



Codes of Practice on the Efficient Use of Electricity

At 3T Power, we aim to offer you the best advice available to help you maximise energy efficiency in your business premises and to reduce your energy consumption. Adopting some simple energy efficiency measures in your business could help you save on the cost of your energy bills

Please see below some of the tips we think will help to reduce electricity consumption and to help your business become more energy efficient.

Monitor your electricity use

An energy monitor is a small, simple gadget that estimates in real time how much energy you're using. It shows how different appliances affect your consumption. The energy monitor will show where you could make savings, and lets you see the impact when you change your habits. The monitor itself won't save you electricity, but using it in the right way will.

Contact us at 3T Power to enquire Tel: 0333 600 8800

Generate your own electricity

Although it takes time to recoup the installation cost, if you want to go the extra mile for energy efficiency, you could try producing your own electricity. Solar panels can generate electricity (solar PV panels). A financial incentive, the feed-in tariff, pays you to generate electricity in this way. You could make around £12,000 over 20 years (although you should take into account repaying the cost of buying the panels, which could be around £7,600). For a much lower initial cost, solar thermal panels will help you heat water - this can slash your water-heating bill by a third. Small domestic wind turbines cost around £2,000 (1kW roof-mounted turbine) to install. This means they have shorter payback periods than solar panels.

Saving: An average solar PV installation (3.5kWp costing £7,600), positioned on an optimum roof, could save £82 on energy bills annually and earn £518 in tariffs.

Read more:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/cutting-your-energy-bills/article/save-electricity/save-electricity-and-save-money - Which?>

Lighting in your Business

- Use energy saving light bulbs, these may cost more, but they use far less electricity than normal bulbs, saving you money in the long run.
- Turn off any lights you don't need, but make sure you have enough lighting on stairs and hallways.
- Keep your lampshades and bulbs clean. They give out less light if they are dirty.
- Use lighter lampshades where possible. Darker lampshades give out less light so you might need to use a higher watt bulb with them.
- Spotlights can be more expensive to run than other lighting, so avoid leaving them on for a long time. Where possible use sensor-activated lights
- Fluorescent tubes give out more light and are good for kitchens and workspaces.
- Consider how much light your business needs and see if you can take out one or two bulbs from a multiple light fitting. A small hallway may only need one 60 watt bulb instead of three. Make sure you turn off the light first and take care not to hurt yourself when removing the bulb.

Heating in your Business

- Place heat reflectors behind radiators which are attached to outside walls, this reduces the amount of heat lost to the outside, especially in older premises without so much insulation. It is possible to buy special Radiator Foil for this, but tin foil (with the shiny side facing the radiator) will do nearly as well.
- Seal up any drafts in doors and windows using draft excluders etc. For small drafts use stick on draft excluding tape, available from most DIY stores.
- Draw the office blinds at night to keep the heat in (especially if you do not have double glazing).
- Don't heat rooms within the office space that are not in use.

Kitchen Spaces in your Business

- Use the kettle to boil water for cooking, instead of heating a pan on the stove. Not only will this be more efficient, but it generally takes less time too!
- Microwaves aren't just handy for reheating leftovers. Use a microwave instead of the oven for fresh food too. They're quick, easy and economical to use and they're useful in your business for people eating at different times.
- If you're heating things in a microwave, try to use a microwave safe lid or cling film with holes in it to speed up cooking time.
- Turn down the gas on a gas hob as soon as the water boils.

Switch all electrical appliances, where possible off at the plug instead of using the 'standby' function. During standby the appliances are still using electricity.

Most electrical appliances now come with an Energy Label like below, which detail out the consumption of the appliance, it is grouped into different tiers from A-G, with A being the



greenest and G being the products which have the most consumption. The older the product the more likely it will consume more than a newer, similar product. Even though the product may be more expensive to buy than a product with a bad energy efficiency rating, the better the Energy rating on the product, the more likely that you will be able to save money on your bill, due to decreased energy consumption of the product.

N.B. If you require the Codes of Practice on the Efficient Use of Electricity in an alternative format a copy is available upon request. We will endeavour to accommodate customers with reasonable requests for an alternative format.

The Energy Saving Trust are an independent body, who provide information on how to save on your natural gas bill

Website: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Telephone: 0300 123 1234

External information sources:

The NI Energy Advice Line service offers free comprehensive advice and support on how to save energy in the home and on assistance available.

NIHE - NI Energy Advice Line: 0800 111 44 55
www.nihe.gov.uk/Community/NI-Energy-Advice

NI Direct provides citizen's advice in terms of energy efficiency, energy savings grants, central heating and insulation. It also provides information in regard to greener lifestyles.

NI direct <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/information-and-services/environment-and-greener-living/energy-wise/energy-efficiency.htm>

<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/information-and-services/environment-and-greener-living/greener-lifestyles.htm>