

Improving and decorating your home

▶ Lighting and appliances

Light bulbs

Although they look simple, today's bulbs contain complex, ever-evolving technology. Energy-efficient bulbs are particularly clever: they can produce light using a fraction of the electricity usually needed, cutting energy bills by up to £10 a year per bulb. Because they use just a quarter of the energy of traditional lightbulbs to create an equivalent amount of light, energy saving bulbs come in much lower wattages. They also help the environment by demanding less energy from the power stations that pump damaging greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Switch on to saving energy

In most homes, lighting accounts for around 10 to 15 % of the electricity bill. It's easy to cut wastage by simply **turning off lights** and adjusting blinds and curtains to let in more natural light.

Take a look around your home and decide where the best place for **energy-saving**

light bulbs are. Where do you have your lights on most often and for the longest period? Outdoor security lights that are on for several hours at a time are good candidates for energy-saving bulbs. Other high-usage areas are hallways, landings and childrens' bedrooms. **Note:** Energy saving bulbs don't work with electronic sensors, dimmers and timers, so always check your manufacturer's instructions first.

Energy efficient versions are also available, and can contribute to substantial savings on bills as they only allow the use of lower wattage bulbs.

Beware of cheaper 'economy' bulbs that claim to be energy efficient. Choose a good quality energy efficient bulb or light fitting by looking for the **Energy Efficiency Recommended** logo.

Security lighting

It's also easy to save energy used by domestic security lighting. We can also minimise nuisance to neighbours through glare and 'light trespass' (light spilling

**Fit a SavaPlug to save money and cut CO₂ emissions**

This award-winning plug was developed in conjunction with the Department of Energy and will make typical savings in electricity running costs of 20% when fitted to your domestic refrigeration. Fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers are probably the most expensive electrical appliances to run on average costing £50-£60 per year.

When the thermostat on the appliance switches on the motor to pump the refrigerant around the system it requires full power. However, after the initial surge the appliance does not require full power. SavaPlug senses this and reduces the flow of electricity to match the actual requirements.

SavaPlug simply replaces the existing plug on the refrigeration appliance. It is not suitable for other appliances or for refrigeration appliances with electronic controls.



For further information call freephone 0800 622203 or visit www.savawatt.com

Ordinary bulbs	Energy saving bulb equivalent
25W	6W
40W	8-11W
60W	13-18W
100W	20-25W
Lighting	
Cost of energy saving bulb	£5 (approx.)
Cost of regular bulb	59p (approx.)
Energy saving bulb savings (over regular bulb)	£10 per year, £68 over a typical lifetime (including cost of bulb)
Cost recovered	£6 months

Lighting |

+ MORE INFO

**Boiler and Radiators
Manufacturers
Association (BARMA)**

Tel: 0141 332 5788

**Boiler and Radiators
Energy Efficiency
Advice Centre**

Free, impartial advice on solar energy and other aspects of energy use in your home Surrey and East Sussex Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (EEAC).

Tel: 0800 512012

Email: advice@ecsc.org.uk

**Boiler and Radiators
Do it yourself:**

your local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre offers a free **DIY Home Energy Check questionnaire**.

Once completed, the centre can offer an evaluation of the results and advice on which products will give maximum savings when installed.

**Boiler and Radiators
Heating and Ventilating
Contractors Association
(HVCA)**

Tel: 020 7313 4900

Email: contact@hvca.org.uk

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into neighbours' windows) and reduce the impact of excessive lighting on wildlife and the night sky by adopting a few simple tips:

- ▶ A 150W bulb is adequate for security lighting rather than 250-300W usually sold.
- ▶ Passive infra-red detector switches are vulnerable to triggering by domestic pets and so become quickly discredited as a deterrent to crime.
- ▶ A continuous low level illumination (around 9W) is considered a suitable level to act as a crime deterrent, according to the Institute of Lighting Engineers.

Outside lighting, including lights inside conservatories and other structures with translucent roofs should be shielded to minimise light pollution.

The Institute of Lighting Engineers makes recommendations which have been adopted by Woking Borough Council in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

To download the Guidance, visit www.woking.gov.uk/council/planning/publications/light.pdf

Appliances

If you are running old appliances in the kitchen you may be paying higher energy bills simply because more modern models are more efficient.

Energy efficient models use less power and cost less to run. And because they need less energy, they are responsible for fewer greenhouse gas emissions back at the power station. "A" rated models are the most efficient, and "G" rated the least, and although more

efficient ones usually cost a little more, they usually easily save their extra purchase price over their lifetime, particularly as electricity prices rise.

Look out for the **Energy Efficiency Recommended logo** and the **EU Energy label**. Both will point you in the right direction when you are shopping for the most energy efficient appliances on the market.



The EU energy label

Source: Energy Saving Trust

Energy		Fridge-Freezer
Manufacturer Model		
More efficient A B C D E F G Less efficient		A
Energy consumption kWh/year (based on standard test results for 24h)		325
Actual consumption will depend on how the appliance is used and where it is located		
Fresh food volume l	190	
Frozen food volume l	126	4
Noise (dB(A) re 1 pW)		
Further information is contained in product brochures		
<small>Norm EN 151 May 1996 Refrigerator Label (Directive 94/62/EC)</small>		

Shops, mail-order catalogues and manufacturers must display the labels on all new domestic fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers, washing machines, electric tumble dryers, combined washer-dryers, dishwashers and light bulbs.