

Keeping warm, saving money

It's either too warm or too cold. What can I do?

About three quarters of your energy bill comes from keeping your home warm and running hot water. If you don't set up your heating properly, you could waste money.

Switching heating on at a high temperature and then switching off when it gets too warm is actually more expensive than keeping the heating on constantly at a medium temperature.

In cold weather, keep the heating on low as much as possible, even when you are not at home. This will help to stop condensation and will also help prevent pipes freezing.

How can I reduce my energy bill?

Voltz is a new app that takes all the strife out of finding the best energy tariff for you. Together Energy Services, part of Together Housing Group, has teamed up with the developers of this great app.

Available on both Android and Apple, Voltz is the simplest and fastest way of switching your energy provider to the best deal for you.

See the Voltz website for more information
www.voltzapp.com



Follow the tips overleaf to keep warm and save money.

www.togetherhousing.co.uk

Follow these tips to keep warm and save money

Set room thermostat at right temperature

The thermostat turns the heating on until the room reaches the temperature you have set, and then off until it switches the heating back on when the temperature drops.

The thermostat should be set to the lowest comfortable temperature to keep warm and save money - typically between 18 and 21 degrees.

Set timer when you want heating on/off

The timer allows you to set the time when you want the heating to switch on and off automatically.

For example, in cold weather set the heating to switch on half an hour before you get up so your home is warm. Set it to switch off half an hour before you leave the house or go to bed, so you are not wasting money.

What do the radiator valves do?

Thermostatic radiator valves reduce the flow of water through the radiator when the temperature goes above a certain setting.

Set the valves to the level you want for each room. A lower setting uses less energy and so will save you money.

Don't block radiators with furniture or curtains as this will stop the warm air circulating around the room.

How do I set the boiler controls?

Combi-boilers usually have a dial marked from min to max. This sets the temperature of the water that will be pumped from the boiler through the radiators. In very cold weather, set it to max so your home warms-up quickly.

A separate control sets the temperature of the hot water.

What about a conventional boiler?

Set the cylinder thermostat at between 60 and 65 degrees, which will be hot enough to kill harmful bacteria in the water.

If the hot water is cooler than you want, turn the thermostat up a little. Keep experimenting until you find the right settings for the heating and hot water.