

Your Go Electric Plan



Merri-bek
City Council

Join the clean energy future and make your home all-electric. Use this plan to prepare so that when appliances need replacing, you're ready to make the switch.

Your household could save up to 75%* per year on your bills.



Step 1 Record the age of your gas appliances and any petrol/diesel cars (check receipts or the appliance nameplate).

Step 2 Choose your future electric appliances and/or vehicle.

Things to Consider when Planning

- **Prioritise replacing appliances that are more than 10 years old.** This can fast track your transition to an all-electric home
- **Replace gas heating, cooktop and oven** to improve indoor air quality
- **Install Solar PV** to further reduce your energy costs
- **Improve the insulation and seal gaps in your home** to reduce heating and cooling bills. Merri-bek City Council [offers subsidies for people on a low income.](#)
- Use the [Climate Council Calculator](#) to calculate your savings

We are here to help: zerocarbonmerri-bek.org.au/electrify








Current appliance	Age of current appliances (years)	Go Electric with an	Rating	Cost	When could I replace?
Gas heating		<input type="checkbox"/> Split system reverse cycle air conditioning	Best	\$-\$\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ducted Reverse Cycle air conditioning	Better	\$\$\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Heat pump hydronic heating	Best	\$\$\$+	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric heater	Good	\$	
Gas hot water		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric hot water heat pump	Best	\$-\$\$\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric storage (with solar and timer)	Better	\$	
Gas cooktop or gas oven		<input type="checkbox"/> Induction cooktop	Best	\$-\$\$\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric cooktop	Better	\$-\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric oven		\$-\$\$\$	
Petrol or diesel car		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric bike		\$-\$\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Electric vehicle		\$\$-\$\$\$+	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Walk or ride more		\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Take public transport		\$	

The first action I will take is...

Key **Good | Better | Best** Ranking of solution based on quality, efficiency and best for the environment. **\$-\$\$\$+** Upfront cost price range.

* renew.org.au/research/limiting-energy-bills-by-getting-off-gas/

Go Electric Fact Sheet

Appliance	Description	Benefits	Tips and resources	Council programs and other rebates
Solar panels and GreenPower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar panels convert sunlight into free electricity for use in your home Any excess electricity goes back to the electricity grid or used to charge a battery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Power your home with renewable energy Solar can make your electric appliances free to run Solar usually pays for itself in 3-5 years Anyone can support more renewable energy in Australia by choosing GreenPower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run your electric appliances during the day to maximise savings Check your electricity plan to make sure you're getting the best deal Check Greenpeace's Green Electricity Guide when choosing a GreenPower retailer 	<p>Buy solar from Merri-bek's Solar Savers program</p> <p>Merri-bek offers subsidies for people on a low income</p> <p>Victorian Government Solar Victoria solar rebates and solar and battery no-interest loans</p>
Electric heating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be single unit, many units or whole of house (ducted) Single units are the cheapest to run 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can heat your home in winter and cool it in summer In winter, reverse cycle air-conditioning is 3-4 times more efficient than a standard electric heater or a gas space heater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean filters regularly In winter - set thermostat to 18-20°C In summer set thermostat to 23-25°C Choose a natural refrigerant such as R32 	<p>Buy a reverse-cycle heater from Merri-bek's Solar Savers program.</p> <p>Victorian Government Energy Upgrade program has discounts for upgrading your heating and cooling</p>
Electric hot water heat pump 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heat is absorbed from the air outside and transferred to the water in the tank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-5 times more efficient than an electric/gas hot water heater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose a heat pump with a natural refrigerant Look for systems with control options (such a timer so you can use your solar energy) If your current water heater dies, ask for a temporary system 	<p>Buy a hot water heat pump from Merri-bek's Solar Savers program.</p> <p>Victorian Government Solar Victoria hot water rebate</p> <p>Victorian Government Energy Upgrade program has discounts for hot water</p>
Induction cooktop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a magnet sticks to your cookware then it is compatible Stainless steel and cast iron work well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved air quality Safe Fast and efficient Greater temperature range Easy to clean Cooler kitchen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check with an electrician to see if you need switchboard upgrades Choose electric cooktop alternatives if you have a pacemaker Portable induction cooktops are cheap and can plug into any plug 	<p>Victorian Government Energy Upgrade program has discounts for induction cooktops.</p> <p>Borrow a portable induction cooktop from Merri-bek Libraries to try it out.</p>
Electric car or bicycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric cars run on electricity rather than petrol or diesel Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles run on both electricity and petrol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric cars are cheap to run and need very little maintenance Can be charged on clean renewable energy Non-polluting and quiet to drive and ride Electric and cargo bikes are a great alternative to using a car and cheaper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider an electric bike before investing in a car Use the Electric Vehicle Council cost calculator Find public charging stations on PlugShare 	<p>Currently no rebates available</p>

Other Resources:

- [Guide to Electrifying Your Apartment or Townhouse](#)
- [Renew's Getting Off Gas Toolkit](#)
- [Sustainability Victoria: Electrify your home | Sustainability Victoria](#)
- [My Efficient Electric Home Facebook group](#)

