

Top power saving tips



If the latest electricity price increases are biting your budget or you're looking to improve your relationship with your environment, now is the time to take a look at what you can do to bring down the electricity consumption in your home.

1.



Gear up your geyser

The geyser accounts for between 40% and 60% of the average home's electricity consumption, so any savings in this area can really make a big difference in your monthly bill.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Take a shower instead of a bath.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 1/5
Saving: 2/5

Turn the temperature on your geyser down to 60°C.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Keep an eye out for leaking taps. Not only will you save on your water bill, but you'll also prevent hot water from being wasted.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 2/5

Wrap your geyser in a geyser blanket and insulate your hot water pipes to prevent heat loss.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 3/5
Saving: 3/5

Install a smart geyser controller that will allow you to monitor temperature, control the times your geyser is on and warn you of leaks and possible geyser bursts.

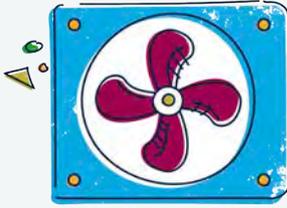


LookSee Rating:
Cost: 5/5
Saving: 5/5

Depending on the age of your geyser, it may be worthwhile to **consider replacing your geyser** with a newer, more efficient model or upgrading it to make use of solar energy, gas, tankless water heaters, or heat pump technology.



2.



Feeling just right

With South Africa's short spring and autumn seasons, heat and cold are regular concerns for families. Luckily, there are options available to help you get the temperature just right without breaking the bank.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 1/5

Dress for the weather by choosing warm heat-retaining materials in winter and light, breathable fabrics in summer.



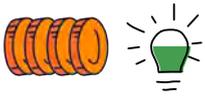
LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 4/5

Whether you're using a heater or an air conditioner, try to **prevent wastage by ensuring the heating or cooling is concentrated to a specific area**. Check doors and windows to make sure they are securely closed and reduce air gaps as much as possible.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 4/5

Help your air conditioner run as efficiently as possible by shading it from direct sunlight, keeping lights and appliances at a distance, regularly cleaning the filter and making sure it is regularly serviced.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 4/5
Saving: 3/5

Getting your roof properly insulated can have a major impact on the temperature in your home, reducing the loss of heat during winter and preventing heat from sinking through the ceiling in summer.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 3/5
Saving: 3/5

Gas is a lot cheaper than electricity, so **upgrading to a gas heater** will help you keep costs down while enjoying the warmth.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 4/5

During summer, **use fans instead of air conditioners**. Position the fans throughout the house to guide cool air in and hot air out.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 1/5

Window coverings can help you control how the weather impacts the temperature inside your home.

In winter, make the best use of any direct afternoon sun with curtains and blinds opened. As the sun goes down, close curtains and blinds to reduce the cold seeping in through the glass. In summer, use blinds and curtains to protect against direct sunlight heating up the house.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Turn off your air conditioner at night when it is cooler and when you are going to be out of a room for an extended period.



3.



Light the way

About 25% of your monthly electricity bill is spent on lighting. You'll be able to see the difference just by making a few small changes.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 4/5

Change to **energy-efficient light bulbs**.



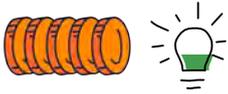
LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 1/5

Turn lights off when you leave a room, even if you'll only be gone for a few minutes.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 4/5

Install motion sensors for areas inside and outside the home that you only want lit when there is activity.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 5/5
Saving: 2/5

Install skylights in areas that don't get much natural light.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 1/5
Saving: 3/5

Choose low-watt lightbulbs for areas that need light for long periods at a time.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 2/5
Saving: 4/5

Replace your old holiday lights with LED options. Not only will you save on electricity but you'll find they last far longer.



4.



Save in the kitchen

Heating uses a lot of electricity, so it's no surprise that the kitchen plays a major role in high electricity bills.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 2/5

Washing machines: wait until you have enough washing for a full load and try doing a cold wash. Even dropping the temperature to 30°C will have a major impact on energy consumption.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 5/5

Skip the tumble dryer and make use of the sunshine. Not only will your bank balance thank you, but your clothes will last longer too.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 4/5

If you're not up to doing the dishes in the sink, then **wait until your dishwasher is full before running a cycle.** Cleaning the spinning arms, reducing the temperature, and allowing your dishes to air dry will make a big difference to your electricity bill.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 1/5
Saving: 3/5

Your fridge and freezer can be a big power drain, so make sure doors are closed, seals are working properly, items are spaced properly, and the freezer is defrosted regularly.



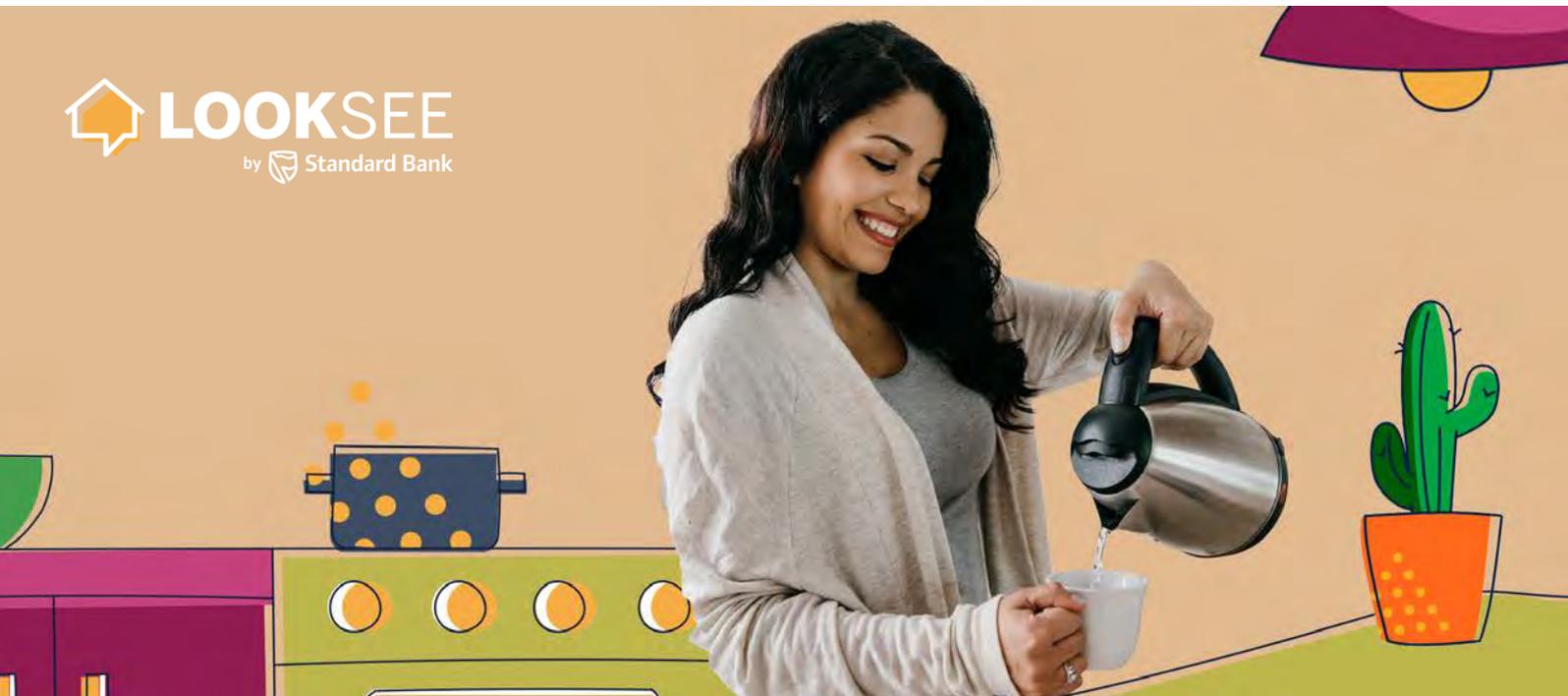
LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 2/5

Your stove draws large amounts of electricity, so make sure you use it as efficiently as possible by choosing the right pot and plate size, defrosting food before cooking and using lids to prevent heat from escaping.

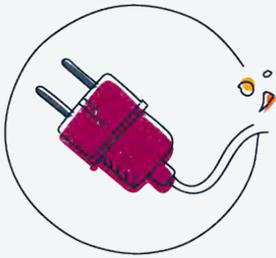


LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Consider other, more cost-effective ways to cook, such as the microwave, pressure cooker or slow cooker.



5.



Switch off and save

Appliances have come a long way in improving energy efficiency but many of them go into standby mode when switched off, meaning they are still drawing electricity even when they are not in use.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 2/5

Unplug appliances that are rarely used.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Turn your TV and computer **off** at night.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Turn appliances off at the wall when not in use.



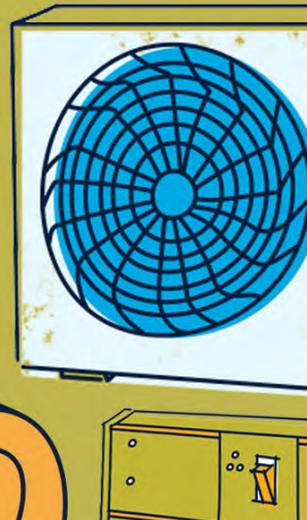
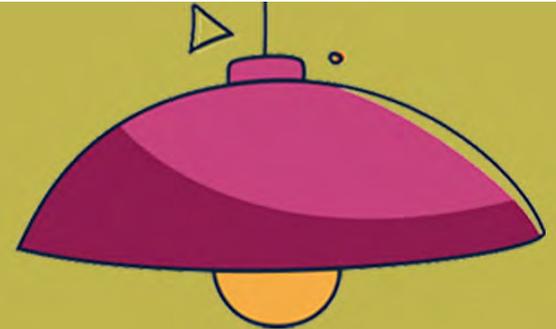
LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Unplug chargers when not in use.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 1/5
Saving: 2/5

For ease of access, **use multiplugs with switches for each plug point** and a built-in surge protector to protect your appliances.



6.



Pool

When we think of our pool, we think of water savings. However, the pump that keeps it in good condition can be a big consumer of electricity.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 4/5

Use the timer to limit the hours of operation to what your pool needs. A smaller pool is cleaned far quicker than a large pool, so figure out what is best for your pool.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 3/5
Saving: 3/5

Get a cover for your pool. Not only will you save water, but your pool will require much less cleaning.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Clean the pump filter regularly to improve water flow through the pump and lower the amount of work the engine needs to do.

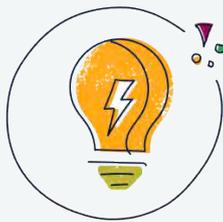


LookSee Rating:
Cost: 0/5
Saving: 3/5

Set a backwash and pool maintenance schedule for yourself to keep your pool sparkling and energy-efficient.



7.



Go off the grid

With power prices soaring and no end in sight for loadshedding, perhaps it's time to start thinking outside of the box.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 5/5
Saving: 5/5



Whether you're just looking to save on your water heating costs or considering something larger, solar technology is developing rapidly and the options and prices might just surprise you.



LookSee Rating:
Cost: 4/5
Saving: 0/5

If you're looking for short-term or lower supply levels, **generators and battery backup systems** can keep your lights on when the power goes down.



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