

LOW-COST AND NO-COST TIPS TO SAVE MONEY AND USE LESS ENERGY

As a renter, you can make small, affordable changes to help increase the comfort of your home and lower your energy costs.



Your landlord can help

You may be able to save more in the long run when your landlord installs energy-efficiency improvements such as insulation, duct sealing, windows and water heaters. Your landlord can save as well.

*Energy Trust can help with free advice and cash incentives. To make the case to your landlord, call **1.866.368.7878** or go to **www.energytrust.org/renters**.*

Talk to your landlord today.

- Replace standard incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Install high-performance showerheads and faucet aerators.
- Clean or replace filters before and after heating season to help your furnace or air conditioner work at peak efficiency.
- Unplug battery chargers (e.g., power tools, mobile phones, laptops) when not in use.
- Turn off lights when not needed.
- Set water heater temperature to 125 degrees; if your automatic dishwasher doesn't preheat its own water, set the water heater thermostat to 140 degrees to ensure proper cleaning.
- Turn down the thermostat to 65 – 68 degrees during the day and 58 – 60 degrees at night during cooler months. If you have a heat pump, turn the thermostat down no more than 3 degrees at night.
- Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat so it adjusts automatically.
- Wash and rinse laundry with cold water. To save more energy and water, run full loads and consider hanging your clothes to dry.
- Clean lint filters after drying each load of clothes.
- Caulk small holes and cracks around plumbing pipes, exhaust fans, dryer vents, sink and bathtub drains, fireplaces and under countertops.
- Use the water-saver washing and energy-saving drying options on your dishwasher.
- Check to make sure refrigerator and freezer gaskets seal tightly.
- Use pots and pans with flat bottoms for faster and more efficient heating.
- If you plan to purchase a new clothes washer, dishwasher, freezer or refrigerator, choose ENERGY STAR models. (Energy Trust of Oregon offers cash-back incentives for qualified ENERGY STAR clothes washers, freezers and refrigerators.)
- Recycle your old refrigerator or freezer. Energy Trust offers free pick up and a cash incentive.
- Install exterior wall switch and outlet gaskets to help prevent air loss and infiltration.
- Close fireplace and wood stove dampers when not in use, but wait several hours after the fire dies down.

Energy Trust of Oregon

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