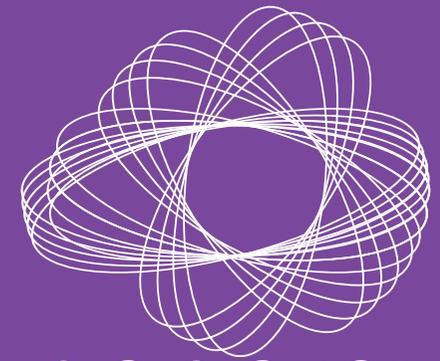
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## Why Take Control of My Appliances?

With the growing number of gadgets that we all seem to be buying these days, the greatest proportion of your energy bill may no longer be heating. If you want to reduce your electricity bills then you need to:

- Use more efficient appliances
- Use them wisely
- Switch them off when you have finished rather than leaving them on standby

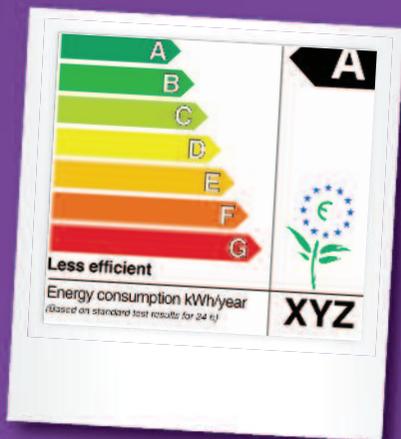


## Efficient Appliances

Most kitchen appliances now carry the European Union Energy Label to tell you how much energy they will use. This rates appliances from A (the most efficient) to G (the least efficient) so you can easily see which ones cost less to run. It can be quite a shock when you look at all the things you have in your home that use electricity and a lot of these are switched on 24 hours a day.

If you check the manufacturer's literature or look on the rating label on electrical equipment you can see how much power they use.

You can also buy a meter that plugs into a power socket and measures how much energy is used by any appliance you plug into it.



## Household Appliance Running Costs

You may be surprised by the energy costs of many of the things you take for granted and how much energy they still use when you think they are off. The following table indicates the running cost of some appliances based on 15p/kWh for electricity.

Appliance Type Typical Use	Max Power	Stand by Power	Annual Cost
<b>'A' rated fridge</b> Average family use	120W	n/a	£22
<b>20 year old fridge (or 'G' rated)</b> Average family use	150W	n/a	£82
<b>'A' rated washing machine</b> 4x6kg/week@40°C	3000W	5W	£33
<b>'A' rated dish washer</b> Used once each day	1050W	n/a	£55
<b>Tumble drier</b> 4x6kg/week	2500W	n/a	£105
<b>Electric kettle</b> 5x4 mins/day	2200W	n/a	£40
<b>Steam iron</b> 2x2hrs/week	1800W	n/a	£57
<b>Electric shower</b> 2x10mins/day	10500W	n/a	£177
<b>42" plasma TV (new type)</b> On 4hrs/day + 20hrs standby	280W	3W	£66
<b>21" CRT TV (old type)</b> On 4hrs/day + 20hrs standby	100W	15W	£33
<b>Satellite/cable digital box</b> On 24hrs/day	40W	9W	£52
<b>Games console</b> On 24hrs/day	45W	5W	£58
<b>Desktop PC + CRT monitor</b> On 4hrs/day + 20hrs standby	200W	30W	£91
<b>Broadband router</b> On 24hrs/day	10W	n/a	£12
<b>Ordinary tungsten light bulb</b> On 4hrs/day	100W	n/a	£33
<b>Low energy light bulb</b> On 4hrs/day	20W	n/a	£6

## Being Energy Wise

Using appliances wisely can make them work more efficiently and save you money:

- Don't leave the fridge or freezer door open longer than necessary
- It's more efficient to have a full freezer than a half empty one
- Dry clothes outside on sunny or windy days
- Use a full load in a dishwasher
- Wash clothes at a lower temperature (30°C is usually fine)
- Only boil as much water as you need in a kettle
- Keep the lids on pans when you are cooking

## Switch it OFF

To make sure your appliances are not using energy, switch them off at the wall or pull the plug out. This not only saves money, but is also much safer. About 30% of fire service call-outs are to appliance fires.

When you leave the house or go to bed at night, switch everything off, even digital TV set top boxes and computer modems can be switched off.



For more information on how to save money using your appliances please call Act on Energy **FREE** on:  
**actonenergy 0800 988 2881**