

# Save money with line-dried laundry this summer

You can save on energy and clothing expenses if you give up the clothes dryer this summer and line-dry your laundry instead.

According to Project Laundry List, a group that promotes line-drying laundry, the clothes dryer accounts for about 10 percent of the average household's energy bill. Unlike other appliances, such as the refrigerator or the furnace, the dryer can be replaced by a method that uses no energy at all.



## TO DO THE JOB RIGHT, YOU NEED TO KNOW A FEW TRICKS.

**1** The resurgent popularity of air-drying clothes has prompted manufacturers to introduce a new generation of clotheslines, clothes pins, drying racks and other gadgets. You likely can find a line-drying system that will work for you regardless of your space limitations.

**2** If you are put off by stiff or crinkly line-dried garments and towels, you can still cut your energy bill by mostly line-drying your laundry. Just toss everything into the dryer for about 10 minutes after it's mostly dry on the line. Laundry will come out as soft as if it took a full-cycle tumble.

**3** Be careful with dark-colored clothes. Line drying on sunny days can fade the fabric.

**4** Hang shirts by their hems instead of their shoulders to avoid bunching along the top of the garment.

**5** Don't give up at the end of summer. You can move your line-drying inside, using drying racks and indoor clotheslines. Indoor drying may take a bit longer than a backyard clothesline, but it'll still do the trick. Choose a large room with good air circulation.

**6** Check local ordinances. In some areas, zoning regulations don't allow laundry to hang outside to dry.

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