



Code of Practice

on the efficient use of electricity



Code of Practice On The Efficient Use of Electricity

- ➔ This simple guide will help you think about ways you use energy at home and how you could potentially spend less with ClickEnergy and therefore save.

There are plenty of quick wins that you can do right now such as switching off the TV at the wall or turning down your thermostat by 1°C.

You can find out more on our website www.clickenergyni.com or contact us on our Freephone number **0800 1 070 732**.

- ➔ **Click & Save - Tips**

Why not try some of our top ideas and see if you see a reduction in your energy bills. The more you try the more potential you have for bigger savings!

- 1. Consumer Electronics**

- Standby – Turn off games consoles/TVs/iPod docks when not in use – if they are on standby they still use energy.
- Unplug phone chargers/laptop chargers once the appliance is fully charged.

- 2. Lighting**

- Turn lights off when a room is empty.
- Switch to energy saving light bulbs - they use around a quarter of the electricity and will last ten times longer than an ordinary bulb.



3. Kitchen & Domestic Appliances

- Don't leave the fridge door open and try to avoid putting hot or warm food straight into the fridge, as this increases the energy required to keep the contents cold.
- Defrost your freezer frequently and check the door seals. If possible, keep the freezer in a cool room or garage.
- Use a lid on saucepans where possible, as the contents heat up faster and use less energy.
- Overfilling your kettle costs money - only boil the water you need.
- When buying electrical appliances, choose the most energy efficient (A rated), rather than the least energy efficient (G rated).

4. Heating & Hot Water

- Turn the room thermostat down by 1 degree – it could save you around £30 a year on heating costs.
- Make sure radiators are not obstructed by sofas or other furniture.
- Draw curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping from your home.
- A standard shower uses around 40% of the water needed for a bath.

5. Laundry

- When using a washing machine, use a low temperature setting and only wash full loads where possible - one full load uses less energy than two half loads.
- In summer, dry your clothes outside rather than using a tumble dryer.
- When drying your clothes indoors use a clothes rail,

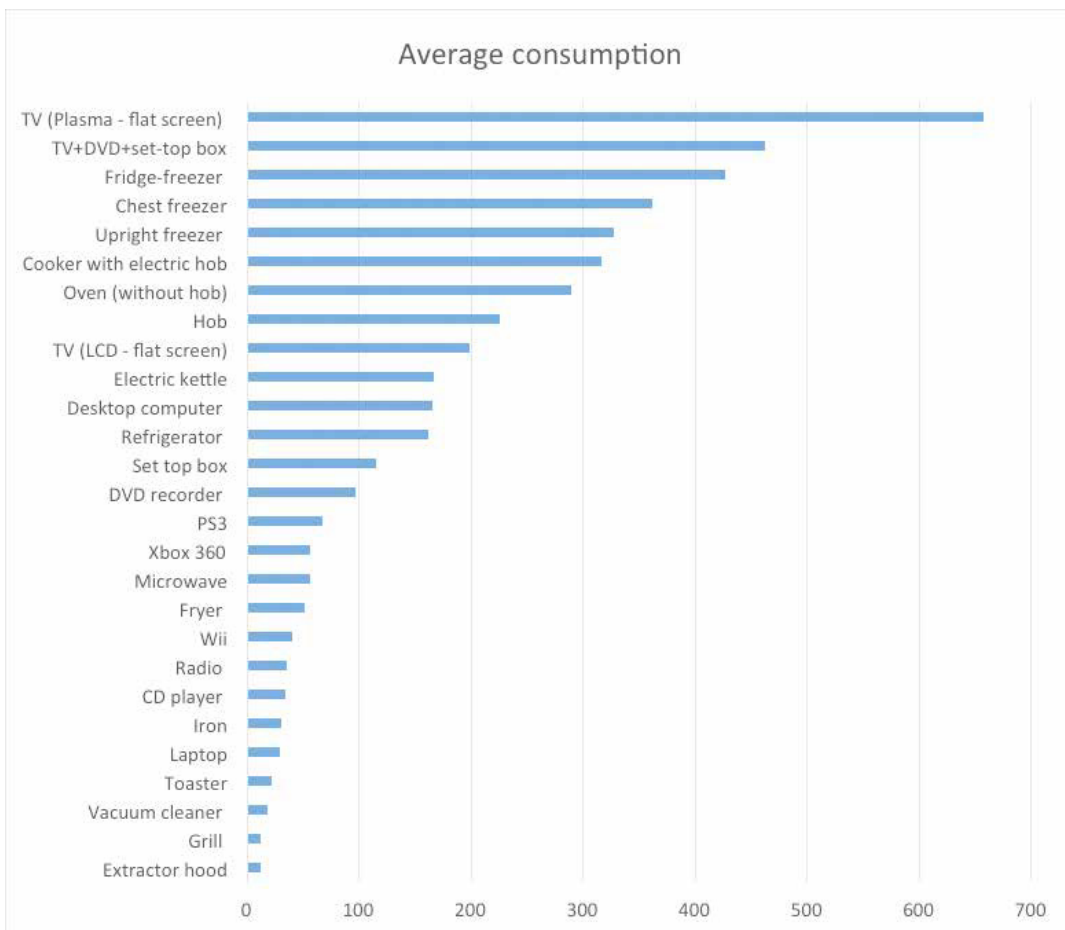


not a radiator. Using a radiator blocks heat from the room.

- 6. Meter readings** – when was the last time you gave an actual meter reading. The more meter readings we have the more accurate your bills are and the better opportunity you have to see some real savings.

Your Appliances and what they cost to run – Be more Energy Efficient

Most of the energy we use at home is for lighting and a wide range of appliances/equipment. The following chart will give you an indicative view of how much power appliances can use.



To help you save energy, we've pulled together a list of how many units of electricity your appliances and gadgets use to run, based on national estimates. Using the cost of one unit of electricity based on a unit price of 10.00p per kWh we've worked out how much that's roughly costing you.

So if you want to know roughly how much it costs to do a wash or power your PlayStation, keep reading...

Light Bulb: around 0.25p an hour

Energy efficient light bulbs use around one unit of electricity to give off 40 hours-worth of light. That's roughly 0.5p an hour.

Kettle: around 1.25p to boil a full kettle

The average kettle holds 1.5 pints and uses about one unit of electricity to boil 12 pints of water (or 8 x 1.5 pint-full kettles) – so that's around 1.25p every time you boil a full kettle.

Electric Cooker: £1.49 a week

Most electric cookers use 15 units of electricity – that's about £1.49 worth – to cook a week's worth of meals for a family of four. Costs will vary depending on the cooker you have, how often you use it and how energy efficient it is.

Slow Cooker: around 1.25p an hour

The average slow cooker uses about one unit of electricity or 10p to power eight hours of cooking – that's roughly 1.25p per hour.



Fridge Freezer: around 15p a day

Fridge freezers generally use between one and two units of electricity a day – that’s around 10 – 20p, so 15p on average.

Washing machine: around 25p per one hour wash

On average, a washing machine takes around 2.5 units of electricity – roughly about 25p – to run an hour-long wash.

Iron: around 5 or 10p an hour

Your iron probably uses around 0.5 – 1 unit of electricity (or around 5 – 10p) for every hour you use it. In fact, most irons cost around £2.25 a year to run.

PC: around 3-3.5p an hour

The average PC needs one unit of electricity (roughly 10p) to run for three hours – that’s about 3-3.5p an hour. A desktop computer costs around £12 a year to run – but laptops are much cheaper at just £2 a year.

TV: around 1p an hour

Most 21 inch TVs use about 1 unit of electricity to power approx. 10 hours of viewing – that’s about 1p an hour. The average family spends about £35 a year powering their TV, DVD player and set top box.

Games Console: around 3-3.5p an hour

On average, games consoles use one unit of electricity (around 10p) to power three hours of gameplay – or around 3-3.5p an hour. The average house spends £3.50 a year powering their consoles. But some consoles are slightly cheaper to run than others – they say running a Wii costs around £3 a year, an Xbox costs £4 a year and a PS3 costs £4.50 a year.



➔ Other Energy Saving Options

Insulation

Cavity Wall – Save up to £115 each year off your energy bills by installing cavity wall insulation

Loft Insulation – Save up to £150 each year off your heating bills.

Heating & Hot Water

New Boiler – Home heating can make up to 60% of your annual energy bills, so keeping your boiler regularly maintained will help ensure it is operating at its most efficient.

Insulating jackets on your hot water tank allows your water to stay hot longer, and you'll waste less energy heating it.

Hot Water pipes lose heat so make sure you have them insulated.

Renewables

Why not start generating your own heat or electricity using solar panels fitted to the roof of your home. There are two types of solar panels – one which heats your domestic water, called 'solar water heating'; and the other which generates electricity, called 'solar photovoltaics' or 'PV' for short.

Solar Water Heating – Solar water heating panels capture the natural radiation from the sun to heat water, which is then stored in a hot water cylinder. Your fuel bills will reduce because you will be relying less on traditional energy sources for generating your hot water.

Solar PV – Solar PV systems use the sun's energy to generate electricity and this can power your



home's lights and appliances. By generating your own energy, you will see a reduction in your electricity bill.

You can generate additional income by selling any unused electricity back to ClickEnergy and you will also benefit from government incentives.

Energy Efficient Appliances

Don't forget that when you are purchasing new appliances check the energy rating – A or B for electrically powered goods. Newer appliances can be up to 90% more efficient.

When was the last time you checked/serviced your boiler? Fitting an A-rated high efficiency condensing boiler with the right heating and hot water controls can help you make big savings on your heating bills over time.

⇒ Other Information sources

There may be grants and offers available to help you install an energy efficient solutions and heating systems. Further information on energy efficiency can be found at:

- The Energy Savings Trust – www.energysavingtrust.org.uk
- NI Energy Advice – **0800 111 4455**
- Warm Homes Scheme – **0345 603 9439**



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