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MISSION VALLEY POWER

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Low To No Cost Measures To Make Your Home More Energy Efficient

1. **Change your light bulbs** to LEDs.
2. **Control your fixtures** with motion sensors, a photocell or a timer to assure dusk-to-dawn only operation of your outdoor lights.
3. **Turn off the lights** when they're not in use. Lighting accounts for about 12% of a typical residential utility bill.
4. **Use natural light** when possible.
5. **Install water-saving showerheads** and faucet aerators.
6. **Wash your clothes in cold water** if possible. To save water, try to wash full loads or, if you must wash a partial load, reduce the level of water appropriately.
7. **Clothes Drying** Don't over dry your clothes. If your dryer has a moisture sensor that will automatically turn the machine off when clothes are done, use it to avoid over drying. Remember to clean the lint trap before every load. Dry full loads, or reduce drying time for partial loads.
8. **Using dishwashers and clothes washers/dryers at night** will keep the house cooler, reduce strain on the power grid during the peak usage hours of 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and reduce the chance of an emergency!
9. **Turn off heated dry on your dishwasher** and air dry instead.
10. **Air seal your home.** Sealing cracks, gaps and leaks and adding insulation can save up to 10% on home heating and cooling costs.
11. **Clean or replace all filters** in your home regularly. Dirty filters make your system work harder and run longer than necessary.
12. **Install a smart thermostat** so it can adjust the temperature automatically and help you save energy all year long.
13. **Set your thermostat** to 78°F in the summer and 68°F in the winter - every degree of extra heating or cooling will increase energy usage 6% to 8%. Setting your thermostat to a lower temperature than normal will not cool your home faster. Not for Heatpumps.
14. **Using your ceiling fan** will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4°F with no reduction in comfort.
15. **During warmer months, close blinds, shades and drapes** on the sunny side of your home to help keep your home's temperature cooler and reduce the work for you AC. Open shades during cooler months to let the sun warm your home.
16. **Use your microwave** instead of your stove when cooking.
17. **Keep lids on pans when cooking.** Water will boil faster and food will cook faster when covered because heat is not lost to surrounding air, saving you money.
18. **Don't peek in the oven** while baking! Every time you peek, the temperature can drop 25°F, making your oven use more energy to bring the temperature back up.
19. **Turn off the oven** a few minutes before cooking time runs out. Your food will continue to cook without using the extra electricity.

20. **Refrigerators and freezers** actually operate most efficiently when full, so keep your refrigerator and freezer as full as possible (using water bottles if nothing else). Be careful about overfilling them as this will reduce airflow and cause the appliance to work harder.
21. **Set your refrigerator temperature** to the manufacturer's recommendation to avoid excessive cooling and wasting energy.
22. **Defrost your refrigerator and freezer** before ice buildup becomes [1/4-inch thick](#) to ensure your appliances are running efficiently.
23. **Don't leave your mobile phone plugged in** overnight. It only takes a couple of hours to charge.
24. **Don't leave your electronics on** all day long. Only turn on your computer, monitor, printer and fax machine when you need them.
25. **Watch your appliance placement.** Avoid placing appliances that give off heat, such as lamps or TVs, near a thermostat.
26. **Dress for the weather.** When you're at home, dress in warm clothing in the winter and cooler clothing in the summer to stay comfortable without making your heater and AC work harder.