



EFFICIENT HEATING AND COOLING

A comfortable working and shopping environment is something every business strives for, but keeping your business warm or cool shouldn't require you to spend big on your energy bills. Efficient heating, ventilation and cooling systems can reduce your costs while also lowering your carbon output.

Timing is everything

Turning off your system when the building is not in use is an easy way to save energy. You can remember to do it yourself, or install a programmable thermostat.

These can cost \$25-\$100, but can cut your business heating and cooling costs by up to 30 per cent. Set up your system to switch on just before people get to work, and to turn off just after they leave.

Using fresh air and working with the weather

When the outside temperature is comfortable, turn off the air conditioning and open doors and windows to take advantage of the fresh air.

Also find out where the sun hits your building the most. You can reduce your cooling bill by protecting these areas through use of shades, awnings, or solar reduction film on windows.

Keep the temperature constant

Draught stoppers or weather seals around doors and windows, and insulation in the roof, will help prevent temperature controlled air escaping – and the weather getting in.

Consider using door closers on all doors, particularly external ones, to stop air getting in and out.

Most Australian homes are now insulated, and the savings are widely reported. Imagine the savings businesses could make if they were well insulated.

Regular maintenance

Make sure your heating and cooling systems are maintained regularly. An inefficient system may add significant costs to your energy bills and make for an uncomfortable work environment.

Location of your thermostat

If your thermostat is near a frequently used door, a draught or a cold room, you could be using more energy than you need. Move it and your heating or cooling system won't need to work so hard.