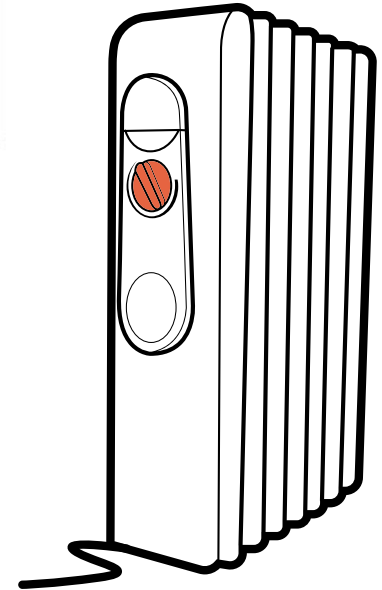
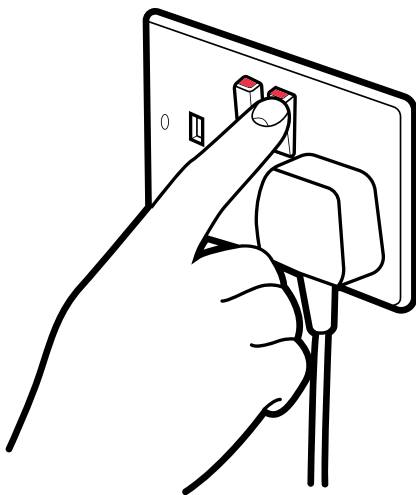
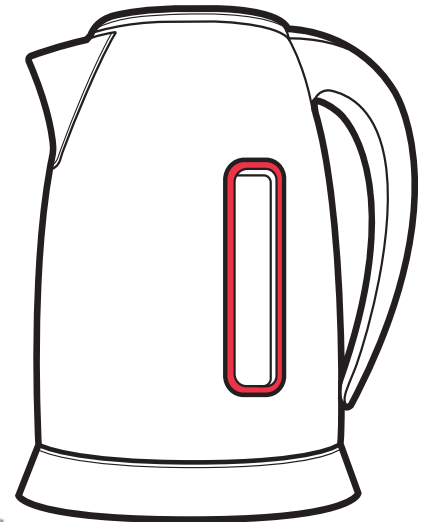


'My home, my energy' I have the power!

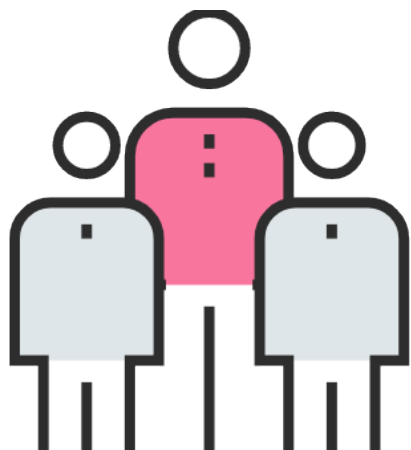


The cost of heating your home and other things will be going up in the next few years.

So you might need to start thinking about what you can do to manage your gas, electricity and water bills.

Here are some 'Top Tips' to help you take control of your bills, stay warm, healthy and keep safe!

‘My home, my energy’ I have the power!



1. The Priority Service Register

The best thing you can do if you are worried about your energy or water supply at home is to ring your them and ask them to put you on the ‘Priority Services Register’.

To find out more you can visit:

www.speakup.org.uk/prioritise-my-water
www.speakup.org.uk/prioritiseme

2. Smart Meters



If you haven't got a Smart Meter for your Gas and Electricity, it's a good idea to ask your company if you can have one fitted.

There are lots of reasons why having a Smart Meter is a good idea. A Smart Meter could make it easier to know exactly how much gas and electric you are using every day.

This could then help you to have more control of your bills and might help you to save energy and money.

To find out more you can visit:

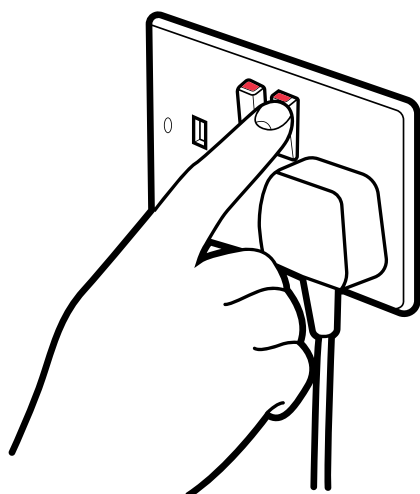
www.speakup.org.uk/smart-meters-are-for-me

3. Electrical Safety at home

Make sure all the things you plug into a socket at home are safe to use. If you have plugs or wires which are damaged or if things get too hot when they are plugged in, you might need to get them checked out.

To find out more you can visit:

www.speakup.org.uk/you-just-plug-it-in-dont-you



‘My home, my energy’ I have the power!

4. Gas Safety at home

You should get your gas fire, boiler, cooker and other things that use gas at home checked every year. This is important so you stay safe.

It's also a good idea to have a Carbon Monoxide alarm in your home. It should be working, have good batteries, be tested once a month and be in the right place. Ask for help if you need it.

To find out more you can visit:
www.speakup.org.uk/icantsmellit

5. Get the ‘Warm home discount’

We all use more energy to keep warm in the winter but it is really important to keep warm to stay healthy.

You might be able to get money off your gas and electricity bills over winter.

You will need to ask your gas or electricity company to find out if you can get it and what to do next.

To find out more you can visit:
www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/warm-home-discount-whd

But this website is not accessible, so ask someone you trust to help you if you need to.



‘My home, my energy’ I have the power!



6. Save money by saving energy

You might need to start thinking about how you can use less gas and electricity in your home but still staying warm, healthy and safe.

It is really important not to be cold in your home in the winter.

To find out more you can watch our film:

<https://vimeo.com/64640983>

7. Keep in credit with Electricity and Gas

In summer it is warmer outside and we don't need to heat our homes as much.

This means that in the summer we might not use as much gas or electricity.

To help you in the winter, it might be a good idea to build up credit on your account so you have money to help with the big winter bills.

If you pay for your gas or electricity using Direct Debit then it might be a good idea to speak to your Gas or Electricity company to see if you can pay more into your account.

If you have a Pre-Payment card meter for your gas or electricity then you can do the same. In the Summer, keep buying the same amount on your card as you do in the winter. This means you build up a 'Credit' balance on your meter.

It is also a good idea to speak to your gas or electricity company at least once a year to make sure you are paying enough money.

