

Going Green Tip

Home Heating Thermostats

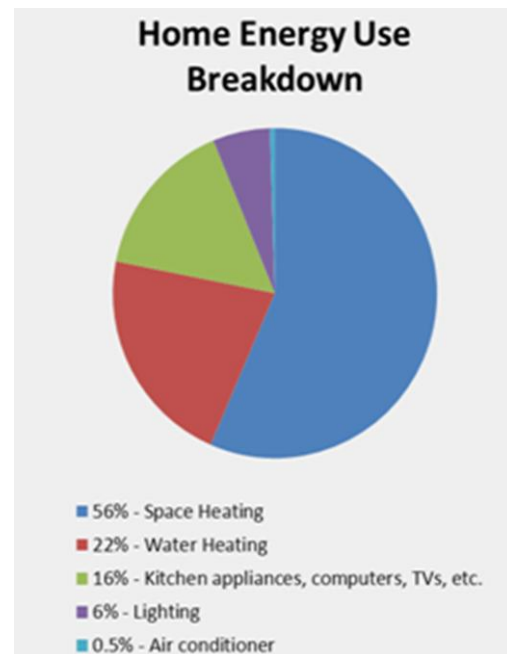
Heating your home accounts for about 56% of your household energy consumption.

The chart on the right is from Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)¹ and illustrates a graphical breakdown of typical home energy consumption.

The easiest way reduce this energy consumption is to heat your home only when we need to and to turn the heat down to a lower settings when convenient.

Most of us have grown up with manual thermostats that are manually adjusted to change the temperature.

The problem with trying to do this with a manual thermostat is that you can forget to adjust them when you leave the house or go to bed.



What You Can Do

The solution is to install a programmable thermostat to replace your old manual thermostat which will allow you to control your homes temperature based on the time of day. For example, you can program the thermostat to 16°C when you are sleeping or out of the house. Conversely you can program it to 20°C when you are at home in the mornings and evenings. Using this technology means you don't need to worry about leaving the heat on overnight or when you leave your home to go out. Once programmed your temperatures are controlled automatically based on time until you decide to change them which provides a very reliable way to save energy.

Using a programmable thermostat to turn down your heat when it is not needed could save you as much as 10% on your electricity bills if you heat using electricity², or 15% on your gas bills if you heat using gas³.

Sources:

1 - NRCan Residential Sector, BC Table 2

2 - BC Hydro 'Energy Smarts Around Your Home'

3 - FortiBC 'Save on Heat'

The information provided is intended to help raise awareness on environmental sustainability.

To learn more, visit kwantlen.ca/sustainability

