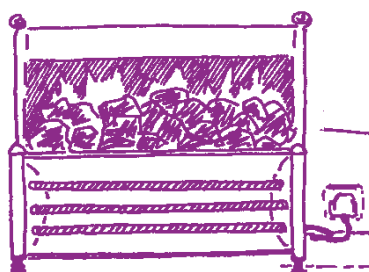
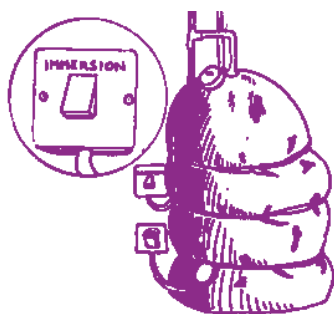




Using electrical appliances wisely

About 40% of your total fuel bill (gas and electricity) will be due to using electrical appliances in the home. This will be even greater if you use an electric cooker. Therefore it is worth considering how you can make savings.

The chart below shows how long you can run some appliances you may have in your home for 6 pence.



Appliance	Wattage	How much usage for 6p
Cooker (one ring)	1300	45 minutes
Cooker (oven ring)	2150	30 minutes
Cooker (everything on)	11500	5 minutes
Electric bar heater	1000-3000	20 minutes to 1 hour (depending on wattage)
Extractor fan	75	13 hours
Freezer *	300	3 hours 20 minutes
Hair dryer	500 - 1000	40 minutes to 2 hours
Immersion heater	3000	20 minutes
Iron	1000	1 hour
Kettle	2250	25 minutes
Light bulb	60	16 hours
Low energy light bulb	11	42 hours
Microwave	750	1 hour 20 minutes
Oil filled radiator	500 - 2500	25 minutes to 2 hours
Panel heater	750	1 hour 20 minutes
Refrigerator *	100 - 150	6 to 10 hours
Stereo	100	10 hours
Television	100	10 hours
Toaster	1000	1 hour
Tumble dryer	2500	25 minutes
Vacuum cleaner	500 - 1000	1 to 2 hours
Video recorder	110	9 hours
Washing machine *	up to 3000	20 minutes

* Maximum usage if power used constantly

These figures have been rounded for clarity. They are approximate figures only. Source: Heating Advice Handbook - by Energy Inform (second edition), with costs updated June 2001 by Optima Energy based upon 6 p per kwh incl. VAT. Note that costs will vary with supplier, tariff and method of payment, between 5.5 and 7.5 p.

- Electrical household appliances can use a significant amount of energy.
- The cost of running these appliances can account for nearly half of your total annual fuel bill.
- The chart overleaf shows how long you can run some of the appliances you may have in your home for 6 pence. You may be surprised!

Energy guzzlers

On-peak immersion heater

- An on-peak immersion heater is expensive to run, costing about 20p an hour to use.
- Only use it if necessary.
- Switch it on about half an hour before you need the water.
- Use a kitchen timer to remind you to turn it off.

Electric bar heater

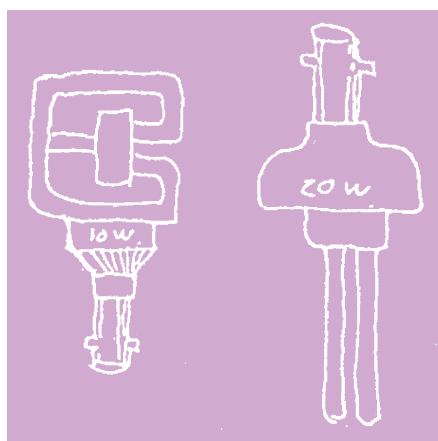
- An electric bar heater is an expensive and inefficient way to heat the home.
- Use your central heating system if you have one.
- If you need extra heat in a room use a fan heater or convector heater which have thermostatic controls

Electric oven

- Using an electric oven is an expensive way to cook.
- If you have a microwave use it.
- Pre-cook food in the microwave and finish it off in the oven to make the most of the quick and cheap cooking time in the microwave and the browning that you may like from a conventional oven.

Washing machine and tumble dryers

- Wash full loads of washing where possible. Use the half load button for smaller loads.
- Use a time clock to make use of the cheaper rate of electricity if you have Economy 7 or other off peak tariffs.
- Dry clothes outside whenever possible.



Energy savers

Low energy lights

- Low energy light bulbs use 1/4 of the electricity of normal bulbs and last 8 - 10 times as long.
- Even though they are more expensive than normal light bulbs they are a good investment. You will get your money back in terms of electricity saved in the first year.

When purchasing a low energy light bulb make sure you get the bulb with the appropriate wattage so that you get the brightness of light you need.

Low energy white goods

- When you buy a new fridge, freezer, washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher look out for the energy label on the front of the appliance.
- The label shows the energy efficiency of the appliance.
- **A** is the most energy efficient and **G** the least.

An item with a higher energy rating may be a little more expensive. But over the lifetime of the appliance the savings you make on less energy used will be far more than this extra initial cost. Also when purchasing a fridge or freezer, consider choosing one that is free of CFCs and HCFCs, which destroy the ozone layer and contribute to global warming.

Energy		Drier
Manufacturer: Model:		
More Efficient		
A		
B		← B
C		
D		
E		
F		
G		
Less Efficient		
Energy consumption kWh/cycle (Based on standard test results for 80° cotton cycle) Actual energy consumption will depend on how the appliance is used		
Capacity (cotton) kg		
Air vented	--	
Condensing	--	←
Noise (dB(A) re 1 µW)		
Further information is contained in product brochures		
Type: EC 61123 Supplied Drier Label: 05/03/02		

Is it cheaper to use batteries or mains?

If you use an appliance such as a radio/cassette it is cheaper to run it on mains electricity rather than using batteries.

