

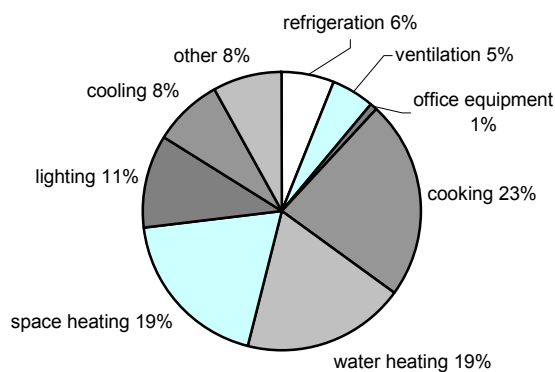


# Energy conservation

Identifying ways to cut down the amount of energy used in your business will not only save you money, but will also reduce your greenhouse gas emissions.

## Where is energy used in a restaurant?

Due to operating hours, the energy consumption for restaurants is obviously quite high. Detailed below is where a majority of energy in restaurants is consumed.



## Tips for minimising energy use

### Cooking equipment

- Only preheat equipment that is going to be used immediately.
- Reduce the temperature or turn equipment off during quieter periods of the day.

### Hot food holders

- Check timing devices and thermostats regularly.
- Check door seals to ensure heat is retained.

### Kitchen ventilation system

- Only operate the number of fans required for the level of smoke and fumes at the time.
- Position the ventilation canopy to take advantage of the natural flow of air through the kitchen.
- Clean filters frequently.

### Dishwashing equipment

- Select the most appropriately sized machine for the job.
- Fully-load the machine for each cycle.
- Keep equipment clean and unclogged.

### Refrigerator equipment

- Make sure door gaskets fit snugly.
- Locate equipment away from heat sources.
- Open doors as little as possible. Self-closing doors minimise the amount of warm air entering the cabinet.
- Check temperatures regularly.

## Tips for minimising energy use continued...

### Water heating

- Locate the water heater as near as possible to the point of most frequent use.
- Wrap hot water pipes in insulation.

### Lighting

- Maximise the use of natural daylight.
- Ensure lights are not left on unnecessarily. For example, cool rooms and freezers.
- Replace incandescent globes with compact fluorescent globes wherever possible. Incandescent globes have a short life, are expensive to run and produce more greenhouse emissions than alternatives.
- Extra-low voltage small halogen lights are better than incandescent, but they require transformers and heavier wiring. They have much lower efficiency than fluorescents and should be used only for specific display areas, not for general lighting.
- Install lighting controls such as daylight or occupancy sensors, or timers.
- Ensure lighting near windows have separate light switches so that they can be turned off on bright days.
- Remove fluorescent tubes in areas where less light is needed. For example, near windows, storage areas etc.
- Clean reflectors regularly to boost illumination output.

### Heating and cooling

- Don't let heating and cooling run 24 hours a day. Turn off heating and cooling when not required.
- The temperature of a cooled room in summer should be about 21-24°C.
- The temperature of a heated room in winter should be about 18-21°C.
- Place an air conditioner on the shady side of the building and ensure airflow around it is not obstructed.
- Keep external doors closed where possible.
- Zoning systems allow heating and cooling to be turned off to some areas of the building where heating and cooling is not required all the time.
- Insulation and draught proofing will help decrease heating and cooling expenses.
- Use shade and fans instead of air conditioners.
- Make sure thermostats are installed in the main serving area of internal walls away from heat sources and draughts.

### For all equipment

- When purchasing equipment, ask suppliers about the energy consumption and energy star rating.
- Keep equipment in an optimum state of maintenance and repair any faults promptly

Material source: Sustainable Energy Authority and Origin Energy websites.

## For more information

To find out more about conserving energy in your business, contact the Sustainable Traders Project Officer on (03) 9209 6474 or email [karcher@portphillip.com.au](mailto:karcher@portphillip.com.au), or visit [www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/ecoedge.html](http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/ecoedge.html)

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