



Energy efficiency

with Paul Myors

Don't let water heating land you in hot water

Hot water is the single biggest energy user in the average home and can add hundreds of dollars to your energy bill.

In fact, hot water accounts for up to one third of the electricity bill of an average home, so cutting costs can make a big difference.

Here are a few simple tips to keep hot water costs down:

- Fit a AAA-rated low flow showerhead and save up to \$100 per year off your energy and water bills.
- Keep showers short (use a timer to help you). Just one minute less in the shower saves enough energy to run a standard television for four hours!
- Turn the power off on your storage hot water system if you are going away for an extended period.
- Fix leaking taps. A leaking tap can waste hundreds of litres of water every month, and if it's a hot water tap it's wasting energy too.
- A leaking pressure relief valve (on the side of the hot water tank) can waste hundreds of litres of hot water. Check it regularly.
- Use cold water in the laundry whenever possible.
- When installing a new hot water system, try to locate it close to your bathroom, kitchen and laundry so less heat is lost in the pipes. Wrap the pipes in insulation to minimise heat losses further.



■ PAUL MYORS is an energy efficiency expert from EnergyAustralia.

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

