

Effective energy-saving tips

EWE

You too are probably making sure that you consume your household gas efficiently and save money on it. We have put together a checklist of other things that you might also be able to do: 5 effective tips for now – and 5 tips for the heating season on the back. You can find these tips and more online at ewe.de/energiesparen (German only).

Energy checklist before the heating season



Call a professional



Do it yourself

1. Optimise heater operation



In order for your heater to run efficiently, you not only need to have it maintained regularly, but also adjusted to your actual needs. Modern systems can automatically lower the temperature by a few degrees at night, for example, or during the day on weekdays when no one is at home. And, when your flow temperature is set correctly, you get the room temperatures you want while consuming minimal energy. Even in highly insulated buildings, it is still important to configure the heater with individual settings. This can provide additional energy savings.

Results: Energy consumption lowered by up to 15 per cent

2. Perform hydronic balancing



If some radiators are not getting properly warm while others are boiling hot, your heating system might not have the optimal settings. Get your heater checked by a professional who can also perform hydronic balancing. The heat will then spread evenly again, which will make all radiators emit enough heat to reach the right room temperature.

Results: Energy consumption lowered by up to 10 per cent

3. Modernise heater – e.g. by hiring or leasing



About two-thirds of all heaters in Germany are outdated. They consume much more fuel than modern gas-fuelled condensing boilers. You can make your heating even more sustainable with a new heat pump that does not use any fossil fuels at all. If the high investment costs are stopping you from modernising your heating, we have an idea: instead of buying a new heater, use EWE's leasing solutions for gas-fuelled condensing boilers and heat pumps. You can get advice and more information from the EWE Shop, from selected sales partners near you and at ewe-waerme.de.

Results: Energy consumption lowered by up to 20 per cent

4. Reduce hot water consumption



Roughly 14 per cent of household energy is consumed for hot water. One bath consumes 120 to 150 litres on average, while a shower with a standard shower head consumes about 15 to 20 litres per minute. This is how showering for a shorter time, turning off the water during showers and keeping the water at a less hot temperature can reduce energy consumption sustainably. Flow limiters and water-saving shower heads that make the water stream more voluminous and soft can lower consumption additionally in the bathroom as well as the kitchen.

Results: Hot water consumption lowered by up to 30 per cent

5. Increase prepayments

Avoid back charges and increase your prepayments



Prepare yourself today for the electricity and gas prices that are rising continuously at the moment. To avoid being back-charged a large amount for these extra costs, take precautions by adjusting the amount you prepay every month. At EWE, you can easily do this yourself on the **'My EWE' online services page**, by calling **+49 (0)441 8000 1231** or by sending an online message at ewe.de/kontaktformular.

Adjust your prepayment online



Energy checklist during the heating season

1. Optimise your room temperatures

DIY

Check on your individual rooms and see how they are heated. You can give them the temperature they need by choosing the right setting. For example, the German Environment Agency recommends 17°C for bedrooms, 18°C for the kitchen and 20°C for living areas. Radiator thermostats help to set the right temperature for each room, whether you turn them by hand or programme them automatically.

Results: One degree less in all rooms lowers consumption by about 6 per cent

2. Ventilate properly

DIY

Open your windows fully for 5 to 10 minutes three times per day and try to cross-ventilate as much as possible. Cross-ventilating exchanges the air in the room quickly without cooling down the walls. Keeping the windows tilted back is inefficient and can even cause mould. Once you have closed the windows, your heater only needs to warm up the fresh air and not the solid components of your building. This works much faster and needs significantly less energy. You should turn down the thermostats too when ventilating. Smart heater thermostats do this automatically when you open the windows.

Results: Ventilating briefly but intensively can reduce costs by up to 12.5 per cent

3. Bleed your radiators, insulate your radiator pipes

DIY

If your radiators are gurgling and not getting warm, there might be air in the system. It will consume more energy than necessary if there is. You can easily let the air out of a hot radiator with a radiator key. Use a container to catch any liquid that escapes. Uncovered radiator pipes also consume an unnecessary amount of energy by emitting heat. You can get suitable foam hoses for isolating these pipes (from under €1 per metre) and tape for sealing off the connections from your DIY shop.

Results: Consumption lowered by roughly 6.5 per cent

4. Keep radiator surroundings clear

DIY

If radiators are hidden behind curtains or furniture, the heat will become trapped there and not emitted into the room properly. A sofa, for example, should be at least 30 centimetres away from a radiator. When windows have radiators beneath them, the curtains should not be floor-to-ceiling and should end above the radiator. Also good to know: fluff and dust reduce the heat emitted by radiators, so dust and clean them regularly.

Results: Up to 15 per cent more warmth

5. Avoid turning the thermostat all the way up

DIY

Whether you turn your thermostat dial to 3 or 5, your room will not get warmer that much quicker on the higher setting. However, turning it to 5 – approx. 26°C – will set a temperature that is too high. This ends up making the room warmer than you actually want, and you will consume energy unnecessarily. Set your radiator to 2 or 3, which usually corresponds to a pleasant room temperature of 18°C to 20°C.

Results: One degree less in all rooms results in savings of about 6 per cent

Any other questions?



Call at:
+49 (0)441 8000-5555



In person at:



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