



Energy efficiency

with Paul Myors

Standby costs revealed

Turning televisions and other appliances off at the power button when not in use could save you up to \$100 a year.

Many modern appliances use power day and night, even when you're not using them. This is called standby power.

For example if you always leave your PC monitor on or switch off your television using only the remote, these appliances remain in standby mode and use electricity for 24 hours, 365 days a year which is costing you money.

Televisions, sound systems, air conditioners, DVD players, computers, washing machines and dishwashers are examples of appliances often left in standby mode.

In a typical home, EnergyAustralia estimates standby power accounts for around ten percent of the total electricity bill, which equals about \$100 a year. In some homes it can be a lot more depending on the type and number of appliances, and – more importantly - your behaviour.



The best tip to minimise standby power is to get in the habit of switching appliances off at the power button after use - whether they have a remote control or not - particularly if you're going away for a while.

As well as saving money, you might even lose a couple of kilos!

■ **PAUL MYORS** is an energy efficiency expert from EnergyAustralia.

For more details go to
www.energy.com.au
or call 13 15 35

