

# Smarter energy choices for your new home



NETWORK

## Congratulations on building your new home!

This must be a very exciting time for you. Now is a great time to talk to you about some of the ways you can reduce your ongoing energy costs and future proof the biggest investment you may ever make.

## The benefits of electric appliances

You may have a personal preference for electric or gas appliances when it comes to things like cooking, or you may simply go with the appliance package offered by your builder. It's important to understand that if you choose to have both electric and gas appliances in your home you may be up for expensive set up costs and ongoing fixed supply charges for both. If you have a choice here are some reasons to consider electric appliances:

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- Hot water**
- Electric hot water systems are usually the cheapest to install and most retailers offer discounted economy tariffs for hot water systems that provide electricity **up to 44% cheaper<sup>1</sup>** than standard general supply tariffs
  - If you're planning to install a solar PV system, it makes sense to install an electric hot water system to **maximise the value of your solar investment** by setting your hot water system to heat during the day when solar power is being generated.
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- Cooking**
- Electric induction cooktops offer the **latest in cooking technology**. They are safe to touch, very efficient compared to other electric cooktops, heat instantly, look stylish and are easy to clean. And unlike the old fashioned electric cooktops, induction cooktops allow you to control the level of heat similar to that experienced with gas.
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## Save with economy tariffs

Economy tariffs are great for appliances like hot water systems and pool filters that don't need a constant supply of power. These tariffs offer electricity **up to 44% cheaper<sup>1</sup>** than the standard tariff because they control the times when power is available. Economy tariffs can be used in conjunction with all other residential tariffs at the same address but can't be used to run an entire household or business. For more on economy tariffs contact your electricity retailer.

Customers building a new home must pay an upfront charge for a new meter to be installed to record electricity consumption. A dual meter is required if you would like to connect your appliances to an economy tariff. To avoid having to install a dual meter later and additional meter charges, talk to your builder or electrical contractor about installing a dual meter now. For more on meter charges contact your electricity retailer.

## Energy sense home guide

For more information on how to make smarter energy choices for your new home download a copy of The energy sense home guide at [ergon.com.au](http://ergon.com.au) under *Network, Manage your energy, Home tips and Renovating & building*, or call us on **1300 550 766** and we'll send you a copy.

<sup>1</sup>Based on tariff rates effective 1 July 2015. Tariff 33 Economy offers electricity 15% cheaper and Tariff 31 Super Economy 44% cheaper than Tariff 11 Residential