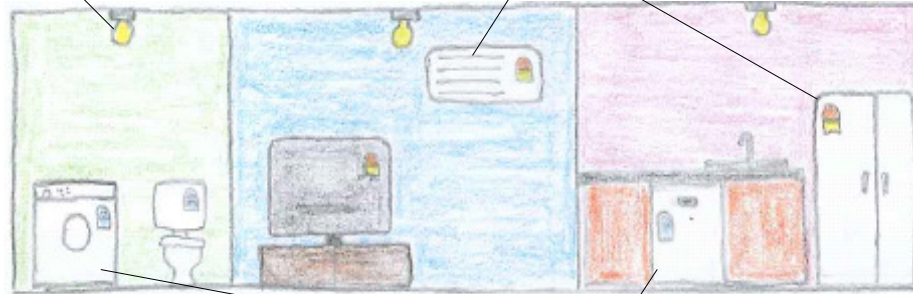
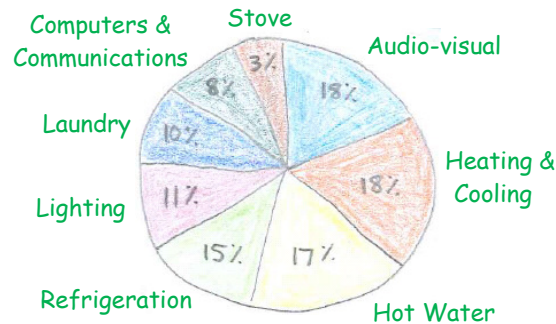


LED, tubular fluorescent and compact fluorescent lights use about 20-30% of the energy of metal halide lights. These days you can buy energy efficient globes to suit most light fittings.

Fridges, air-conditioners, dish-washers and TVs carry energy rating labels that can help you choose the most energy efficient appliances for your home. For example, a 4 star 520L fridge will use nearly half as much energy as a 2 star one and cost about \$700 less to run over 10 years.



Typical household energy use



Washing machines, dishwashers and some other appliances have WELS water rating labels which can help you choose the most water efficient appliances for your home. For example, a 4.5 star 6kg washing machine will use about 20L less water per wash compared to a 3 star one.



For more information...

- Save water in and outside your home www.watercorporation.com.au
- Energy and water ratings www.energyrating.gov.au & www.waterrating.gov.au
- Sustainable home design www.yourhome.gov.au
- Save energy, water & fuel & reduce waste www.livinggreener.gov.au

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CAPEL
31 Forrest Road, Capel
(08) 9727 0222
www.capel.wa.gov.au
info@capel.wa.gov.au

Make your new home even greener



Building a new home provides an ideal opportunity to become more sustainable.

Don't choose the cheapest options now and pay for them for years to come.

Choose green options and save money on future power and water bills.

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Plant trees to create some shade around your home and help cool it down. Avoid planting evergreen trees on the north side of your home as they'll block the sun coming in during winter.

Gas boosted solar water heaters are the most greenhouse friendly hot water system and are typically the cheapest to run.

A **1.5-2kW solar power system** will meet about 30% of the electricity requirements of an average home.

A **rain sensor** is a cheap and easy way to stop your irrigation system from watering the garden if it's rained recently.

Deciduous trees and vines are great to use on the north, east and west sides of your home. They let the sun through in winter when they lose their leaves and provide shade in summer.

Grey water systems take wastewater from the bathroom and laundry and distribute it onto the garden. You should consider a grey water system early on as the drainage pipes may have to be adjusted to suit. Note Shire approval is required for grey water systems.

Lawn is one of the thirstiest plants in your garden so it's worth trying to limit the amount you have, put in 'drought tolerant' lawn or use other low water use ground covers instead.

Improving the soil is the key to a great looking garden that requires less fertiliser and water. Building up your soil with compost, manure, clay (for sandy soils) and other soil improvers will enhance its ability to retain moisture and nutrients and help your new plants survive.

Native and other water wise plants require less water and usually less fertiliser compared to exotic plants. These days there are many species available to suit different areas of your garden.

Direct sun coming through east and west facing windows can really heat up your home in summer. A pergola, awnings or shutters that shade these windows can make a big difference.

Your **irrigation system** should be designed with separate stations covering different areas of the garden that require more or less water.

A **2000L rainwater tank** plumbed to your washing machine and toilet can save up to 59,000 litres a year.

