# CHECK YOUR POWER PLAN - SAVE UP TO \$300-\$400

You can use the Powerswitch website to easily compare thousands of power plans by answering a few simple questions – go to www.powerswitch.org.nz.

### How to switch

- 1. Choose the best plan for you from your results page.
- Select the 'switch' button don't worry, this does not mean you have automatically changed plan yet and your power will not be cut off during this process!
- 3. The power company you have chosen will either contact you (via phone or email) to talk you through their offer or will invite you to sign up online.
- 4. The switch will only take place once you have agreed to your new plan.



## SHORTEN YOUR SHOWERS TO FIVE-MINUTES - SAVE UP TO \$260 PER PERSON

- Each 15-minute shower typically costs you about \$1 - think about how many people you have in your house, and it'll give you an idea of how much it's costing you per day! If you can shorten the showers down to five minutes, you'll save 66¢ each time. That's an average of \$5 per person per week.
  - Having a bath will cost you about twice as much as a shower each time. Keep baths to a minimum and make sure the shower is the first option.

For more advice and information, visit **Save500.org.nz**. To learn more about how these savings are calculated, visit **consumer.org.nz/save500**.

consumer.

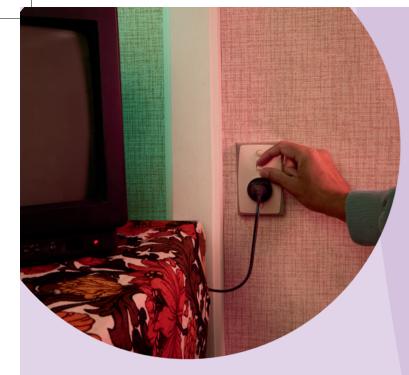


Easy ways to save up to \$500 per year on your power bill

#### save500.org.nz

consumer.





## SWITCH OFF APPLIANCES AT THE WALL WHEN YOU'RE NOT USING THEM - SAVE UP TO \$100

### Switch off

Most of the things that you have plugged in at home use power all the time, even when they're not switched on - especially devices that have a stand-by light. Switch off your TV, computer, speakers and game consoles at the wall when you're not using them.

## SET YOUR HEAT PUMP TO A MAXIMUM OF 21 DEGREES - SAVE UP TO \$320

### Setting the temperature:

- Heat pumps work best when set between 19 and 21 degrees.
- To get the most out of your heat pump, change the mode on the controller so it's on heat – select 'mode' until the little sun icon shows on the screen.
  From there, set the temperature between 19 and 21 degrees.
- If it's truly cold outside, turn up the fan settings on the heat pump, rather than the temperature.

21

CHANGE YOUR WASHING MACHINE SETTINGS TO COLD WASH - SAVE UP TO \$50

### **Cold wash laundry**

- Putting on a warm wash will set you back about 30¢. A cold wash often performs just as well and only costs
  6¢ per wash. A whānau with children and endless washing can make some savings here.
- Make further savings by drying clothes outside when weather permits, rather than using a dryer. A regular vented clothes dryer costs about **\$1** per load.