

Take Control & Save

A Cooperative Effort for Energy Efficiency

www.TakeControlAndSave.coop

Lighting Your Home With Compact Fluorescents (CFLs)

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, lighting accounts for 20 percent of electricity use in an average American home. Almost everyone can reduce energy use simply by replacing conventional incandescent bulbs with ENERGY STAR®-qualified lighting, including compact fluorescents (CFLs). In fact, if every American home replaced just one incandescent bulb with a CFL, it would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes for a year and reduce greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of more than 800,000 cars.*

While CFLs cost more than incandescent light bulbs, they can reduce the amount of energy use by about 75 percent over the five-year life of a typical CFL bulb. Most CFLs have a life rating of 8,000 hours, so if you use them properly, you'll change bulbs less frequently. CFLs also produce about 75 percent less heat, so they're safer to operate and can help cut the costs of home cooling.

Taking this important energy-saving step is easy; there's no need to replace the lighting fixtures in your home. CFL bulbs are now available in different sizes, shapes, and wattages to fit almost any fixture, indoors or outdoors. All you have to do is choose the right CFL for the application, remove the old bulb, and replace it with the new CFL. You'll immediately begin saving energy every time you turn on the light.

Choosing the right CFLs for your home.

CFL Sizes & Shapes

For almost any household light, there's a CFL bulb to do the job. A small spiral CFL is the basic configuration; if you look closely, you'll see the spiral inside the other shapes, which are designed to match the shapes of certain incandescent bulbs. Use these where the "look" matters, or where a clip-on lamp shade is used.



Spiral Lamp

Most common—
used throughout
the home



Torpedo / Candelabra

Chandeliers, post
lights, ceiling fans,
sconces



A-Lamp

Table lamps, floor
lamps, ceiling fixtures,
desk lamps, outdoor
fixtures, ceiling fans



R30 Floodlight (Narrow)

Recessed cans,
track lighting



Globe

Bath vanity lights,
pendant fixtures,
ceiling fans



Save energy with ENERGY STAR®-Qualified CFLs

Light output (Lumens)	Incandescent wattage	Replacement CFL wattage
1,600	100 W	23-30 W
1,200	75 W	19-24 W
800	60 W	13-15 W

CFL Disposal

CFLs contain a small amount of mercury and should be disposed of properly. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that consumers take advantage of available local recycling options for compact fluorescent light bulbs. EPA is working with CFL manufacturers and major U.S. retailers to expand recycling and disposal options. Consumers can contact their local municipal solid waste agency directly, or go to www.epa.gov/bulbrecycling or www.earth911.org to identify local recycling options.

If there is no nearby recycling option, and if your state permits you to put used or broken CFLs in the garbage, seal the bulb in two zippered plastic bags and put it into the outside trash or other protected outside location for the next normal trash collection. CFLs should not be disposed of in an incinerator.

If a CFL bulb breaks in your home, take the following simple steps to dispose of it. First, open windows and turn off your heating or cooling systems to ventilate the room for at least 15 minutes. Then clean up the broken glass by scooping it up on stiff paper or cardboard, and pick up the remaining pieces with sticky tape. Do not use a broom or vacuum. Dispose of the broken pieces in a glass jar or zippered plastic bag. Be sure to wash your hands after cleaning up the broken bulb.

For more detailed information on how to clean up a broken CFL, visit www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm#fluorescent.


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