



Dear Lucy

Melbourne is known for its changeable weather and the temperature in most modern houses can be simply managed by adjusting the thermostat. With heating and cooling contributing to over half of the household energy bill there are big savings to be made by choosing an efficient system to suit your home.

There are several useful tips on how to reduce carbon emissions whilst still retaining a comfortable household temperature.

- Setting the thermostat at 18-20°C in winter is the ideal, but just 1°C reduction in the setting reduces costs by 10% and wearing suitable clothing to match the season, helps save on energy costs.
- In summer set thermostats at 26°C. Keep doors closed and use deciduous plants or shrubs as shade.
- The large choice of heating and cooling systems available can be compared for energy efficiency using their [star ratings](#). Explore the different benefits and the related savings of each type of [heating](#) and [cooling](#) systems.
- Zoning and insulating the living area is an important part of retaining your desired temperature and [advice is available](#) on using thick window coverings, draft excluders and roof and wall insulation.
- With the right insulation, heating and cooling bills can be reduced by \$300 or more and there are presently [insulation rebates](#) available which can save up to \$1600 off costs.

- House design impacts on energy costs dramatically and the [5 star regulations](#) on house design are now regulated for renovations and houses built after 2005. Every house can benefit from improved design and can be rated by [thermal assessors](#).

Why not [calculate how you rate](#) for energy usage and sign up as a buddy household by ringing 1300 174 101 for support from like-minded individuals.

Contact us on :

<http://www.lowenergy.com.au/greenhouseproject>

Call the Greenhouse Project Help Desk on 1300 174101

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