



Home Energy Quick Wins

Low-cost heat savings options

FIXING DRAUGHTS¹

- Install DIY door and/or window seals if any draughts are apparent.
- A cheaper and quick alternative to installing permanent secondary glazing units is to fit acrylic or plastic film inside your windows.
- Use heavy curtains over external doors and windows to partially reduce draughts and cold convection – this can be almost as effective as double glazing.
- Fit a door floor seal or use a door draught snake



- Block unused chimneys since they pull warm air out of the room. You can buy purpose made chimney balloons or simply stuff up an old cushion or use loft insulation tightly packed inside a suitably sized bag.
- Check old extractor fans - often they don't have a shut off and hence form an open draught when switched off.
- Check down-lights seals in areas where the space above is cold such as a loft.

- Install a well-sealed magnetic letter box flap.
- Ensure a good seal on cat-flaps and block any that are unused.
- Ensure loft hatches and eaves storage access points are insulated and well-sealed.



¹ Caution if you are using a gas fire or LPG heating you must maintain a minimum ventilation to avoid carbon monoxide build up. If you do not already have a CO alarm, then we advise getting one before fixing draughts.

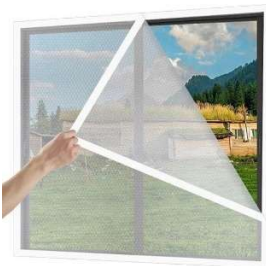
Quick Wins

Low-cost heat savings options



OTHER USEFUL HEAT SAVING TIPS

- Use a dehumidifier if eliminating drafts causes damp. This (slightly) heats the house and can dry clothes with much less energy than a non-condensing tumble dryer.



- Cut/eliminate condensation in bathrooms with bubble wrap on the windows – just cut to size, wet the flat side and press to the glass. It will stay on all winter.
- Turn down the room thermostat and wear warmer clothes and shoes. Add layers, focus on head (hoodies or hats), hands and feet.

- Use heated clothes and / or blankets, which use less than 1/10th the energy of the smallest fan heater.
- Insulate the floor with mats or rugs. Caulk up gaps between floorboards.
- Quilts or other wall hangings can make the room feel warmer



- Put an insulating foam+foil liner behind radiators (particularly on outside walls) to reflect heat back into the room - you can buy ready-made strips, including magnetic ones, that slide behind the radiator and can be cut to length

- Set boiler outflow and hot water cylinder thermostats at 60°C. This temperature is sufficient to warm most homes and the boiler is more efficient at a lower temperature. It is recommended that 60°C is attained at least weekly to prevent the development of Legionnaires disease bacteria.



Cylinder & Room thermostats

