

Is Your Home Full Of Vampires?

Did you know that home electronic devices use energy to power features like clock displays and remote controls even when they're off? According to ENERGY STAR®, electricity consumed by electronic devices while they are switched off or in standby mode is sometimes referred to as "vampire power" – taking a bite out of your wallet by wasting energy.

The typical household has 20 to 40 electronic devices that use standby power. Although each device uses a relatively small amount of electricity, their combined energy usage represents, on average, 10% of household electricity consumption - the equivalent of operating a second refrigerator! Households spend about \$100 per year to power devices while they are in standby mode.

A few simple changes can save you money. Making sure you unplug the charger once your phone and tablet are both fully charged is a step in the right direction. Unplugging or just hitting the off switch on the power strips all of your computer, game consoles, or audio/video components are hooked into is also a good habit to start. Or you can opt to go with "smart" power strips that do that on their own.

 Products that have earned the ENERGY STAR use less standby power than conventional models. You'll also get rebates on your purchase of qualifying ENERGY STAR products through our rebate program.



Appliance	Avg. Cost/Year
Cable / satellite box	\$12.85
Clock radio	\$1.81
Computer	\$1.61
DVD player	\$5.92
Game console	\$2.41
Garage door opener	\$2.41
Microwave	\$2.61
Printer	\$7.03
Radio	\$1.44
Routers & modems	\$10.24
Stereo	\$12.85
TV-Plasma (50")	\$14.56



Eliminate unnecessary power use at home

- Consider a "smart" power strip which can be used to control multiple devices on home theaters or computer systems when not on.
- Plug electronics into a power strip, and when you're not using those devices, turn off your power strip.
- Unplug your devices that are not in use or if they're totally unnecessary.
- If you are in the market for new electronics consider ENERGY STAR qualified home electronics. ENERGY STAR products use up to 60% less energy than conventional equipment, without sacrificing performance or any important features.
- Remove chargers from the outlet when not charging. Chargers will keep drawing electricity after the device has charged.