

Set your thermostat & save!



Heating and cooling use more energy and drain more energy dollars than any other system in your home. However, you can reduce your energy costs by following these simple tips:

- In the winter, set your thermostat at 68 degrees or as low as is comfortable. Each degree above 68 adds as much as four percent to your utility bill.
- In the summer, set your thermostat at 78 degrees or as high as is comfortable. Each degree below 78 can add up to six percent to your utility bill.
- Keep your ceiling fans on during the summer to optimize the efficiency of your home's cooling system. This movement of air creates a breeze, or "wind-chill," which makes indoor temperatures feel about five degrees cooler.
- Install a programmable thermostat that will automatically adjust temperatures when you are away from home.
- If you will be away from home for four hours or longer, follow these tips:
 - In the winter, lower the thermostat or turn the system off, unless there is a danger of pipes freezing.
 - In the summer, increase the temperature on your thermostat.

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Top 10 under \$10



We all want to make energy-efficient improvements to our home, but some of them can cost big bucks. While your investment in energy-saving products is more than returned in savings on your utility bill, the initial expense can sometimes put a strain on your budget. Here are 10 simple home improvements you can make to save money, each costing \$10 or less.

1. Use foil tape to cover holes in ductwork.
2. Change the furnace air filter.
3. Caulk around doors and windows.
4. Wrap exposed pipes with pipe insulation.
5. Replace an incandescent light with a compact fluorescent bulb.
6. Install a low-flow showerhead.
7. Weatherstrip around doors leading to the outside, furnace and attic.
8. Install a water heater blanket (electric only).
9. Attach door sweeps to the bottom of doors leading outside.
10. Spray expandable insulation around holes near hose ports.

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