

# Tips for keeping your home cool this summer



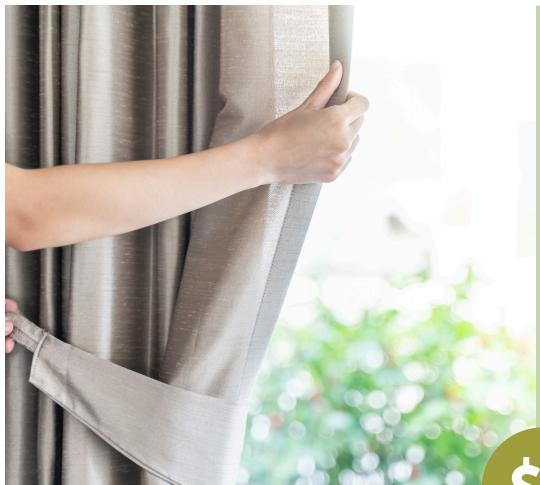
We're in for a hot summer! Here are a few simple ways you can keep your home cool this summer, while still saving on your energy bills.



## Create a cool room

Creating a dedicated 'cool room' can help with providing a room for retreat whilst still saving money by using less energy.

- Find the coolest room in your house.
- Close and cover all windows.
- Turn your air conditioner to 25°C to save energy.
- Use fans to keep the room cool.
- Close windows and doors of other rooms.



## Cover your windows

Covering your windows can help reduce any extra heat radiating into your home.

- Install outdoor shades or awnings on your windows.
- Install indoor curtains that are a light colour and thick fabric to reflect the heat.
- Avoid dark colours and metal shades as they tend to absorb more heat.



## Switch off your appliances

Electrical appliances such as televisions and gaming consoles can still generate heat even when not being used.

- Switch off your appliances at the power point.
- Turn off your lights.
- Use your microwave to heat your food and avoid using your oven.



## Water your garden

Watered plants help keep areas cool in the hotter weather. Make sure to follow local water restrictions.

- Water your garden early in the morning, before the heat of the day.
- Plant small trees or shrubs near your house to provide shade.
- Keep plants in pots for smaller spaces.



## Seal any gaps

Covering any gaps or draughts in your home will help keep the cool air in and hot air out.

- Use door stoppers to cover gaps. If you don't have one, you can use a rolled-up towel or blanket.
- Check for gaps around windows, doors or floorboards using one of Maribyrnong's Home Efficiency Audit Kits (borrow one from your local library).



## Go renewable

Installing solar panels on your home can save you money on your energy bills in the long term.

- Check out Council's website for advice on where to get started on your solar journey.
- Look into government incentives to lower installation costs.
- Have a conversation with your landlord about solar rebates for rental properties.

To find out more about saving energy in your home, scan the QR code or visit:  
[maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/energy](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/energy)

