Common questions

Do heat pumps (split systems) for hot-water and home heating work in cold climates?  
**Yes:** Good quality heat pumps e.g reverse cycle air conditioning, for heating buildings and hot water will work anywhere in Australia.10

Is cooking with induction appliances clean, fast, safe and easy to control?  
**Yes:** Induction cook tops offer fast and accurate control over a wide temperature range for all kinds of cooking.

Government assistance to help make the switch

Darebin-Living/Caring-for-the-environment/EnergyClimate  

Further information

10. Make the Switch: [maketheswitch.org.au](http://maketheswitch.org.au) (Refer to Myth Busting Q&A & Calculate the Switch)  
15. My Efficient Electric Home: [facebook.com/groups/MyEfficientElectricHome](http://facebook.com/groups/MyEfficientElectricHome)  
16. Reverse cycle air conditioners use “heat pump” technology and are also referred to as “split systems”  

This leaflet was produced by: Climate and Environment Reference Group—Cooper (CERGC). We are residents of the Cooper electorate who are promoting environmental sustainability and decarbonisation in our local community and across Australia. We acknowledge and thank the Conservation Council ACT Region for permitting use of its Make the Switch website.

*Note:* Whilst the CERG has endeavoured to ensure all information is correct, individual circumstances will vary and it is important that you undertake your own research to best cater for your preferences and situation.

*Photo Credits:* Gas Flame Dollar, Gas Flame, Induction Cooktop: Shutterstock

Make the change to cleaner, cheaper energy

**Heat pumps**

An electric heat pump hot water system will deliver hot water cleanly and efficiently.

**Reverse-cycle air con**

Reverse-cycle air conditioners provide efficient heating & cooling.

**Induction cooktops**

Induction cooking is fast, responsive, efficient and healthy.

**Go all electric**

Closing your gas account will save hundreds of dollars per year in service charges.

Produced by Climate & Environment Reference Group—Cooper Electorate. March 2021

For more information, go to - [gedkearney.org.au/plan-your-switch](http://gedkearney.org.au/plan-your-switch)
Did you know?

**Electric appliances are more efficient and cheaper to run than gas appliances.**

The efficiency of solar, wind, and battery technologies has improved while the cost of producing panels, turbines and batteries has fallen. Modern electric heat pumps use around a quarter or less of the amount of energy to heat air or water as gas equivalents. It is now cheaper and more efficient to use electricity than gas for heating, hot water and cooking, depending on your choice of appliances.¹

**Gas causes greenhouse emissions.**

Gas is a fossil fuel just like coal. When gas is burned for energy, it releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Also, greenhouse gases like methane are released into the air during the mining and production of gas.² Gas can never be as clean as wind and solar. We have a climate emergency and need to get to net-zero emissions as quickly as possible.

**Renewable energy is cheap and reliable.**

Large-scale renewable electricity production technologies (wind, solar, hydro power, battery storage and pumped hydro) are now cheap and reliable enough to replace coal and gas as the energy source for buildings and many industries. We can now skip gas and move directly to renewable energy as coal fired power stations are decommissioned.³

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### How to make the switch to efficient electric appliances and save money

**Your gas appliance will breakdown eventually. Are you prepared?**

Don’t automatically replace it with another gas appliance. For instance, hot water systems need to be replaced every 10-15 years. Plan now to replace your gas system with an electric heat pump. Learn how to make the switch for all your gas appliances and calculate how much you will save on your reverse-cycle air conditioner.

> **For landlords**

Check out minimum energy efficiency standards for rental properties.¹⁷ Switching rental properties to all-electric will lower tenants’ energy bills. Having happy tenants will help to ensure a stable source of income.

> **For tenants**

As gas appliances come up for replacement, encourage your landlord to consider an efficient electrical equivalent.

> **For business owners**

Going all-electric makes financial sense in the long-run. Most cooking and manufacturing processes can be done as effectively with electricity. Staff and customers concerned about climate change will ask for it.

> **For improved energy efficiency**

Seal draughts, add insulation and upgrade window dressing or glazing. For more energy efficient measures see: victorianenergysaver.vic.gov.au

> **For cleaner electricity, install rooftop solar panels**

They will pay for themselves quickly, especially as you move from gas appliances to electric ones. Check government assistance available for installing solar panels, batteries, solar hot water etc. (Refer over page).

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3. RMI - Health Effects from Gas Stove Pollution: rmi.org/insight/gas-stoves-pollution-health
6. European Respiratory Society: erj.ersjournals.com/content/36/2/249