

## What next?

If you are on a default tariff (whether you pay by direct debit, standard credit, or have a prepayment meter), your supplier must automatically apply the price cap Ofgem sets. This is to ensure you get a fairer price, but it won't mean you're on the cheapest deal available. So always see if you can save more.

## Check, switch and save

### ✔ Check your last energy bill

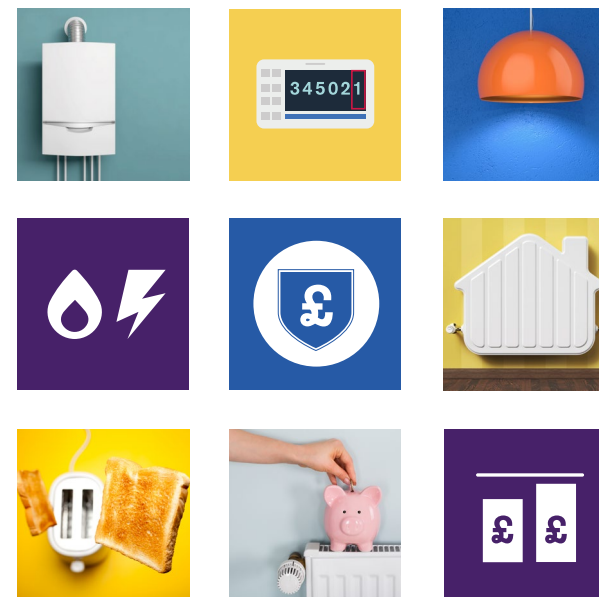
Start by checking your tariff type and your current rates by looking your last energy bill. Then contact your supplier and ask if you can save by switching to a different tariff. Their details will be on your bill.

### ✔ Compare offers

Phone different energy suppliers or use a price comparison website to find a better tariff or supplier. A list of Ofgem-approved online comparison services are available at [ofgem.gov.uk/confidence-code](https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/confidence-code).

### ✔ Energy Switch Guarantee

It can take up to 21 days to switch and you have 14 days to cancel a contract if you change your mind. Some suppliers also offer a switching guarantee service. Find out more at [energyswitchguarantee.com](https://www.energyswitchguarantee.com).



## Things you need to know about energy price cap

**Search Energy Price Cap** for more information and advice.

## What is the energy price cap?

It's a cap on the price you pay for energy if you are on a 'standard variable' energy tariff or a tariff you haven't chosen (a 'default tariff'). You can be on a default deal whether you pay by direct debit, standard credit or use a prepayment meter.

Default tariffs (which include standard variable tariffs) are a basic deal from your supplier and are usually the most expensive. You can be on a default deal whether you pay by direct debit, standard credit, or using a prepayment meter.

### The price cap:

- ✔ Keeps the rates your supplier charges you in check based on the underlying costs to get energy to you.
- ✔ Varies depending where you live, how you pay and your type of energy meter.
- ✔ Is set by Ofgem and updated in April and October each year. Your supplier must price their default and prepayment tariffs to the level or below the cap we set.

**The price cap doesn't limit your total bill** – this will go up and down depending on how much energy you use.

## Who does the energy price cap apply to?

The energy price cap doesn't apply to everybody.

### When did you last switch?

If you are on a 'default' tariff, you'll be covered by the price cap. If you've never switched energy supplier or switched some years ago you will likely be on a default tariff. For example, if you've moved house and have not contacted an energy supplier. Names of default tariffs vary, so if you aren't sure if you are on one, look at your last bill for your tariff details and then contact your supplier to check. You can pay by direct debit, standard credit or prepayment meter, you will still be covered.

### Do you use a prepayment meter?

If you are on a default tariff and you qualify for the Warm Home Discount, you're covered by the price cap.

 [Search Energy Price Caps](#) for more information and advice.