# Energy Saving Tips when staying at

## Home







Because you're spending a majority of time at home, it's highly likely you're relying more heavily on your utilities. Instead of eating out or getting food delivered, you're cooking from home. If you are assisting your kids with schoolwork during the day, perhaps you've also taken to working late-night hours when it's quietest in your house, so you're using more electricity longer into the night. Ultimately, the longer you work from home, the more quickly you'll notice that your utility usage subsequently creeps up as you consume higher than average amounts of energy.

Basically, energy usage in the home can be broken down as follows:

Air conditioners: 50% to 70% energy use \*

Water heater: 14% of energy use Washer and dryer: 13% of energy use Lighting: 12% of energy use Refrigerator: 4% of energy use Electric oven: 3% to 4% of energy use TVs: 3% of energy use. Dishwasher: 2% of energy use. Computers: 1% of energy use

\* Can vary significantly between central air conditioning, mini-split units and window units

As you dial in your workflow and groove while working from home, it's important to consider how you can mitigate the impact of your higher consumption of utilities. Below, we've compiled a list of quarantine home tips you can implement while avoiding the outside world and at the same time, conserve energy.

### Energy saving tips when at home

#### Air Conditioning:

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Today, more and more homeowners see the benefits of programmable thermostats. Although replacing an old thermostat may be an extra expense, programmable thermostats are a worthwhile investment for your home, family and bank account.

With a programmable thermostat, you can set the thermostat to cool the home on a pre-set schedule, which will reduce energy costs while maintaining a comfortable, efficient environment.

The smaller the difference is between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your air conditioning bills will be.

Programme your thermostat to a comfortable temperature – recommended setting of 78 degrees or above. Air conditioning can be as high as 70% of the energy consumption in hot climates. The lower the temperature setting the more the air conditioner runs.

Inspect, clean or change your air filters monthly and service your air conditioning system at least every three months. To clean your air filter, use the hose attachment on a vacuum and run it on a low setting.

Use your fans to move the air to give a cooler feeling to room occupants.

#### Lighting:

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First and foremost, if you plan on burning the midnight oil in your search for work-from-home peace and quiet, consider replacing your current light bulbs with LED bulbs. 90% of the energy incandescent bulbs use to generate light gets turned into heat. For you, that means wasted money from an inefficient device. In contrast, LEDs offer incredibly efficient energy; almost all the electricity they consume is directly generated into light.

#### Refrigerators:

It's not useful to hoard more food than you can possibly use within the timeframe of your shelter-in-place. Keep your fridge full, but ensure that none of your goods block essential ventilation. If your fridge is too empty, more warm air enters the interior, forcing your fridge to work harder to cool. On the contrary, if your fridge is overstuffed, the cold air won't properly circulate around your food to keep it chilled.

#### Washers and Dryers:

Consider washing your clothes in cold or warm water versus hot water. Have you noticed how much lint gets trapped in your dryer's lint trap? Well, another place lint can build up is in your dryer's vent. Washers and dryers are the third-highest energy-using appliance. Cleaning your dryer vents makes your dryer more efficient so your clothing dries faster so you don't have to run it for as long.

#### Showers:

Try and take cold showers when you can. A water heater is the second-highest energy-using appliance.



For additional energy saving tips on air conditioners, water heaters, insulation, lighting and major appliances, visit the "Energy Smart" section under the "Customer Service" tab on our website at www.cuc-cayman.com or contact our Customer Service Team at 949-5200 or via e-mail at service@cuc.ky.