

More ways to save energy, money, and our environment

Switch to GreenPower

Join over 160,000 Victorian households and businesses that are helping to cut greenhouse gases by calling your electricity retailer today and asking to make the switch to clean, renewable government accredited GreenPower.

What is GreenPower?

GreenPower is government accredited renewable energy sourced from the sun, wind, hydro and biomass that is bought by energy suppliers on behalf of their customers.

Why should I change to GreenPower?

By switching to GreenPower you can immediately cut your household greenhouse gases by up to 70% and be confident that you are helping to reduce greenhouse emissions and the impact of climate change.

How much will it cost me?

You can choose what proportion of your electricity you want to come from GreenPower. If you choose to source 100% GreenPower it will cost about an extra \$5 per week – if you choose a smaller percentage this can often be done at little or no extra cost.

How can I trust I am buying GreenPower?

GreenPower sales and purchases are audited annually to ensure what you pay for is what you are getting. The GreenPower logo is your guarantee that your contributions are helping to drive new renewable energy projects in Australia.

How do I switch to GreenPower?

Simply call your electricity or green energy supplier. All you need to do is ask for their GreenPower product.

Visit www.greenpower.gov.au to find out more.



Be resource smart with water

For information and advice about how you can save water in and around your home visit www.ourwater.vic.gov.au

For further information about rebates and how you can cut greenhouse gases and save energy and money call 1300 363 744 or visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au to find out more

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BE SMART WITH YOUR 5 STAR HOME

SAVE ENERGY, MONEY AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

Did you know that in Victoria all new houses are now built to a 5 Star Standard? A 5 Star house is more comfortable to live in, has environmental benefits with less energy and water use, and will save you money in heating and cooling your home.

But like a car, you need to be smart with your 5 Star home and drive it efficiently to get the best performance out of it.



What you can do to get the most out of your 5 star home



In winter

- > Close windows and doors to avoid heat loss. Heating your home with a window open can increase your heating bills by as much as 25%.
- > Draw curtains at night to keep heat in. Choose window coverings that are close fitting such as holland or roman blinds or that completely cover the window such as lined drapes and pelmets.
- > Avoid overheating your home and keep your heating thermostat to a comfortable temperature. Every degree higher can increase your heating costs by up to 15 per cent.

In summer

- > On hot days, keep the heat out by closing windows and doors and drawing curtains and blinds.
- > Use ceiling or pedestal fans to circulate air and keep you cool.
- > If you need to use an air conditioner, close off unused rooms for better efficiency. Every degree lower can increase cooling costs by up to 15%.
- > Shade windows with trees or shrubs or external blinds and awnings - particularly west, east and north facing windows.

Did you know? Two square metres of unshaded glass heats a room as much as a bar radiator.

When choosing a new heater or air conditioner

- > Select the product with the highest energy efficiency star rating. Star ratings can be as high as 6 Stars. The more stars, the more efficient the product and the less it will cost to run.
- > 5 Star houses need smaller capacity heaters or air conditioners. Make sure that your supplier sizes your appliance to take into account the fact that you are living in a 5 Star house.
- > If installing a central heater or ducted air conditioner, buy a system which can be zoned to only heat or cool the rooms being used.

When choosing and using an appliance

- > Select the product with the highest water efficiency and energy star rating. An improvement of only one star can mean savings of between 10 to 30% on running costs.
- > Turn appliances off at the power point when they're not in use and you can save up to 12% on your energy bill.

Lighting

- > Install compact fluorescent lights. These use 75% less energy than standard light globes and last up to 8 times longer.
- > Switch off lights in unused rooms or when leaving a room for an extended period.
- > Low voltage halogen down lights are very inefficient at lighting large areas. An 11W compact fluorescent (roughly equivalent to a 60W incandescent) uses half the energy of a single halogen down light.

A 5 Star house will help create a cleaner, healthier environment. You'll save water and use less energy – and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and your impact on climate change.

That will help make Victoria a better place for us all to live in.

For further information about rebates and how you can cut greenhouse gases and save energy and money call 1300 363 744 or visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au to find out more