

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR SAVING ENERGY AND MONEY

Weather-strip your door

- Some insulating materials need to be nailed into place.
- Others come backed with adhesive so once you clean the surface you can simply stick the weather stripping on.
- You can also take a bath towel, roll it up and set it against the bottom of the door.

Savings in the Kitchen

- A typical refrigerator costs about 50 cents a day to operate. Clean the coils. You can use:
 - special brushes designed to reach back and clean in between the coils
 - a vacuum cleaner with a crevice nozzle
 - a yard stick with a cloth wrapped around it
- Check the freezer to make sure nothing is blocking the cold air vents.
- Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator not in the microwave.
- Don't use your oven on hot summer days. In winter, bake away.
- Match the size of the pot you're using to the stove heating element.
- Wait to run your dishwasher until it's full — skip the drying cycle.
- Add humidity to the air in winter. If you have radiator heat, you can set a pan of water on the radiator.

Cooling Off

- In the heat of the day, place a window fan in a blowing out position.
- At night, when it cools off, put your fan in the window — blowing in.
- Use ceiling fans efficiently. In the summer, you want air blowing up. In the winter, reverse the blades so air blows down.
- Make sure your central air conditioning unit outside your home stays clean and free of debris.

Clean your furnace filter.

- Clean your window air conditioning unit filter.
- Turn the dial down on the water heater a few notches.
- For less than a dollar, you can buy pipe insulators; they slip right on to water pipes.
- Wash full loads of laundry to conserve water. Wash clothes

in cold water, whenever possible. Always rinse in cold water.

- Cover basement windows with plastic.
- Get in the habit of cleaning the dryer lint trap each time you start a load.
- Consider attaching a small \$7 diverter to your dryer vent: with a diverter, in winter you can send warm moist air into your house, instead of into the back yard. In summer, flip the lever and the dryer is vented to the outside again.

Thermostat

- For every degree you turn up your thermostat in summer, or down in winter, you can save 2 - 3 percent on your energy bill.

Check the attic

- If you have access to your attic, you can have more insulation blown in relatively inexpensively. Or you can go to your local hardware store and buy big rolls of insulation and simply roll them out in your attic.

Insulate the windows

- If you have single pane windows, or if your windows have air leakage, consider covering them with plastic during cold weather. Also, on hot days, close the drapes or blinds.
- Most houses have gaps and other openings around many of the windows and doors — letting cold air into your living room. The best way to seal the cracks is to fill the gap with caulk. A tube of caulk costs about a dollar; the caulk gun needed to apply it, about \$3. A press-in version is basically like Playdoh — press it into the crack, and you're done.

Don't forget the bathroom

- Near the end of your shower, close the stopper and let some of that hot water sit in the tub. It will add humidity to the air.
- A leaky faucet or toilet can cost you. If you cannot fix the faucet yourself, consider turning to a community assistance agency or a friend or relative to make the repair.

It all adds up

- On hot or cold days, close off rooms you can live without for a few days.
- Use compact fluorescent bulbs. These bulbs put out as much light as a 75-watt bulb, but only use 20 watts of electricity. Each bulb costs about \$7, but it will last longer than eight regular bulbs.



Where Does Your Power Go?



Average household energy consumption of electricity in the U.S. has grown 20 percent since 1981, according to the Edison Electric Institute. This guide to appliance operating costs tells you where your energy dollar is going and which equipment in your home uses the most energy.

This guide gives you an estimate on how much your appliances are costing you now or how much new appliances might cost you.

Conservation begins with having energy-efficient appliances and using them wisely.

Check this guide's tips on saving energy. You can visit www.ameren.com — Ameren's Web site — for more.

A GUIDE TO APPLIANCE OPERATING COSTS

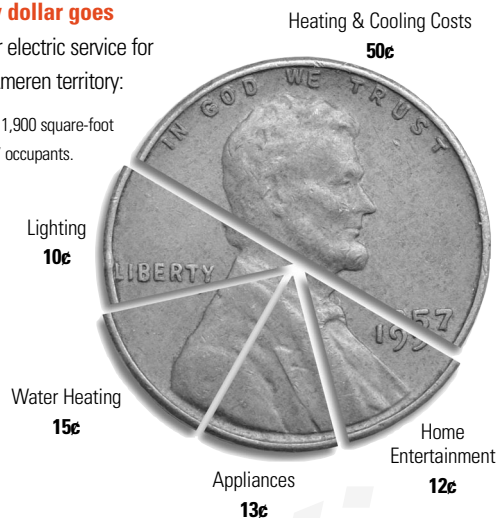
Appliance or Equipment	Estimated Use (Kwh)*	Total Energy Cost**
Comfort/Heating & Cooling Etc.		
Air Conditioner		
Central, Electric (36,000 Btu/hr, SEER=10)	3.5 kwh/hr	25¢/hr
Air Conditioner		
Room, Electric (12,000 Btu/hr, SEER=10)	1 kwh/day	7¢/hr
Furnace, Electric Heat Pump Forced Air . . .	8.3 kwh/hr	24¢/hr
Furnace, Electric Resistance Heat Forced . .	15.4 kwh/hr	52¢/hr
Whole House Fan . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	4¢/hr
Ceiling Fans . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	4¢/hr
Space Heater, Electric	1.5 kwh/hr	11¢/hr
Electric Blanket . . . . .	.75 kwh/night	5¢/hr
Sump Pump (1/3 h.p.) . . . . .	.75 kwh/hr	5¢/hr
Humidifiers/de-humidifiers . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	4¢/hr
Lighting		
General Household	3 kwh/hr	22¢/hr
Outdoor Electric Light . . . . .	.5 kwh/night	3¢/hr
Landscaping/Dusk-to-Dawn	1 kwh/hr	8¢/hr

Where your energy dollar goes

Average daily cost† for electric service for all-electric homes in Ameren territory:

† For a single family detached 1,900 square-foot home with an average of 2.7 occupants.

Source: Ameren



Appliance or Equipment	Estimated Use (Kwh)*	Total Energy Cost**
Home Entertainment/Communications		
Television 32"-40" with DVD/VCR . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	4¢/hr
Big Screen Television (>50") with DVD/VCR	.75 kwh/hr	5¢/hr
Personal Computer Equipment . . . . .	.25 kwh/hr	2¢/hr
Stereo System (CD/Tape/Radio) . . . . .	.25 kwh/hr	2¢/hr
Cordless/Cell Phone Charger . . . . .	.15 kwh/hr	2¢/hr
Water Heating/Laundry Services		
Water Heater Electric (40-50 gal.)		
(during the heating cycle)	3 kwh/hr	94¢/hr
Washing Machine . . . . .	.25 kwh/load	2¢/hr
Heating the Hot Water	6 kwh/load	43¢/load
Clothes Dryer Electric	3 kwh/hr	24¢/load
Steam Iron . . . . .	.75 kwh/hr	5¢/hr
Appliances		
Refrigerator, Frostless — 17-21 cu.ft.	6 kwh/day	43¢/day
Freezer, Frostless — 1.5 cu. ft.	5 kwh/day	36¢/day
Range, Electric	1 kwh/meal	7¢/meal
Microwave Oven (15 min.) . . . . .	.1 kwh/use	1¢/use
Oven, Electric Self Cleaning	6 kwh/clean	43¢/clean
Dishwasher	1 kwh/load	7¢/load
Garbage Disposal . . . . .	.5 kwh/use	1¢/use
Toaster . . . . .	.1 kwh/use	2¢/use
Coffeemaker . . . . .	.25 kwh/brew	2¢/brew
Broiler	1.5 kwh/hr	11¢/hr
Frying Pan, Electric . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	4¢/hr
Miscellaneous		
Swimming Pool Heater	20 kwh/hr	\$1.40/hr
Swimming Pool Circulation Pump	1 kwh/hr	8¢/hr
Hot Tub & Heaters . . . . .	.5 kwh/hr	36¢/hr

* One kilowatt-hour (kwh) is 1,000 watts of electricity used for one hour. Ten 100-watt lightbulbs turned on for one hour use one kwh.
 ** Estimated average cost as of December 31, 2003. Energy costs computed using 7¢ a kwh.

