

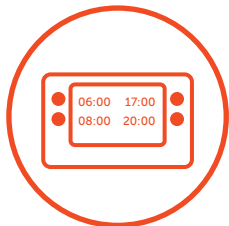
# ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR RENTED PROPERTIES WITH GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

Lowering your energy usage and making your home more efficient can help to reduce the cost of your energy bill. Below we highlight our top heat pump energy-saving tips – from draught excluders to cleaning radiators.



## Lower your thermostat

Try turning down your thermostat by one or two degrees – it doesn't sound like much, but this small change can have a massive impact on your bills. Obviously, please don't lower it to a point where your room feels cold, but by turning down your thermostat by just 1 degree you could save around 10% on your annual energy bill. It is also extremely important that you don't place items over your thermostat such as coats or furniture.



## Be smart with timing

Make sure that the time settings on your controller are correct. Work out the schedules of your household and when the home needs to be warm and set the timers accordingly – for example, before you wake up or when you finish work. You don't want your heating running when you don't need it.

Making a schedule and setting your heat pump to warm your water at a different time from your heating will make sure you have enough hot water for your needs.

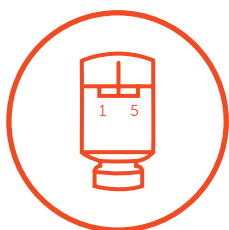
### Switch of heating in unused rooms



Turn the heating off or down to the frost protection setting in rooms you aren't using. If you have radiators, turn down the thermostatic valve on the side of each of them. If you have underfloor heating, you're likely to have an adjustable thermostat in each room that you can set. Tailoring the temperature of each room will give you more control over your heating, and how much energy you use.

When you are only heating rooms you need to stay warm, be sure to keep any internal doors shut so you aren't leaking heat out into the rest of the house.

### Make the most of the energy you pay for



Don't trap heat under the carpet. Rugs may look good, but if you have underfloor heating, they will also trap the heat so our advice is to avoid them.

It's the same principle if you have radiators. Make sure your curtains or furniture aren't blocking the heat from entering the room. Lift your curtains onto the windowsill if you need to and pull your sofa forward.

Thermostatic radiator valves are fitted on your radiators to allow you to control the temperature of individual rooms.

There are numbers printed on the valves from 1 to 5 which correspond to a room temperature, see diagram.

We recommend making small changes each day until you find the temperature that best suits you; we suggest starting at a setting of 2-3 for a bedroom, hall or kitchen, and 3-5 for a lounge or bathroom.

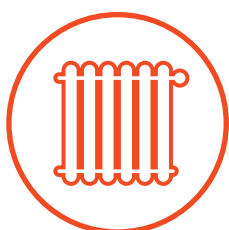
### Exclude the draughts



Keeping as much heat in your home as possible is the key to saving energy. Stop cold air from getting in with easy fixes like draught excluders, letterboxes and keyhole covers. It may also be worth investing in heavy or thermal curtains to prevent any unwelcome breeze.

Close doors between rooms – the air change rate within a room can massively affect how effectively your property is heated. However, do make the most of daylight. If the sun warms up certain rooms, try to leave internal doors open on these occasions to circulate the warmth.

### Keep your radiators clean



Radiators get hot and therefore are like a magnet for attracting dust and dirt and if left uncleaned, the build-up can be quite substantial. Particularly dirty radiators can be less efficient than clean ones, making your system use more energy to heat your room, which will be reflected in higher energy bills.

Try to regularly clean the convective fins – the zigzag grooves running down the back (and front). This can be done with a long-handled radiator brush or even by running the nozzle attachment of a Hoover across the top and bottom.