Smart energy choices for your new home

Congratulations on building your new home!

Now is a great time to talk to you about some of the ways you can reduce your ongoing energy costs and future proof the biggest investment you may ever make.

The benefits of electric appliances

You may have a personal preference for electric or gas appliances when it comes to things like cooking, or you may simply go with the appliance package offered by your builder. It's important to understand that if you choose to have both electric and gas appliances in your home you may be up for more expensive set up costs and ongoing fixed supply charges for both. If you have a choice here are some reasons to consider electric appliances.

Hot water

- Electric hot water systems are usually the cheapest to install and most electricity retailers offer discounted economy tariffs for hot water systems that provide electricity on average around 25% cheaper¹ than standard general supply tariffs
- If you're planning to install a solar PV system, it makes sense to install an electric hot water system to **maximise the value of your solar investment** and set your hot water system to heat during the day when solar power is being generated.

Cooking

• Electric induction cooktops offer the **latest in cooking technology**. They are safe, very efficient compared to other electric cooktops, heat almost instantly like gas, look stylish, and are easy to clean. And unlike old fashioned electric cooktops, induction cooktops allow you to control the level of heat precisely, similar to that experienced with gas.

¹ Based on Queensland retail electricity tariff rates, August 2023

Save with economy tariffs

Economy tariffs are great for appliances like hot water systems and pool pumps that don't need a constant supply of power. These tariffs offer electricity cheaper¹ than the standard tariff, in return for the option to interrupt the electricity supply to the appliance temporarily. Economy tariffs can be used in conjunction with all other residential tariffs at the same address but can't be used to run an entire household or business. For more on economy tariffs contact your electricity retailer.

Energy sense home guide

For more information on how to make smart energy choices for your new home, download a copy of The Smart Energy Home and the Building a Sustainable Home Guides, found under Renovating & Building at <u>ergon.com.au/network</u> or <u>energex.com.au</u>.







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