

The Flex Your Power Challenge CHEATSHEET

<p>Q: Each year, how many dollars worth of energy escapes through holes and cracks in residential buildings in the U.S.?</p> <p>A: \$1,300,000</p>	<p>Flex Fact Don't throw money out the window. Improperly sealed homes can lose 10% to 15% of a homeowner's heating dollars.</p>
<p>Q: How much does the typical California family spend a year on their home utility bill?</p> <p>A: \$900</p>	<p>Flex Fact The average California household uses about 6,900 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year.</p>
<p>Q: How much money have California utility companies committed towards energy-efficiency programs in the next three years?</p> <p>A: Two billion dollars</p>	<p>Flex Fact Find appliance, heating and cooling rebates, and many other services at FlexYourPower.org/rebates/.</p>
<p>Q: Over the life of the machine, washing your clothes in a newer energy-efficient clothes washer can save you...?</p> <p>A: \$850</p>	<p>Flex Fact Did you know that an ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer also cuts your water use by nearly 40%?</p>
<p>Q: How much can you save each year by unplugging the spare refrigerator in your garage?</p> <p>A: \$150 or more</p>	<p>Flex Fact Did you know that most utility companies will pay you money to take away old refrigerators? Check it out at FlexYourPower.org.</p>
<p>Q: Which clothes washer setting cleans your clothes and saves the most energy?</p> <p>A: Cold/Cold</p>	<p>Flex Fact Using cold water in both the wash and rinse cycles can save the average homeowner around \$170 a year!</p>
<p>Q: What money-saving features can you find in an ENERGY STAR New Home?</p> <p>A: Tight construction, tightly sealed ducts, energy-saving windows, improved insulation, super-efficient heating and air conditioning systems</p>	<p>Flex Fact The average California household uses about 6,900 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year.</p>
<p>Q: Where can you find money-saving tips and rebate information on energy-efficient products for your zip code?</p> <p>A: FlexYourPower.org/rebates/</p>	<p>Flex Fact You can cut up to half of your energy bill by switching to energy-efficient appliances, cooling equipment and lighting.</p>

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<p>Q: When shopping for new appliances, what important information can you learn from the yellow EnergyGuide label?</p> <p>A: Yearly operating cost</p>	<p>Flex Fact The yellow EnergyGuide label compares the energy use of classes of appliances and lists approximate annual operating costs so you can purchase the most energy-efficient appliance.</p>
<p>Q: A new ENERGY STAR qualified air conditioner uses how much less electricity than a 10-year old model?</p> <p>A: 20% less</p>	<p>Flex Fact When considering a new ENERGY STAR qualified air conditioner, remember that the most efficient units are the ones with the highest Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) rating.</p>
<p>Q: What does the Modified Energy Factor (MEF) measure on washing machines and why is it important?</p> <p>Tub capacity and energy use</p>	<p>Flex Fact Knowing the MEF is a good way to compare two washing machines and their ability to save energy and money.</p>
<p>Q: A whole-house evaporative cooler uses up to ___ less electricity than a conventional air conditioner.</p> <p>A: 75%</p>	<p>Flex Fact Evaporative coolers are ideal for drier climates, such as in hot desert locations.</p>
<p>Q: True or False: 20% of U.S. electricity use goes to lighting; 5% to cooling rooms due to heat from inefficient lighting.</p> <p>A: True</p>	<p>Flex Fact Using ENERGY STAR qualified lighting saves up to 75% of lighting costs.</p>
<p>Q: How much energy does a compact fluorescent bulb use, compared to a halogen bulb?</p> <p>A: One quarter</p>	<p>Flex Fact Replace your halogen and incandescent fixtures with fluorescent lighting fixtures for major money and energy savings.</p>
<p>Q: Standard incandescent bulbs generate around ___% heat and about ___% light.</p> <p>A: 90% heat, 10% light</p>	<p>Flex Fact New compact fluorescent light bulbs use less energy, create less heat, and provide a wide spectrum of lighting options from warm to cool.</p>
<p>Q: What is energy efficiency?</p> <p>A: Using products that get more from the energy you use, like ENERGY STAR qualified appliances</p>	<p>Flex Fact Using products that get more from the energy you use, like ENERGY STAR qualified appliances</p>

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<p>Q: What is energy conservation?</p> <p>A: Taking no cost, easy steps like turning out unnecessary lights to use less energy</p>	<p>Flex Fact Find all sorts of money and energy saving tips FlexYourPower.org.</p>
<p>Q: During the summer, how much can you save on your electrical bill for every degree you set your thermostat above 72 degrees?</p> <p>A: 1-3% per degree</p>	<p>Flex Fact Using an ENERGY STAR qualified ceiling fan instead of your A/C is an even more efficient way to stay cool and reduce your cooling costs.</p>
<p>Q: If every household in the U.S. replaced just ONE incandescent bulb with an energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulb...</p> <p>A: It would eliminate the equivalent of the emissions created by 1,000,000 cars</p>	<p>Flex Fact Replacing an incandescent bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb offsets burning 528 pounds of coal and creating one ton of carbon dioxide. Plus, you save \$30 to \$60 over the life of each replaced bulb.</p>
<p>Q: How can you help prevent global warming?</p> <p>A: Drive your car less, purchase energy-efficient appliances, and "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle"</p>	<p>Flex Fact The average house is responsible for twice the amount of greenhouse gas emissions a year as the average car</p>
<p>Q: How much can average homeowners save in energy costs with simple, no-cost or low-cost measures like weather-stripping?</p> <p>A: 30%</p>	<p>Flex Fact Find a free energy audit for your home, as well as simple energy saving tips at FlexYourPower.org.</p>
<p>Q: How much do "vampires" – appliances and computers on standby or in sleep mode – cost a homeowner each year?</p> <p>A: \$50-\$75</p>	<p>Flex Fact The Lawrence Berkeley National Lab estimates that waste from appliances on standby costs U.S. households over \$5 billion in electricity a year.</p>
<p>Q: Which of these is the largest user of energy in your home?</p> <p>Refrigerator</p>	<p>Flex Fact Some ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerators use less energy than a continuously operating 75-watt light bulb.</p>
<p>Q: Which sector is the largest electricity user in California?</p> <p>A: Commercial</p>	<p>Flex Fact The commercial sector accounts for about 35% of California's energy use with the residential sector a close second at 31%.</p>

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<p>Q: Where does California rank globally in the production of greenhouse gases, which is causing global warming?</p> <p>A: 12th</p>	<p>Flex Fact The average home emits 20,000 pounds of greenhouse gases a year. Saving electricity helps prevent global warming.</p>
<p>Q: What is "peak" electricity demand?</p> <p>A: When high demand and falling reserves strain the grid, potentially leading to rolling blackouts</p>	<p>Flex Fact By conserving energy during peak periods, Californians can prevent rolling blackouts.</p>
<p>Q: Compared to the rest of the United States, California's electricity use per person...</p> <p>A: ...has remained relatively steady</p>	<p>Flex Fact Over the past two decades, while U.S. per capita electricity use increased 40%, Californians, without sacrificing quality of life or productivity only slightly increased electricity use per person.</p>
<p>Q: What can you do to save water and energy?</p> <p>A: Buy an ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer</p>	<p>Flex Fact 19% of the California's annual energy consumption is connected to water use.</p>
<p>Q: What things can you do during times of peak demand to conserve energy?</p> <p>A: Turn your air conditioning up to 78 degrees, postpone using appliances until after 7 p.m., and turn off all unnecessary lights</p>	<p>Flex Fact Did you know that despite a record-breaking heat wave in 2006, Californians prevented blackouts by saving more than 1,500 megawatts during the peak period?</p>
<p>Q: What can you do to save water AND energy?</p> <p>A: Buy an ENERGY STAR qualified washing machine, install low-flow water saving aerators and showerheads, retrofit your old toilet with a high-efficiency toilet</p>	<p>Flex Fact 19% of the California's annual energy consumption is connected to water use.</p>
<p>Q: The Energy Policy Act of 2005 gives tax incentives for which of the following energy-saving technologies?</p> <p>A: Home insulation and replacement windows, high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment, and solar energy systems</p>	<p>Flex Fact Energy-saving rebates and incentives are everywhere, find them at FlexYourPower.org.</p>