**Tips & tricks to reduce energy poverty**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Wood Heating</strong></th>
<th><strong>Gas/ Central Heating</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sanitary Hot Water</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When buying a furnace, select one that fits the size of the room.</td>
<td>Regularly inspect &amp; clean the chimney.</td>
<td>Make sure that there is no exhaust gas leakage into the living space.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t overfill the furnace with wood.</td>
<td>Consider stovepipe heat reclaim radiators to increase heat transfer to the room.</td>
<td>Close air intake whenever the furnace is not in use to avoid heat loss through the chimney.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduce thermostat set points for unused rooms.</td>
<td>Insulate hot water piping, especially if passing through “cold” areas.</td>
<td>Service the system regularly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use night/’cheap’ electricity for water heaters.</td>
<td>Avoid excessively low water heater temperatures to prevent the growth of Legionella bacteria.</td>
<td>Remove lime scale (especially in case of hard water) from electric heating elements to increase efficiency.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check pipe fittings - faulty water mixers &amp; shower heads cause hot water leakages.</td>
<td>Take a shower instead of a bath.</td>
<td>The size of the water heater should match the needs of the household - water heaters larger than necessary are less efficient.</td>
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| If the existing water heater is poorly insulated, consider additional insulation. | Limit water heater temperature - around 60°C is enough for most household needs. | }
### Insulation & Building Envelope

- Use insulation + reflective pads between heating elements & the wall.
- Thick carpets can reduce heat loss through the floors.
- Open blinds to allow the sun to warm up the rooms.
- Utilize window blinds for passive energy efficiency.
- Look for mold & damp walls to determine cold spots on the walls – consider additional insulation around these spots.
- Use rubber seals on doors/ windows to eliminate unwanted airflow.
- Close blinds during the night to reduce heat loss through the windows.

### Electricity

- Use socket timers to heat only rooms that are in use at certain part of the day.
- Use night/’cheap’ electricity tariff for heating, especially for electric thermal storage heaters & electric water heaters.
- Keep heating elements clean & free of airflow obstruction.
- Use insulation & reflective pads between heating element & the wall.

### Lighting

- Turn off the lights in unoccupied rooms.
- Use natural lighting when possible.
- Correct light fixture can reduce power required for lighting a room.

### Home Appliances

- Defrost refrigerators regularly.
- Consider using lower water temperature while doing laundry.
- Keep refrigerators away from heat sources & leave enough empty space behind them to allow efficient heat rejection.
- Don’t set refrigerator setpoint too low – suggested values are 4C for refrigerators & -18C for freezers.
- Check if the refrigerator doors are airtight.
- Consider natural drying instead of electric dryer.
- When buying a new appliance, pay attention to the appliance energy class.
- Use laundry washing machines & dryers during low electricity tariff periods.