



Fast Facts: Cooling With ENERGY STAR®

The average family spends \$1,300 a year on energy bills, nearly 40% of that on heating and cooling.

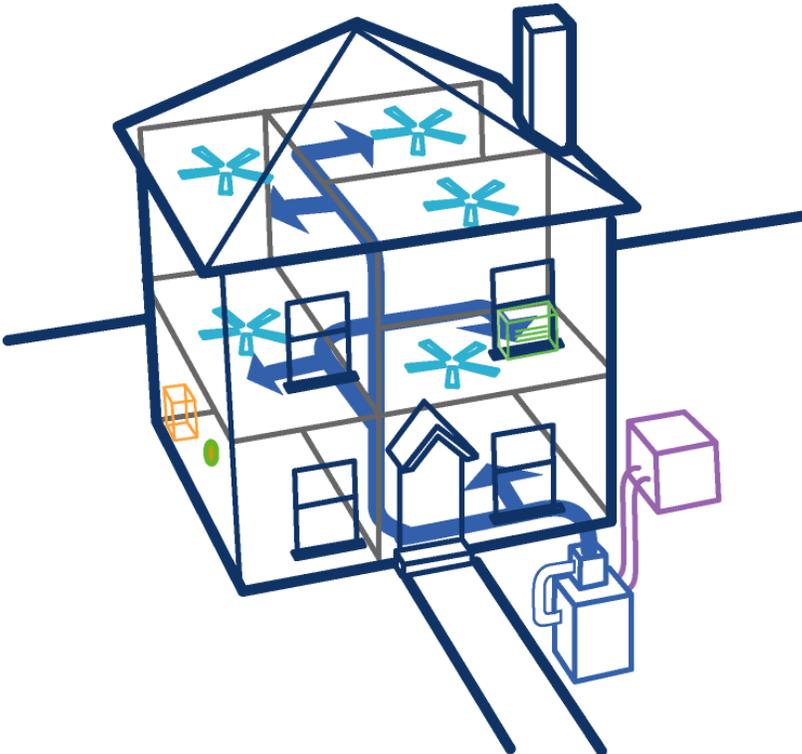
With energy-efficient cooling equipment, tightly sealed ducts, proper maintenance, and well-sealed and insulated homes, consumers can achieve significant savings on their heating and cooling bills.

An energy-efficient cooling system is the key to saving money and consists of more than an efficient, properly sized air conditioner. Remember that the following components in your home, if ENERGY STAR qualified, can help keep you cool and keep your energy costs down:

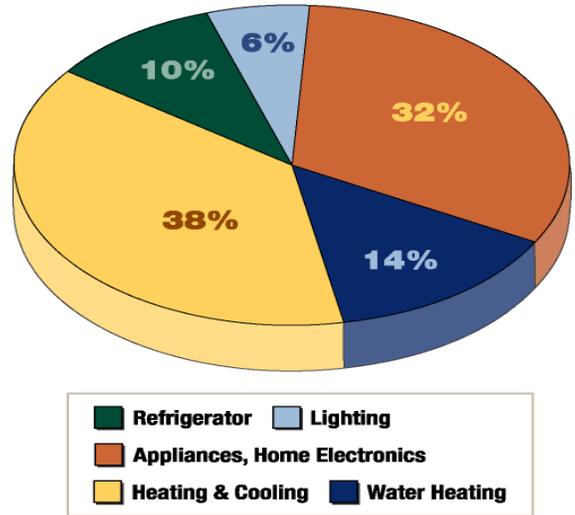
- New ENERGY STAR labeled ceiling fans,
- Programmable thermostats, and
- Dehumidifiers in damp areas.

If one household in 10 used ENERGY STAR heating and cooling products, the change would reduce electricity production enough to keep 17 billion pounds of pollution out of the air this year.

A Home's Cooling System



How Americans Spend Their Energy Dollars



ENERGY STAR Cooling Products

- More than 40% of existing homes and 75% of new homes are built with central air conditioning – ENERGY STAR units can save consumers up to 20% on cooling bills.
- ENERGY STAR room air conditioners exceed federal energy consumption standards by at least 10% and are some of the quietest models available.
- Duct leaks can decrease the efficiency of heating and cooling systems by 20%.
- ENERGY STAR labeled ceiling fans move at least 20% more air than a typical ceiling fan per watt of power consumed.
- Programmable thermostats save money and energy by enabling consumers to turn up the temperature in the summer when they're at work, on vacation, or in bed.
- Dehumidifiers help homes feel cooler and more comfortable by removing humidity and moisture from the air, but they can consume as much energy as a refrigerator. ENERGY STAR dehumidifiers are 10% more efficient than conventional models.



Energy-Efficient Cooling Checklist

Certain telltale signs indicate that it's time to consider replacing cooling equipment or improving a cooling system to enhance performance.

It may be time to make a change if:

- ✓ Your cooling equipment is 10 years old or more. *ENERGY STAR* labeled equipment uses 25 – 40% less energy than typical 10-year-old models, reducing energy bills, and helping our environment.
- ✓ Your equipment needs frequent repairs and your bills are increasing. *It could mean your cooling equipment is becoming less efficient and needs a thorough check-up or replacement.*
- ✓ Your system cycles on and off frequently. *This can indicate that your cooling system is not the right size, leading to inadequate dehumidification and less comfort.*
- ✓ Some of your rooms are too hot or cold. *Improper equipment operation or duct problems can cause varying room temperatures.*
- ✓ Your home is unoccupied for long periods of the day. *ENERGY STAR* labeled programmable thermostats can help you avoid wasting energy while you are away. Call a professional contractor to help install your thermostat and instruct you on how to use it.
- ✓ Your home has humidity problems. *Poor equipment operation, inadequate equipment, and leaky ductwork can cause the air to be too dry in the winter or too humid in the summer.*
- ✓ Your home has excessive dust. *Leaky ducts can pull particles and air in from attics, crawlspaces, and basements and distribute them through the house, resulting in dust problems. Sealing your ducts may be the solution.*
- ✓ Your equipment operation is noisy. *There are a number of reasons for noisy equipment. One is insufficient air through the indoor coil of your cooling equipment. Another reason could be an undersized duct system.*
- ✓ Your score on the *ENERGY STAR* Home Energy Yardstick is below five. *That means your home uses more energy than similar homes in your area and since heating and cooling makes up nearly half your bill, improvements to your home and/or cooling system can offer significant savings. Visit www.energystar.gov/coolchange to use the Yardstick.*

www.energystar.gov/coolchange

ENERGY STAR Hotline: 1-888-STAR-YES