

# Is your home climate friendly?

## 1 Ceiling insulation

- A well insulated house can be up to 10°C warmer in winter and 10°C cooler in summer. As much as 35% of heat loss is through un-insulated ceiling.
- Insulation can cut 40% from home-heating costs.

## 2 Cooling

- Avoid using air-conditioning – it is the worst form of domestic greenhouse gas pollution.
- Install ceiling fans – they are cheaper to run and cause less greenhouse gas pollution

## 3 Electronics

- Turn off electrical appliances at the powerpoint when not in use. The average Australian home has many items of equipment on standby power, together generating over 750 kilograms of greenhouse gas and costing around \$100 each year!

## 4 Indoor Heating

- Always put on a jumper before putting on the heater!
- Turning down the thermostat reduces your energy consumption.
- Gas heaters are cheaper to run and produce less greenhouse gas than electric heaters.

## 5 Lighting

- Flick the switch – turn off unnecessary lights. Simple as that.
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs – they last 10 times longer and use 80% less energy than regular light globes.
- Use skylights and windows for natural lighting.

## 6 Insulating Paint

- If you are repainting your home, check out the thermally-insulating paints on the market. They work by cutting heat loss through painted walls and ceilings.

## 7 Windows

- External shades help reduce heat from direct sunlight and cool your home in summer.
- Internal curtains can trap up to 50% of the heat inside and warm your home in winter.
- Double glazing can reduce heat loss in winter and reduce indoor temperatures by up to 80% in summer.

## 8 Air Flow

- Draughts and unwanted gaps that allow air to leak from the house can increase heating costs up to 25%. Repair door seals, hang heavy curtains and lay rugs on bare floors.

## 9 Fridge

- Fridges are one of the biggest energy users in the home so buy a 5 star rated fridge.
- Get rid of the drinks fridge – it is costing you up to \$200 each year to keep those drinks cold!

## 10 Cooking

- Gas and microwave cooking generates 30 to 50% of the greenhouse gas generated by traditional electric cooking
- Cook as many organic, unpackaged, unprocessed meals as you can.

## 11 Rainwater Tank

- Collect filtered rainwater from the roof in tanks and use it for the garden, washing machine, and flushing the toilet.
- Rebates are available for rainwater tanks.

## 12 Dishwasher

- Only use your dishwasher when you have a full load.
- Choose a dishwasher with top energy and water star-ratings.

## 17 On-site Sewage Treatment

- You could potentially disconnect from the sewerage mains if you correctly treat your own waste water.
- On-site treatment systems can kill bacteria with a UV radiation system and the treated water can be used in the garden, for washing or flushing toilets (Council application required).

## 18 Garden

- Plant local native trees and shrubs. Shade provided by trees can reduce your cooling bill by 15%.
- Grow some of your own food to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with food production, transport, storage and retail.
- Compost or worm farm your food waste – 50% of our weekly garbage is food waste that produces methane emissions when it goes to landfill.

## 19 Bathroom

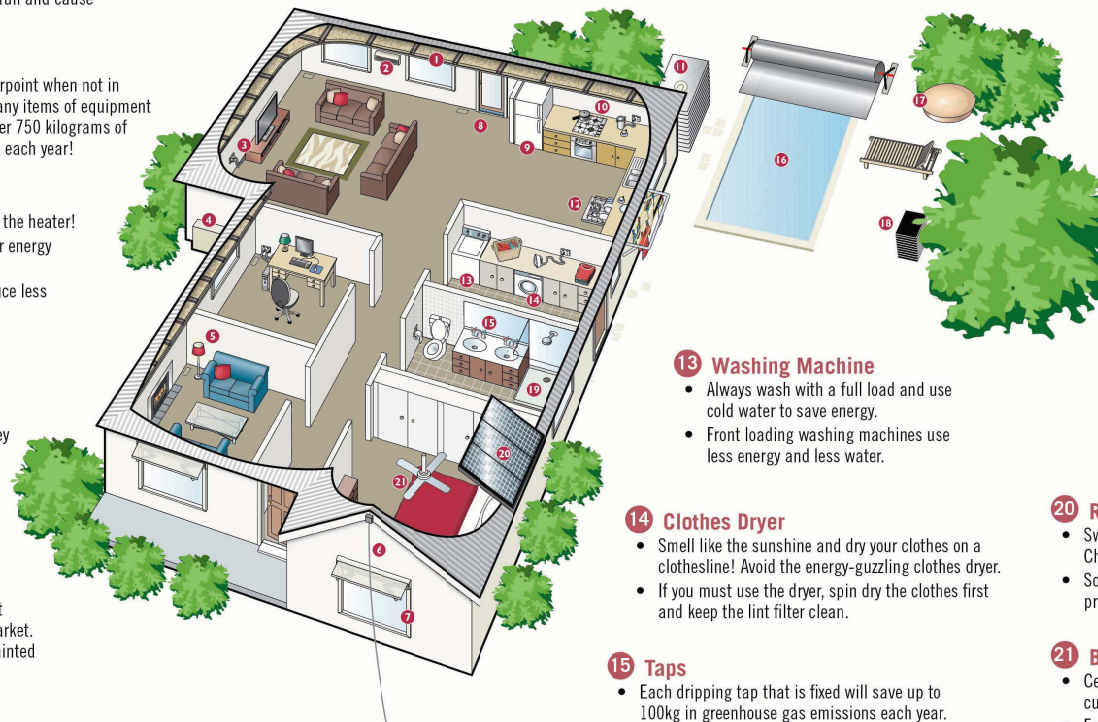
- Bathrooms account for around 65% of hot water use in the home.
- Turn your hot water thermostat down – water heating accounts for 30% of total household energy use and about 30% of a household's greenhouse gas emissions.
- Installing a AAA-rated water efficient showerhead can save more than 500kg of greenhouse gases each year
- Take shorter showers or try a navy shower – lather up with the water turned off.
- Convert your hot water system to solar – this will save energy now and money in the long term!

## 20 Renewable Energy

- Switch to renewable energy sources from wind, sun, water or waste. Check out the government-accredited GreenPower scheme for suppliers.
- Solar hot water systems can save up to 75% on hot water costs and prevent up to 3 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year.

## 21 Bedrooms

- Ceiling fans can reduce indoor temperatures by 10°C in summer and cut cooling costs by 40%.
- Follow passive solar heating principles and orient bedrooms to the south side of the house and living areas to the north side of the house.



## 13 Washing Machine

- Always wash with a full load and use cold water to save energy.
- Front loading washing machines use less energy and less water.

## 14 Clothes Dryer

- Smell like the sunshine and dry your clothes on a clothesline! Avoid the energy-guzzling clothes dryer.
- If you must use the dryer, spin dry the clothes first and keep the lint filter clean.

## 15 Taps

- Each dripping tap that is fixed will save up to 100kg in greenhouse gas emissions each year.

## 16 Backyard Pool

- Pool filter pumps generate up to 3 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year. Save energy by using the correct size pump and fit a timer switch to ensure it only runs when needed.
- Heat your pool with a solar blanket or solar heating.
- Cover the pool when not in use to prevent water evaporation.



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