

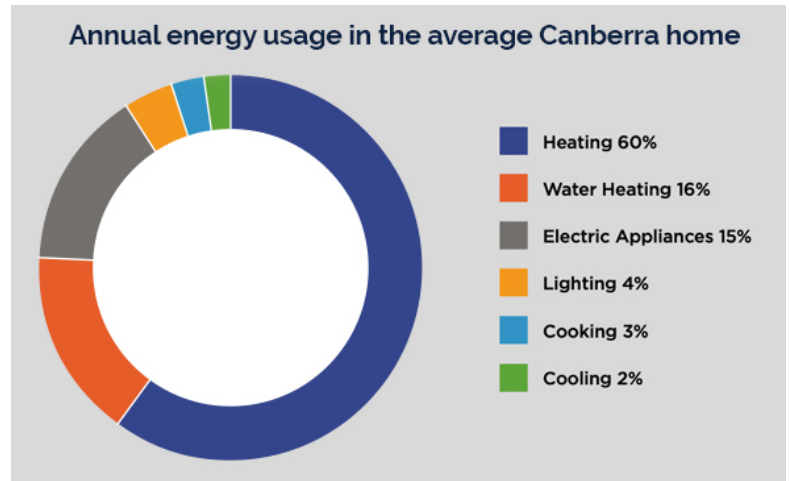


## Property Owner Report

Completing some or all of the recommendations in this report will make your property more energy efficient and comfortable, and should improve its value.

When you've read your recommendations, check out the links and resources at the end of this report and at [www.climatechoices.act.gov.au](http://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au).

If you live in the ACT, you can get free expert advice on saving energy in your home including additional support implementing these recommendations or checking your bills, by calling the ACT Sustainable Home Advice line on 1300 141 777 or emailing [SustainableHomeAdviceProgram@act.gov.au](mailto:SustainableHomeAdviceProgram@act.gov.au).



The size of the area you are heating, the number of hours heaters are on, and the temperature setting all have a big impact on your bills. In summer a comfortable and cost-effective range to set the thermostat is 25-27°C, and in winter it is 18-20°C

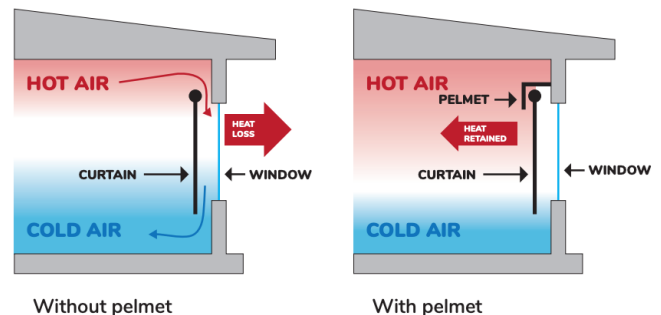
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If you found your home energy assessment and report useful please let your friends, family and networks know.

## Windows and draughts

### Your recommendations

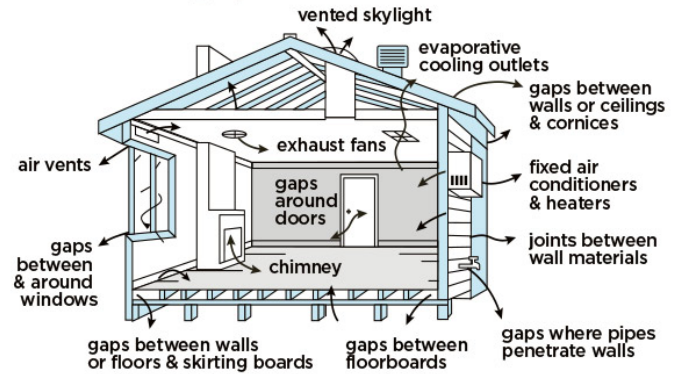
- Draughts waste a lot of energy. Stopping them is the most cost-effective action you can take to make your home more comfortable and can reduce heat loss in winter by up to 25%
- Also, installing pelmets above the blackout curtains would increase the Energy Efficiency Rating of the property, improving the value of



the property.

You can find more detailed information about draught-proofing, window insulation and window coverings in the links at the end of this report.

## Find & fix gaps



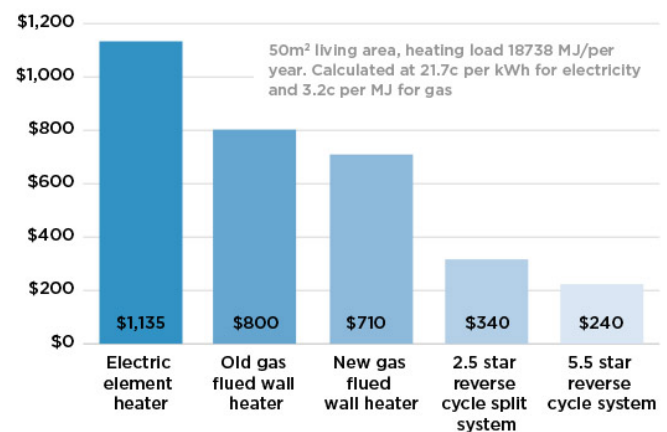
## Heating

### Your heating recommendations

- Regularly check and clean the dust from your air conditioning vents and filters to ensure your system is running as efficiently and safely as possible. This can reduce running costs by 5-15%.
- The ACT Government offers rebates for removal of wood heaters and for replacing them with reverse cycle air conditioners. Details are available at [www.climatechoices.act.gov.au](http://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au).
- Reverse cycle air conditioning is the most energy-efficient form of heating. Installing air conditioning in all rooms that need to be heated is likely to reduce total heating costs.

There is more information about heating your home in the links at the end of the report.

Approximate annual cost to heat a large living area in Canberra



## Cooling

### Your cooling recommendations

- Keep your home cooler in summer by opening your windows, doors and curtains when it cools down at night, then closing them in the morning as soon as it starts to get warm outside.
- Air conditioning units should be serviced annually. This will extend the life of the unit, saving you money in the long term
- If you are thinking about buying a new cooling appliance, check the

energy star rating labels (see <https://www.energyrating.gov.au/>). More stars mean more energy-efficient. Choosing a more energy-efficient cooling appliance will reduce energy consumption and help lower energy bills.



Fans are an extremely cost-effective way to keep cool in summer - they cost only 1 to 2 cents per hour to run.

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## Appliances

### Your appliances recommendations

- You can find out how much each of your appliances is costing you by getting a plug-in power meter (see photo). It will show how much power the appliance has used since it was plugged into the meter and will calculate the cost. You can buy power meters at hardware stores or online.
- When the time comes to buy a new appliance, check the energy star rating labels (see <https://www.energyrating.gov.au/>). More stars mean greater energy efficiency. Choosing a more energy-efficient appliance will reduce energy consumption and help lower energy bills.
- A new, efficient dishwasher could save considerably on running costs. Look for a unit with an eco function and the best energy and star rating you can afford
- If you are an ActewAGL customer and planning to upgrade to a new, more energy efficient refrigerator, ActewAGL will take away your old fridge/freezer, dispose of it responsibly and give eligible customers a \$30 discount on their next electricity bill. For more information please contact ActewAGL on 1300 136 008.



A plug-in power meter

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# Hot Water

## Your recommendations

- Insulate all pipes going into and out of your hot water unit with foam tubing, known as lagging, to prevent heat loss, especially the two metres closest to your water heater.



Hot water heat pumps are significantly more energy-efficient than conventional water heaters.



Pipe insulation (often called lagging) is low cost and readily available from most hardware outlets. Insulate the first 2m of exposed pipes from your hot water unit, especially those carrying hot water.

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# Lighting

## Your lighting recommendations

- Swap light bulbs with LED lights as they need replacing. Incandescent, halogen and compact fluorescent bulbs and fluorescent tubes can all be replaced with long-lasting efficient LED versions.
- LED lights use 20% of the power of halogen lights and last five times as long.

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# Insulation

## Your insulation recommendations

- Installing adequate ceiling insulation significantly improves the Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) of a property, which increases its value as well as being the best way to keep it at a comfortable temperature all year round. Most heat enters and exits through the ceiling.
  - Ceiling batts should have at least an R5 rating (about 240mm thick). It is easy to top up existing insulation to achieve R5 rating.
  - Gaps and incomplete coverage will severely compromise the insulation value, with 5% gaps resulting in around 20% loss of insulation value.
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# Links & Resources

- Energy in the ACT <https://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au/energy>
- Heating your home  
<https://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au/energy/energy-efficiency/heating-for-your-home>
- Staying warm on less energy  
<https://act-hea.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Actsmart-Staying-warm-on-less-ACCESS.pdf>
- Actsmart Energy Saving Guide (a detailed guide and action plan template)  
<https://act-hea.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ACTSmart-ESG-12-20.pdf>
- Draught-proofing DIY videos  
<https://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au/policy-programs/sustainable-home-advice-program> and  
<https://www.greenityyourself.com.au/category/topics/draught-proofing>
- Make the Switch from gas appliances to an efficient all-electric home <https://maketheswitch.org.au>
- Better Renting Energy Efficiency Guide for People Who Rent  
[https://www.betterrenting.org.au/energy\\_efficiency\\_renting](https://www.betterrenting.org.au/energy_efficiency_renting)
- Renters Guide to Sustainable Living  
<https://renew.org.au/publications/renters-guide-to-sustainable-living/>
- Energy rating website <https://www.energyrating.gov.au/>
- The renting book <https://act-hea.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Renting-Book.pdf>
- My Efficient Electric Home Facebook group  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MyEfficientElectricHome>

*Everyday*  
**climate  
choices**



For further information about your recommendations and how to implement them please contact:

For further information about ACT energy efficiency programs and technical advice, call the ACT Sustainable Home Advice line on 1300 141 777, email [sustainablehomeadviceprogram@act.gov.au](mailto:sustainablehomeadviceprogram@act.gov.au), or visit [www.climatechoices.act.gov.au](http://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au).

[Any Questions or Feedback? Please use this form.](#)