

# What is **energy** **efficiency:**



Efficient energy use, sometimes simply called energy efficiency, is the goal of efforts to reduce the amount of energy required to provide products and services. Improvements in energy efficiency are most often achieved by adopting a more efficient technology or production process.



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## The reasons why

There are various different motivations to improve energy efficiency. Reducing energy use reduces energy costs and may result in a financial cost saving to consumers if the energy savings offset any additional costs of implementing an energy efficient technology. Reducing energy use is also seen as a key solution to the problem of reducing emissions.



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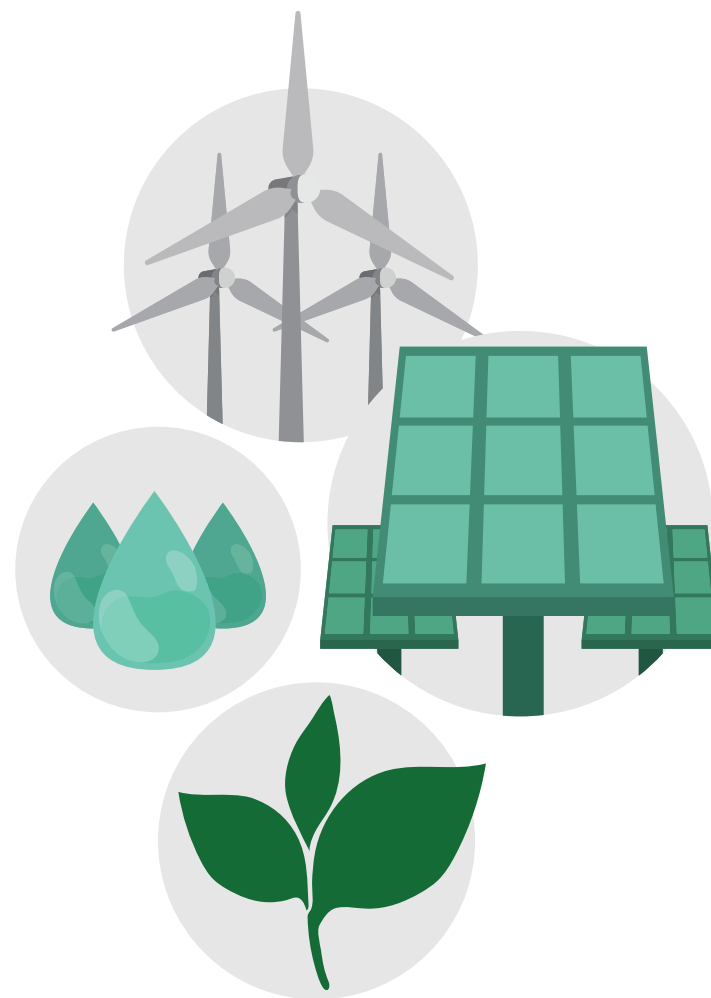
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## The reasons why

Energy efficiency and renewable energy are said to be the twin pillars of sustainable energy policy. In many countries energy efficiency is also seen to have a national security benefit because it can be used to reduce the level of energy imports from foreign countries and may slow down the rate at which domestic energy resources are depleted.



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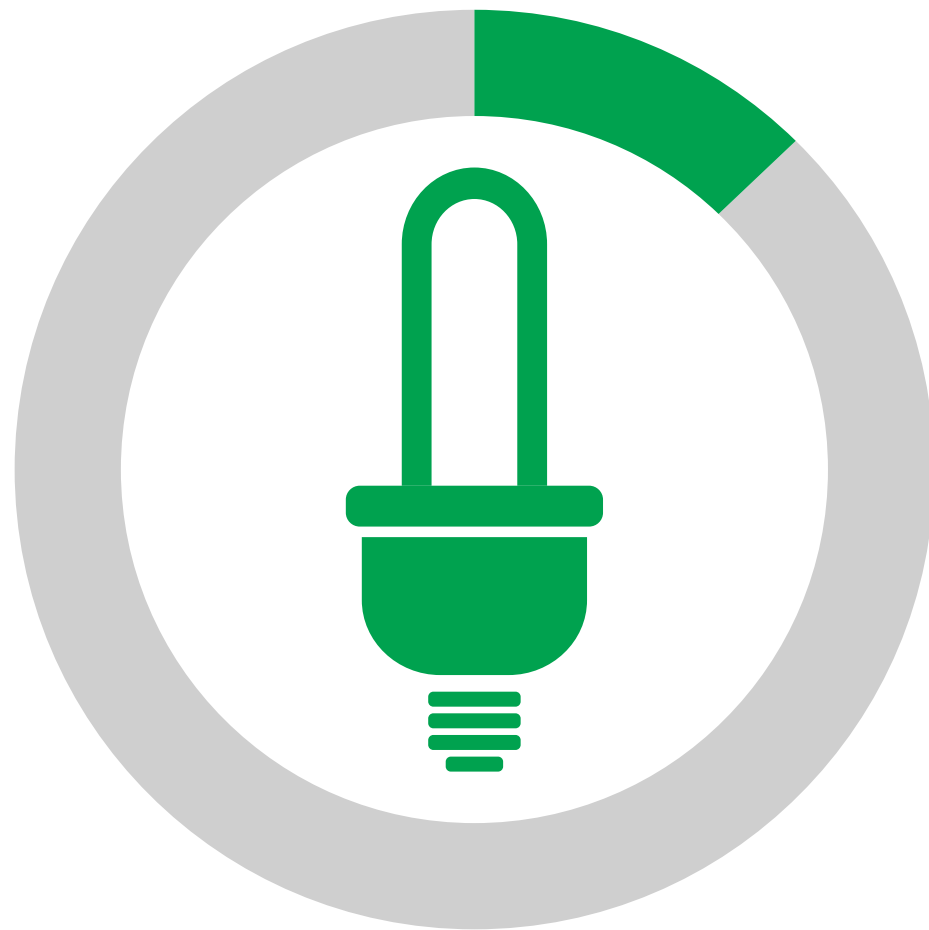


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To keep our planet in THIS condition for future generations, we all need to look at how we use energy – what we waste and what we use “just because we can...”



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## The basics

Simply put , energy efficiency is getting the power you require to drive whatever it is, using the least amount of energy to do it. So, if you can use 50% less energy to do the same job, why aren't you? Sometimes the answer to this is a simple one – laziness or an excuse like “it's too expensive to change.” Frankly , that's just NOT OK. Energy efficiency is becoming a vital factor to reduce carbon emissions and decrease our dependency on fossil fuels.



*With rebates on Solar powered geysers and LED lighting, why not change to more energy efficient solutions. It pays you to do this – there is nothing better than being able to see that reduced electricity bill at month end!*



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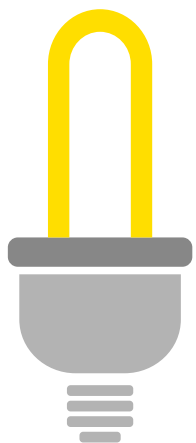
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## Where to start

Start by doing an energy calculation of how much power you use in a month. Your utility bill will tell you this. Then, take a walk around your home or business, make notes on how many lights you have, what hours they run for and whether you really need them for all that time...if your office gets sunlight during the day , do you really need ALL your lights on?



*Also, when you go home, SWITCH THEM OFF. In winter, look at heating options that offer efficient energy use – AIR CONDITIONERS are NOT energy efficient as they use too much power to cool or warm spaces- as does underfloor heating. A diesel heater provides sustained warmth in a space for much longer and uses far less fuel to do this. In essence, TAKE STOCK of your OWN energy use and be honest in your assessment... then GO OUT and FIND the right energy solution for you.*



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## ELECTRICITY SAVING TIPS

1

Take a short power shower instead of a long bath.

2

Don't fill the kettle - only boil the water that you need.

3

Keep the fridge door closed, and make sure it is properly sealed.

4

Don't cook with a small pot on a large stove plate.

5

Dress for the season – warm in winter and light clothing in summer.

6

Switch off all appliances when they are not in use.

7

Reduce your heater or geyser temperature from hot to warm.

8

Put a geyser blanket on your geyser to conserve heat for longer periods.



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## ELECTRICITY SAVING TIPS

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If you can afford it **replace your electricity geyser with a solar water heater geyser.**

10

**Close all windows and doors** when the air conditioner or heater is on.

11

**Use CFL energy saving bulbs** at all times.

12

**Fit one light bulb with the correct level of brightness** in a room.

13

**Turn the lights off** when you leave a room.

14

**Do all your ironing** at the same time.

15

**Use renewable energy sources** like wood and LPGas for space heating.

16

**Cook with appliances that use renewable energy sources** like a gas stove.



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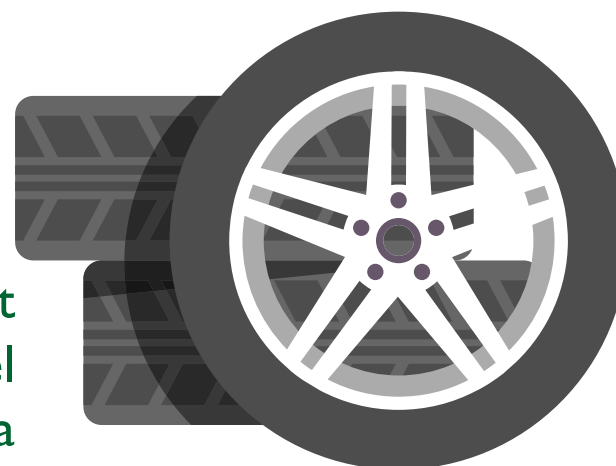
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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

1

### Check your tyre pressure

You'd be surprised by how the correct tyre pressure affects your vehicles fuel efficiency. Under-inflated tyres have a negative impact on the fuel economy of your vehicle. This is because when tyres are under-inflated the vehicle requires more power to pull away and accelerate on the road. So make sure you know the optimal tyre pressure for your vehicle and maintain it all times. Most modern cars have a table of the optimal tyre levels according to load or capacity listed on the inside of the door. In addition tyre pressure also influences your driving safety because it is dangerous to drive around on under-inflated tyres.



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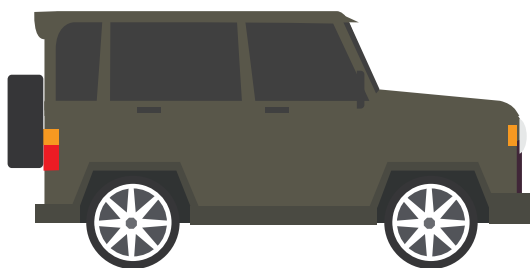
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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

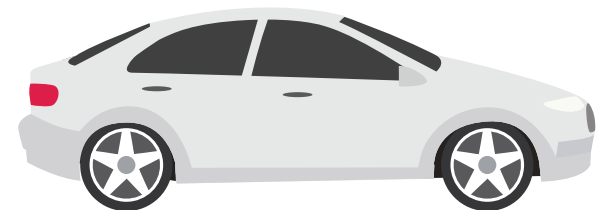
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### Tailgating

Tailgating is the act of driving too close to the person in front of you. Keep at least a two car following distance. This way you can avoid sudden braking and acceleration which adversely affect your vehicles fuels consumption rates. Giving other drivers 'space' also avoids potential for road rage incidents.



2 CAR FOLLOWING DISTANCE



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Routine maintenance

Routine maintenance and service of your vehicle is essential. Low oil levels, dirty air cleaners, worn spark plugs, and batteries can definitely affect fuel consumption. In the long run you will save more money through regular maintenance and service of your vehicle.



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Don't speed

The faster you drive the more fuel you will consume, especially if you are braking suddenly, or accelerating quickly. Make sure you drive at safe and moderate speeds in urban and suburban areas. Save the fast driving for highway travel - within the speed limit!



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Drive the right car

Let's face it, there are a lot of gas guzzlers sitting on showroom floors. If you want fuel economy, the best is to go for a smaller lighter car. While that V8 with all the trimmings might seem like the car for you, your petrol bill might leave you suicidal. Go for that little I 300 and you could save a substantial amount of money.



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Carpool

You're probably sick of hearing about carpooling but, it really is the smart way of saving on fuel costs. Admittedly, some of us might be in careers where carpooling is not an option, but if it is possible, go for it. You'll save petrol and that trip to work might be more relaxed and far less boring.



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Walking instead of driving

We are becoming far too lazy these days. Instead of taking a nice brisk walk down to the local shop, we are too inclined to hop into the car and drive. While these short trips might seem like they're not hurting our wallets, in the long run, we are paying dearly for our laziness. Walking not only saves you valuable fuel money, but you'll be getting fitter in the process. It's a win-win situation. Depending on the safety levels of your neighbourhood – take the appropriate safety measures to ensure you don't become a crime statistic.



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### The air conditioner

Yes, the weather can be unbearably hot in summer, but before you crank up that air conditioner why not roll down the window a bit first? You never know, it might make that slight difference you are looking for. Believe it or not, your air conditioner could be the reason you're living off dry bread and water for that last week of the month.



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Traffic jams

For some of us, traffic jams are something we've had to learn to live with. However, if you do have a choice, try and find alternative routes that are less congested. Sitting in traffic jams can definitely suck away your precious car juice very quickly. Keep your radio tuned in to those traffic reports and try and avoid congestion as much as possible. Does your employer offer alternative working hours – why not opt for off-peak hours?



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## FUEL SAVING TIPS

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### Get a bike

Yes, we recommend opting for a lighter car and car pooling. But if you want speed and you don't want to share your vehicle with colleagues, then maybe you should get a bike. Motorcycles are incredibly light on petrol, they're fast, and they can wind through those traffic jams in a jiffy. Just make sure you purchase decent safety equipment like a heavy jacket, shoes, and helmet (pay as much as you can afford for a helmet, after all it is protecting something very valuable).



*Bicycles are equally recommended for those short trips around town. Biking incurs zero fuel costs in exchange for excellent exercise opportunities. Use biking lanes where possible – otherwise be aware of the dangers of riding among cars which are bigger, and faster!*



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# Be an energy efficiency: ambassador



**by optimising use of fuel and electricity.**

*Share your energy saving tips!*



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