



REFRIGERATION

FAST FACTS FOR HOUSEHOLDS

During summer our fridges and freezers have to work harder to keep food fresh and crisp. That means extra dollars on power bills.

Running a second fridge all year can add up to \$265* to your electricity bill.

There are some simple things you can do to **save power** when buying, installing or using a fridge or freezer. Here's where to start:

BUYING YOUR NEW FRIDGE OR FREEZER

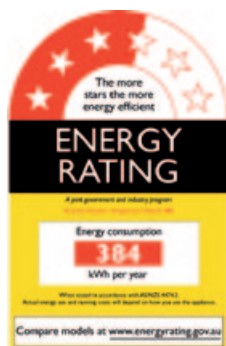
One of the easiest ways to save power is to buy an **energy efficient** fridge or freezer. Look for the Energy Star Rating label or sticker.

The greater the number of stars the better its energy rating. This means the fridge or freezer uses less electricity to achieve the same level of performance as an older, more inefficient model. Consider these comparisons*:

- A 1 star 500 litre fridge/freezer can cost \$2050 to run over 10 years, whilst a 3 star fridge/freezer of equivalent volume can cost only \$1200 over the same period.
- A 1.5 star 270 litre fridge/freezer can cost \$1200 to run over 10 years, whilst a 3 star fridge/freezer of equivalent volume can cost only \$900 over the same period.

For more information on appliances that have high energy star ratings go to www.energyrating.gov.au

DID YOU KNOW? Replacing a 10 year old fridge with a new 4.5 star energy rated fridge can halve the amount of electricity your fridge uses – saving you around \$145* a year.



WHERE TO PUT YOUR FRIDGE

The location of your fridge can have a big impact on how much power it uses. Here's what to think about:

- Put your fridge in a cool, well ventilated position. Avoid placing your fridge or freezer in direct sunlight or next to an oven as it has to work harder to keep cool, wasting power and money!
- Make sure there is plenty of air flow to the area behind the fridge. If your fridge is installed in a custom built alcove or cupboard, it's important that there's good ventilation all around including at the top.
- If you have a **second fridge**, make sure it's in a cool place and turn it off if you're not using it for long periods. If you don't use it very much consider **recycling it** – find out if you are eligible for a rebate from the Fridge Buyback program (www.fridgebuyback.com.au) supported by the NSW Government's Climate Change Fund. Recycling a second fridge can cut up to \$265* off your annual power bill.

DID YOU KNOW? Closing the fridge door, fixing seals, leaving space all around it especially at the back and setting the temperature to 3°C to 4°C can reduce your annual power bill by up to \$25*.

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR FRIDGE OR FREEZER

There are lots of things you and your family can do to get more out of your fridge or freezer and save power. Here are some easy actions you can take today:

- Have you checked the temperature setting on your fridge lately? Set the temperature of your fridge to around 3°C to 4°C and freezers to around -15°C to -18°C for the best energy use and appliance efficiency.



There are simple things we can all do that will lower power bills and reduce our impact on the environment.

our environment *it's a living thing*

- Defrost your fridge or freezer regularly. Ice insulates the unit and if it's not removed before it becomes thick, your freezer becomes less efficient and more power hungry. For non frost-free models, defrost whenever the frost is around 5mm thick.
- Door seals on fridges and freezers need to be a tight fit to work effectively. To check the seal is tight, place a piece of paper in between the seal and the door and close it. If the paper slides out easily, the door could be leaking cool air – and costing you more to run.
- Think about what you need before you open the fridge door and keep it closed until you need it. That way you'll minimise the power needed to re-cool your fridge or freezer after it has been opened.
- Your fridge will work most efficiently if it's not too full or too empty. Running a fridge that's bigger than you need wastes power and money whilst overloading your fridge means it has to work harder to keep cool.
- Buy the right sized fridge for your needs. A large energy efficient fridge with a high star rating could use

DID YOU KNOW?

By switching off your second fridge for six months, you can save up to \$130* a year.

Even better, get your old second fridge recycled and you can save up to \$265* per year!

Don't forget to visit www.fridgebuyback.com.au to see if you're eligible for a rebate or call 1800 708 401. Conditions apply.

more power than a smaller fridge with a lower star rating. You can compare the power consumption and running costs of fridges and freezers at www.energyrating.gov.au

- Visit a retail store taking part in the Save Power Retailer Program (savepower.nsw.gov.au/households/retailer-program/about-the-program.aspx). Staff in the stores can provide advice on energy efficient refrigerators, freezers and other appliances.

Join the NSW homes that have pledged to save power by using the Power Pledge tool at savepower.nsw.gov.au

Choose from a list of energy efficient actions you can do to save power, money and our environment. Use the Power Pledge tool to track your progress and see how much you can save.

savepower.nsw.gov.au

* Savings based on household electricity price July 2011. Refrigeration energy consumption based on that of current models listed at www.energyrating.gov.au