



# hot water

A lot of energy is required to heat the hot water which is used in many businesses, especially those that deal with food production or delivery.

Installing an efficient hot water unit will enable you to maximise energy savings and reduce costs, however there are also ways to reduce your energy use without replacing your existing system.

- Make sure your pipes and hot water storage tanks are properly insulated. Your local plumber can insulate any pipes and the cost will pay for itself through reduced heating costs.
- Replace your old hot water unit with a more efficient system such as:
  - A 'Point of use' or instantaneous system which heats water on demand and eliminates losses from storage.
  - A standard gas or electric hot water system with a high energy efficiency star rating.
  - A solar hot water system. These are a more expensive option but can reduce energy consumption by around three quarters. It pays to shop around suppliers for the best deal, visit [www.seav.vic.gov.au](http://www.seav.vic.gov.au) for a list of solar hot water manufacturers.
- Install a simple plug-in seven day timer on your boiling water system to turn off the system on weekends or public holidays if not in use.
- Install flow restrictors or tap aerators in your taps that will reduce your water bill as well as your energy bill. Visit your local plumbing supplier to see what products they have available.
- If you have showers in your workplace, install water-saving AAA-rated shower heads which will reduce your water consumption and electricity costs.

For information about how you can save **energy** in your business contact:

**Moreland Energy Foundation**  
ph **03-9381 1722**  
[www.mefl.com.au](http://www.mefl.com.au)



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# *Energy saving checklist for hot water systems*

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Work through the following checklist to see where you can improve the efficiency of your operations and equipment.

The more **"Yes"** answers you have, the more **energy smart** your operations are.

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Is the size of your hot water system appropriate for your requirements?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
If you have an electric hot water system, is it using off-peak electricity?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Is the hot water system well insulated?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Are the pipes well insulated?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Is the temperature setting correct for requirements? (should be around 60°C for most business purposes)	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Does the hot water system have a high energy rating?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Are water efficient showerheads in use to reduce water consumption and thus energy usage?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Are water efficient tap restrictors or aerators in use?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Is hot water not being used for cold water applications?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Have staff been made aware of the importance of saving energy?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>