

Renters' Energy Efficiency Self-Audit

Simple Checklist to Save Power & Lower Bills

As a renter, you might not be able to undertake big renovations, but small changes add up. Each of these DIY actions can chip away at your energy usage and lower your monthly bills. Even better, many are low-cost or free. Keep track of your NB Power online account – you may see a difference after adopting these measures! Let's get into it!

Windows & Doors

- ☐ Seal drafts around windows, patio doors, and baseboards with rope caulking or weatherstripping. Plugging those leaks keeps you warmer and saves money.
 - Cost: ~\$15 | Save: Up to 10–20% on heating
- ☐ Install a door sweep or draft stopper under exterior (any) doors
 - Cost: ~\$12 | Prevents heat loss worth ~\$30–\$50/year | Can also DIY for no cost

Thermostat Habits

- ☐ Set the heat to ~17°C when asleep or away
- ☐ Set to ~20–21°C when home
- ☐ Lower heat in unused rooms and close doors
 - No cost | Save: 5–10% on heating (~\$50–\$100/year)
- ☐ Ensure your heating sources (baseboard heater, heat pump, etc) are not being blocked
 - This would trap proper heat flow

Lighting

- ☐ Switch to LED bulbs (ENERGY STAR rated)
 - Cost: ~\$5 each | Save: ~\$8+ per bulb/year
- ☐ Turn off the lights when leaving a room
 - No cost | Small daily savings add up

Electronics & Phantom Power

- ☐ Unplug unused devices and chargers
- ☐ Use a smart power bar for TVs, computers, and game systems
 - Cost: \$30 | Save: Up to 10% on electricity (\$150/year)
- ☐ Turn off electronics fully (not standby mode)
- ☐ Purchase energy-saving electronics

Laundry & Appliances

- ☐ Use cold water for all laundry loads
- ☐ Wash only full loads in the washer/dishwasher
 - No cost | Save: ~\$20–\$40/year

- ☐ Air-dry clothes with a folding rack or line
 - Rack cost: ~\$20 | Save: ~\$50–\$100/year + extend clothing life

Hot Water Use

- ☐ Take shorter showers - hot water uses 20% of home energy.
- ☐ Install a low-flow showerhead (1.5–1.8 GPM)
 - Cost: ~\$15–\$30 | Save: ~\$50+/year on hot water
- ☐ Add faucet aerators on kitchen/bath taps (if allowed)
 - Cost: ~\$5 each | Reduce water use up to 30%
- ☐ Report leaky taps/pipes to the landlord
 - Fixing 1 drip = Save up to 9,000L/year

Kitchen Habits

- ☐ Boil only what you need (avoid boiling a full kettle for one cup).
- ☐ Use a kettle or microwave instead of stove for small heating
- ☐ Keep lids on pots to cook faster and use less heat
 - No cost | Small daily savings
- ☐ Air-dry dishes instead of using the dishwasher's heat-dry cycle
 - No cost | Save: ~\$10–\$20/year
- ☐ Match the pot size to the burner on the stovetop to avoid wasted heat
 - Small pot on large burner = wasted energy
- ☐ Cool hot food before placing it in the fridge
 - Prevents fridge from overworking and using extra power

Smart Daily Habits

- ☐ Open curtains on sunny winter days to warm rooms naturally
- ☐ Close curtains at night to retain heat
- ☐ Block direct sun in summer with blinds to keep cool
- ☐ Unplug idle electronics like game consoles & cable boxes
 - Save: ~\$20–\$30/year for each device always left on

BONUS TIP:

- ☐ Order your FREE NB Power Renter Energy Savings Kit — includes:
 - ✓ LED bulbs
 - ✓ Smart power bar
 - ✓ Low-flow showerhead
 - ✓ Faucet aerators
 - ✓ Easy installation instructions

👉 [Visit NB Power's website to order](#)