

Get Unplugged – And Cut Your Electric Bill

Conserve

If you're looking for new ways to lower your utility costs or conserve energy, start by taking stock of your home electronics.

Consumed

Experts estimate that about 10 percent of residential electricity is consumed by devices that are shut off but still plugged in.

Adding Up

Each device by itself might not gulp much electricity, but the typical American home has about 40 products that constantly draw power.

Quick Energy-Saving Tips:

Unplug

Unplug gadgets you don't use often — think guest bedroom TV.

Cluster

Cluster related products and control them with one power strip.

Measure

If you are extra-vigilant, invest in a low-cost watt-meter to measure the devices in your home. Identify the worst offenders and take action.

Upgrade

When you upgrade, look into Energy Star products for lower standby energy use.

Source:

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

<http://standby.lbl.gov/>

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