

# Make a household energy saving plan

***Wasting energy is a cost to us and the planet. The resource provides guidance on putting a plan in place to save energy in the home.***

**Section:** All  
**Time:** 2 hours  
**Where:** Home

**7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**

## PLAN

Energy usage is a major contributor to the gasses which cause Climate Change. Scouts can reduce their own contribution to Climate Change, while waiting for governments and energy producers to complete the switch over to clean alternatives. This activity can be applied to the whole household, but younger scouts might like to take on a smaller task, such as focusing on just lighting, or maybe a single room in the house. Help the scouts make a plan of how they are going to record everything; a list of every item in the house which uses power will be quite a long list? Before they start, let them decide if they are going to look at all types of energy usage or just focus on electricity; coal and other solid fuel, gas, oil and batteries could also be included, but don't make the job too big.

## DO

The scouts should walk around their house and record everything that is using electricity. The more obvious ones will be in plain sight, such as lights, cookers and TVs. Watch for occasional-use items which might be hiding in drawers or cupboards, like hair driers and kitchen blenders. Next, they should come up with ways to use an appliance less. Lights and appliances can be switched off when not being used, kettles should only boil the amount of water that is needed, clothes dryers might not need to run during dry weather when clothes could go out on the line instead (which they could help with!).

Now that the scouts have come up with the solutions, they should try and implement them. This can be very simple with ideas such as sticky notes beside a light switch reminding people to turn the light off or marking where on the kettle is enough for two cups of tea.

## REVIEW

Scouts may need support while working on this, so consider a review with them as they are going along as well as at the end. They can share solutions and help each other to find new ways to make energy savings. Once they see what can be done, they might set a target of three major changes, or get the whole family on board to tackle the whole lot. They could also stretch it out and make one change each week.



### In a nutshell...

- Scouts record items which use electricity
- They come up with solutions which would save electricity
- Using the Energy Usage sheet scouts can calculate the energy used in their homes.



### Follow-on

The same approach can be used for other energy usage, such as heating fuels and batteries. It could also apply to water and waste. If the scouts tuned in to the importance of energy reduction, they might look to do the same thing for the den, local campsite or school.



### SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 7 seeks to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. Scouts can play their part of identifying opportunities in their own household, and then taking that approach with them to their den, school and future job.



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