

## For comfort and cost control, run the numbers on your appliances

Appliances, entertainment systems and other modern household devices add comfort, ease and enjoyment to life. Being aware of how you use them – and how much they cost to run – can help you gain greater control of your energy bills and your budget.

When the weather's hot, for example, running a central air conditioner can change your energy bill a little or a lot, depending on factors such as:

- The number of hours you keep your central A/C on.
- The thermostat setting you choose (save by raising it 4 to 6 degrees, aim for 78 degrees or higher).
- Credits you can earn as rewards for reducing power use from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on **Reduce Your Use**™ days when you sign up for alerts at [sdge.com/reduceuse](http://sdge.com/reduceuse).
- The price you pay per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity.

### See rate tiers on your bill

Our residential electric rates are tiered, as shown on your bill, so the cost per kWh goes up when your overall electricity use rises from one usage level to the next.

### Check out examples in table

Examples in the table below will give you an idea of how changing from "high-use" to "low-use" tiers can significantly reduce your household energy bill.

### New tool makes it easier to save

One of the free options we offer to help you save energy and money is our new online energy-management tool in **My Account**.



**A portable fan costs 2 to 3 cents per hour to run, far less than central A/C. For more cost comparisons, download "Your Energy Costs: A Room-by-Room Guide" at [sdge.com/forms](http://sdge.com/forms).**

For details, visit [sdge.com/energy-management-tool](http://sdge.com/energy-management-tool) or - if you already use My Account to pay your bills online - simply:

1. Log in at [sdge.com/myaccount](http://sdge.com/myaccount).
2. Click the "My Energy" tab to see an at-a-glance view of your energy information.
3. Click links within the sections and fill out the profiles and surveys for more detailed analyses on why your bill changes and more.

Appliance	Approximate operating cost*		
	Low-use household	High-use household	
<b>Air conditioner</b> 3-ton central air			
<small>NOTE: The higher the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER), the more energy efficient the equipment is.</small>	SEER 15	\$0.36 per hour	\$0.72 per hour
	SEER 12	\$0.45 per hour	\$0.90 per hour
	SEER 10	\$0.54 per hour	\$1.08 per hour
	SEER 7	\$0.77 per hour	\$1.53 per hour
<b>Fan, ceiling or portable</b>	\$0.02 per hour	\$0.03 per hour	
<b>Whole-house fan</b>			
1/4 horsepower	\$0.02 per hour	\$0.04 per hour	
1/3 horsepower	\$0.03 per hour	\$0.07 per hour	
1/2 horsepower	\$0.05 per hour	\$0.10 per hour	
<b>Refrigerator</b> 22 cu. ft., side-by-side			
19 years or older, frost-free	\$23.55 per month	\$47.10 per month	
Standard (2001 or newer)	\$15.45 per month	\$30.90 per month	
ENERGY STAR®-qualified (15% more efficient than standard)	\$7.14 per month	\$14.27 per month	

Appliance	Approximate operating cost*	
	Low-use household	High-use household
<b>Water heaters</b> (based on 55 gallons per day, household of three)		
Gas	\$15.68 per month	\$15.68 per month
Electric	\$45.00 per month	\$90.00 per month
Tankless gas	\$10.92 per month	\$10.92 per month
Tankless electric	\$44.55 per month	\$98.01 per month
<b>Light bulbs</b>		
Incandescent, 100 watts	\$0.02 per hour	\$0.03 per hour
Compact fluorescent, 13-18 watts (equal to 60- to 75-watt incandescent)	Less than \$0.005 per hour	Less than \$0.01 per hour
<b>Television</b>		
Color, 25"	\$0.02 per hour	\$0.05 per hour
54" plasma	\$0.05 per hour	\$0.09 per hour
42" LCD	\$0.03 per hour	\$0.08 per hour

\*Approximate operating costs are based on average energy costs for "low-use" and "high-use" households. Your household is considered "high-use" if your SDG&E bill shows you used over 130% of your baseline electric allowance. "Low-use" electric cost estimates reflect a rate of \$0.15 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). "High-use" electric cost estimates reflect a rate of \$0.30 per kWh. The price you pay may vary depending on your tiered rate and other factors. Natural gas estimates are based on a rate of \$0.96 per therm.

## Book your annual checkup today.

We offer free safety checkups on gas furnaces for our gas customers. To schedule, call 1-800-411-7343 or visit [sdge.com/serviceorder](http://sdge.com/serviceorder), and have your SDG&E® account number handy. Make sure your furnace is ready to go before cold weather arrives.

## Tips on tap: Water heater safety and savings

Here are some simple steps to keep safety and energy savings on tap year-round with your water heater.

- Set your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees or less. Lowering the thermostat by just 10 degrees can save 3% to 5% in energy costs, and reduces the risk of scalding. (A setting of 140 degrees may be necessary, however, for certain health reasons or if your dishwasher doesn't have a booster heater.)
- Since thermostat settings aren't always accurate, check the temperature by placing a thermometer under a faucet and running the water. A range of 110-115 degrees is typical for showering and hand washing, and 100 degrees or less for a child's bath water. Tap water can burn skin in as little as

90 seconds at 125 degrees, 30 seconds at 130 degrees, 10 seconds at 135 degrees, and 5 seconds at 140 degrees.

- Fix leaky faucets. As heated water drips away, cold water enters the water heater at the same rate.
- Use cold water to wash clothes and rinse dishes when possible.
- Run full loads in the clothes washer and dishwasher.
- Install low-flow devices on faucets and showerheads - less water, less heating.
- Get a rebate of up to \$75 when you buy a qualifying energy-efficient water heater. Apply at [sdge.com/rebates](http://sdge.com/rebates).

**NOTE:** Energy-efficiency programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.



**Before bathing children, test the water temperature to prevent scalding accidents.**

**Antes de bañar a los niños, pruebe la temperatura del agua para evitar accidentes por escaldaduras.**

## Seguridad y ahorro con el calentador de agua

He aquí unas sencillas sugerencias para mantener la seguridad y ahorrar energía todo el año con su calentador de agua.

- Ponga el termostato del calentador de agua a 120 grados o menos. Bajándole al termostato tan sólo 10 grados puede ahorrar de 3% a 5% en costos de energía, y reduce el riesgo de escaldaduras. (Sin embargo, tal vez sea necesario ponerlo a 140 grados, por ciertas razones de salud o si su lavaplatos no tiene un calentador de refuerzo).
- Dado que los ajustes del termostato no siempre son precisos, revise la temperatura colocando un termómetro bajo una llave y abriendo el agua. Un rango de 110 a 115 grados es lo normal para ducharse y lavarse las manos, y 100 grados o menos para el agua de baño de un niño. El agua de la llave puede quemar la piel en tan sólo 90 segundos cuando está a 125 grados, en 30 segundos a 130 grados, en 10 segundos a 135 grados, y en 5 segundos a 140 grados.
- Repare las llaves con fugas. En la misma proporción en que se tira el agua caliente al gotear, entra agua fría al calentador de agua.
- Use agua fría para lavar la ropa y enjuagar los platos cuando sea posible.
- Ponga cargas completas en la lavadora de ropa y la lavaplatos.
- Instale dispositivos de bajo flujo en las llaves y los cabezales para regadera - entre menos agua use, menos usará el calentador.
- Obtenga un reembolso de hasta \$75 cuando compre un calentador de agua eficiente en energía que reúna los requisitos. Solicítelo en [sdge.com/rebates](http://sdge.com/rebates).

**NOTA:** Los programas para la eficiencia energética están financiados por los clientes de las empresas de servicios públicos de California y administrados por SDG&E, bajo los auspicios de la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de California.

## POWER CONTENT LABEL

ENERGY RESOURCES	SDG&E 2011 POWER MIX (Actual)	2011 CA POWER MIX**
<b>Eligible Renewable</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
- Biomass & waste	3.2%	2.2%
- Geothermal	4.4%	4.7%
- Small hydroelectric	0.1%	2.2%
- Solar	0.0%	0.4%
- Wind	7.9%	5.1%
<b>Coal</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
<b>Large Hydroelectric</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>
<b>Natural Gas</b>	<b>42.8%</b>	<b>36.5%</b>
<b>Nuclear</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Unspecified sources of power*</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Unspecified sources of power" means electricity from transactions that are not traceable to specific generation sources.

\*\* Percentages are estimated annually by the California Energy Commission based on the electricity sold to California consumers during the previous year.

For specific information about this electricity product, contact San Diego Gas & Electric®. For general information about the Power Content Label, contact the California Energy Commission at 1-800-555-7794 or [www.energy.ca.gov/consumer](http://www.energy.ca.gov/consumer).