



## HOW TO REDUCE YOUR CONSUMPTION AND ENERGY BILL





### Key Factors Affecting your Households Energy Bills.

A range of factors determine the amount of energy used in individual households. Some reflect changing personal preferences, while others relate to the climate and the type of housing that you live in.

*Think about what personal preferences or habits could be affecting your energy use and include these as part of your planning.*

**According to the Department of Environment and Energy**, a fifth of the energy that you use goes towards heating water. More economical use of hot water when washing the dishes or taking a shower could help you save money, especially during the colder months.

(Refer to the graph below which illustrates that energy use is greater at certain times of the year).

Seasons		Cold Water Temp	Hot Water Temp	Mixed Water Temp	Shower Head Flow	Shower Flow – Mix 12 L/min		
		Constant				Constant	Litres Per Minute (Cold)	Litres Per Minute (Hot)
Winter		18°	60°	43°	12 L/Min	4.9 L/Min	7.1L/Min	
Autumn		21°	60°	42°	12 L/Min	5.5 L/Min	6.5 L/Min	
Spring		23°	60°	40°	12 L/Min	6.5 L/Min	5.5 L/Min	
Summer		27°	60°	38°	12 L/Min	8 L/Min	4 L/Min	

### 7 TIPS TO HELP REDUCE YOUR ENERGY BILL.

1. If you currently use hot water in your washing machine, consider switching to cold. Today's detergents are very effective, and a cold-water wash will most likely be all you need.
2. Look out for certain features when upgrading your washing machine: A fast spin cycle, at least a 4-star energy rating and 4-star water rating and choose a frontloader.
3. Switch to a water efficient shower head, you could reduce your hot water use by 50%.
4. Enforce a showering time limit of 4 minutes or less – the use of timers can encourage a shorter shower time.
5. Fix dripping taps - Leaking hot water taps wastewater and energy.
6. When washing dishes, rinse them with cool water rather than hot. Furthermore, don't use a dishwasher until you have a full load and deactivate it before it hits the drying cycle. Allow your dishes to air dry to save energy.
7. If you have a mixer-tap, leave it set to cold so that it doesn't generate hot water that stays in the pipe and cools.

#### Quick facts:

As with heating and cooling your home, the heating of water is also a very energy intensive process.

According to the Department of Environment and Energy, limiting shower time to four minutes together with installing a 3-star rated shower head to conserve water can save \$258 annually.