How energy efficient is your home?

Here are some tips to prepare for the winter season, which can have a big impact on the cost of running your home. Use this quick checklist to help you reduce your energy consumption.

Insulation

☐ Install curtains, blinds or window film to prevent heat loss.

☐ Ensure you have adequate ceiling, wall and underfloor insulation; top it up if required. A well-insulated home will prevent heat from escaping, so less energy is required to maintain a comfortable temperature.

☐ Prevent draughts quickly and easily by adding door sweeps and snakes.

☐ Draught-proof your home by installing weather seals and re-caulking your windows.

☐ If you're using a split system in winter, set it to a temperature between 18-20°C. This is a good balance between keeping warm without wasting energy. (Every degree higher uses more electricity.)

☐ Install an insulating wrap and lagging around your hot water cylinder and pipes.

☐ Use plants, trees and other landscape features to shelter your home from wind and weather.

Scan for more energy saving tips

Lighting

☐ Replace halogen and fluorescent light globes with energy-efficient LED globes.

☐ Avoid leaving lights on when they're not needed.

☐ Switch off lights when you leave the room. Installing smart lighting that connects to Wi-Fi or Bluetooth can help with that, as it makes it easy to control lights with your phone.

☐ Install skylights to maximise natural light in older or darker homes. Install a skylight blind to help manage heat and light throughout the year.

Appliances

☐ Wash clothes in cold water.

☐ Use a wall-mounted clothesline or portable drying rack to dry your clothes instead of a dryer.

☐ Switch off appliances at the wall when not in use.

☐ Energy timers are also useful for controlling household appliances, switching them off when not in use. Invest in smart solutions, such as 24-hour mechanical timers and energy-saving powerboards.

☐ Purchase an energy-efficient dishwasher. (The higher the star rating, the more energy efficient it is.)