

ECONOMY 10

With Economy 10 you pay different prices for your electric depending on the time of day. In total you receive 10 hours of electricity at a cheaper rate each day.

The times you receive the cheaper hours vary depending on the energy supplier and the area. Often you have five cheaper hours overnight (e.g. midnight-5am), three cheaper hours during the day (e.g. 1-4pm) and two cheaper hours in the evening (8-10pm).

Could Economy 10 work for me?

If you have storage heaters, or an electric heating system like Ducasa and are in during the day, Economy 10 can help by allowing you to heat rooms at a lower cost. Economy 10 meters can provide two readings (low and normal) or three readings (low, normal and stored heat). The type of meter you have affects whether you receive the cheaper rate for all your appliances and your heating/ hot water system during all the cheap rate periods, or only during the overnight five hour cheap rate period. It is best to check with your energy supplier about this.

While Economy 10 provides 10 cheaper hours, it is worth bearing in mind that outside of the cheaper hours the cost of electricity per unit is more than a standard, single rate tariff. This means that Economy 10 will only provide the most benefit to you if you are careful to heat your hot water and use appliances/ heating when you receive the cheaper rate. Also be aware that only some larger energy suppliers tend to offer Economy 10 and this means your options to switch to other suppliers can be limited.



Saving money on Economy 10

- When using Economy 10, make sure you turn the heating down when you go to bed.
- Use electrical appliances when the electric is at the cheap rate (you can use timer plugs for washing machines etc).
- Make sure your hot water is timed to come on at the cheap rate period.



A timer plug will allow you to set appliances to come on during the cheap rate period.

Tips for lower energy bills

Happy paying your gas and electricity supplier more money than you need to?

Thought not. Here are 15 ways to cut your bills...

1) Keep the oven door shut as much as possible; every time you open it, nearly a quarter of the heat escapes.

2) Give your clothes a day in the sun; and give your tumble drier a break. Clothes dried in the fresh air feel great, and there are drying days in winter, too.

3) Food in the oven cooks faster when the air inside flows freely, so don't put foil on the racks.

4) Don't leave your phone on charge all night. It only needs three hours – and try not to leave the TV and other kit on stand-by.

5) Be a friend to your freezer. Defrost it regularly to help it run more efficiently.

6) Catch 'em young. Encourage your children to switch off electric toys and lights that they're not using. They'll soon get the hang of saving energy.

7) Dodge the draught! Fit draught-excluders to your front door, letter box and key hole, and draw your curtains at dusk to keep the heat in.

8) When boiling water, only fill the kettle with as much as you'll actually use (but make sure you cover the metal element at the base).



9) Buying a new TV, washing machine or dishwasher? Look out for the Energy Saving Trust 'recommended' logo, and remember: the bigger the TV, the more energy it'll use.

10) Dimmer is smarter. Use your dimmer switches to reduce the amount of energy used to light your room.

11) Wait until you have a full load before putting on a wash. Two half-loads use more energy (and water) than one full load.

12) Sleep tight. Make sure all the lights are turned off when you go to bed, or use a low-wattage night light if you do need to leave one on.

13) Turn your heating down by 1 degree. You'll hardly notice the change in temperature, but it'll make a big difference to your heating bill.

14) Put your fridge in a good spot. Somewhere the air can circulate behind it, but not next to a cooker or radiator.

15) New computer? Remember a laptop typically uses around 85% less energy than a new desktop PC.

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