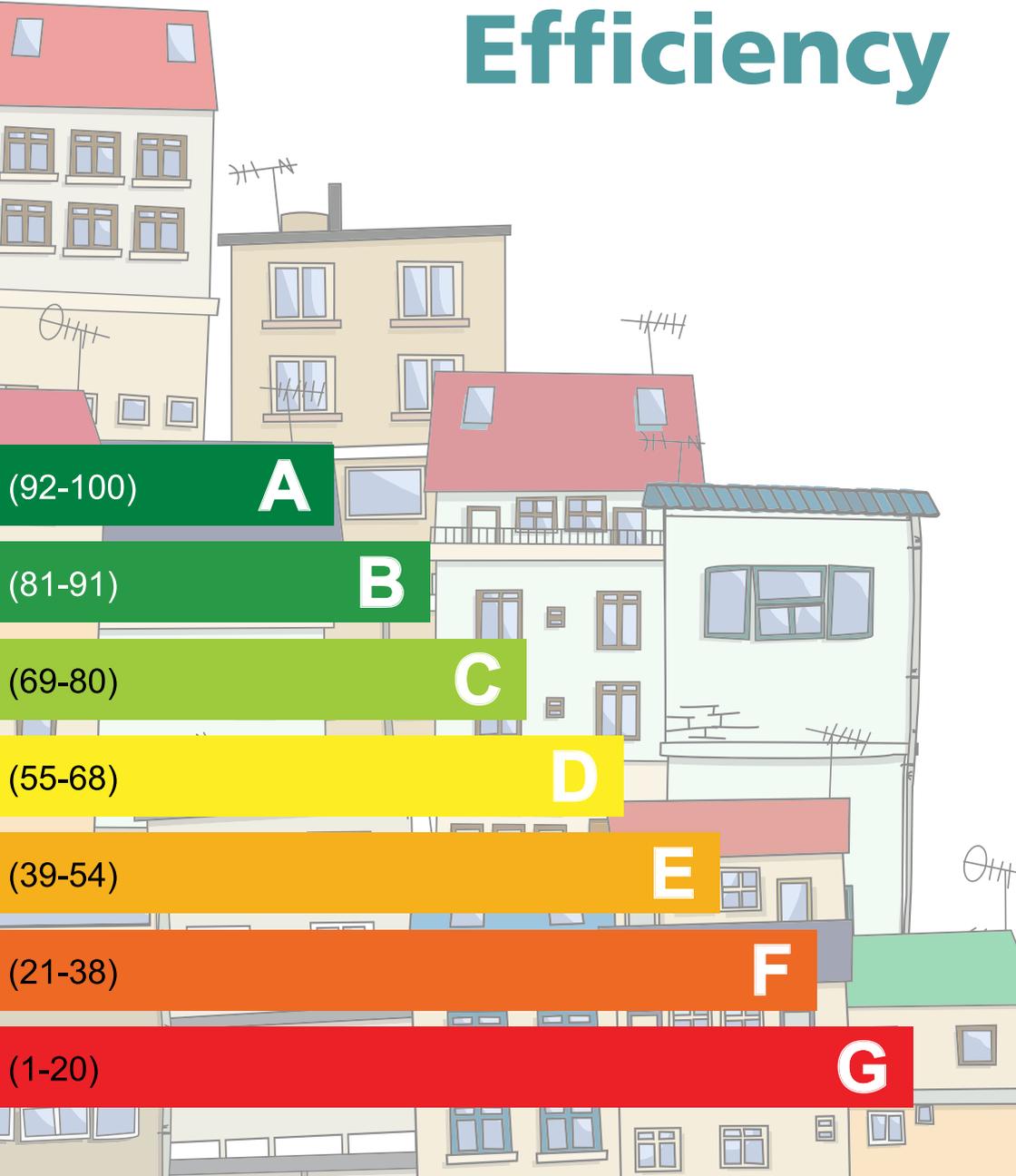


A GUIDE TO Energy Efficiency



(92-100)

A

(81-91)

B

(69-80)

C

(55-68)

D

(39-54)

E

(21-38)

F

(1-20)

G

Using energy wisely can save you money, reduce your home's carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and help to fight climate change.

Insulation

In a typical British home, about a third of the heat produced by a central heating system is needlessly lost through the roof, ceilings and walls. By installing good insulation measures, you can almost eliminate that. Think about installing loft insulation (270mm thick), cavity wall insulation and draught proofing measures. Double glazing is the UK's most popular energy-saving measure, although cavity wall insulation will actually save you a lot more and costs much less to install.

Central Heating

The efficiency of your central heating system depends upon two things, a high-efficiency boiler and good controls. If you are looking to replace your boiler, you should consider buying a condensing boiler. Although they cost more to buy, they can save up to 40% on your fuel bills every year compared to an old boiler. Good heating controls ensure that your boiler is only working when heat is needed in the home, e.g. thermostatic radiator valves.

Low Energy Light Bulbs

As their name suggest, low-energy light bulbs use less energy than ordinary light bulbs, and although they cost more to buy they save you money in the long run. Over its lifetime (10,000 hours for energy efficiency-recommended bulbs) the saving could reach £68 per bulb.

Energy Saving Products

Energy saving products use less energy and therefore have less of an environmental impact, as well as being cheaper to run. The EU Energy label has recently been updated and rates products on a scale from A+++ (dark green - the most efficient) to G, although the lowest category for most household appliances is D (red – the least efficient). The label shows the total energy consumption, along with additional information relevant to that product.

The most energy efficient products also carry the Energy Saving Trust recommended logo including TVs, boilers, glazing and insulation.



Energy Saving Tips

- Turning your thermostat down by 1 degree could cut your heating bills by up to 10%.
- Always turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.
- Don't leave appliances on standby and do not leave appliances on charge unnecessarily.
- Only boil as much water as you need.
- Take a shower instead of a bath – this will save on fuel bills and saves water.
- Programme central heating to come on half an hour before you get up in the morning, and to go off half an hour before you retire in the evening.
- Fit reflector panels behind radiators.
- Turn radiators down in rooms you don't use, they shouldn't be switched off though.
- Fix dripping taps and make sure hot-water taps are turned off.
- Try to use a low-temperature programme on the washing machine.
- Use lids on saucepans and match the ring size to pots and pans.
- Cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, insulating hot water tanks and draught proofing doors help households to become more energy efficient and save money on fuel bills.

Home Energy Efficiency Programmes

Home Energy Scotland manages the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government. They offer practical help and advice on home energy efficiency to owner occupiers, tenants and private sector landlords, and in some cases may provide financial assistance towards energy saving measures.

Area Based Scheme Dumfries & Galloway (HEEPS:ABS)

The scheme offers an accredited solid wall insulation system, either internally or externally, to properties of suitable construction type. The scheme is open to owner occupiers, private landlords and private tenants. Maximum grant levels apply per household. If this is exceeded there may be a customer contribution required and interest free loans may be available.

To request further information on the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes available in Scotland, please contact the Home Energy

Scotland on **0808 808 2282** or visit

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland

Further Information

- Home Energy Scotland provides information on all Energy Efficiency measures including any financial assistance which may be available.

Tel: 0808 808 2282

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/
domestic/home-energy-scotland](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/home-energy-scotland)

- Care and Repair offer independent advice and assistance to help elderly and disabled homeowners repair, improve or adapt their homes so that they can live in comfort and safety in their own community.

Tel: 01387 321300

www.loreburn.org.uk/care-repair

- Dumfries and Galloway Home Energy Assistance Scheme provides advice on energy efficiency such as home insulation and ventilation.

Tel: 01387 269161

www.energyagency.org.uk

- Window Advice Centre provides impartial advice and can assist homeowners to obtain quotations.

Tel: 0141 332 7878

www.windowadvicecentre.co.uk

- Dumfries & Galloway Council FIAT Team offer confidential benefit advice and help. The team can advise you which benefits you and your family may be eligible for and maximise your income. They can give you more information and help you fill in forms.

Tel: 030 33 33 3008

[www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15927/
Benefit-advice](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15927/Benefit-advice)

Other Help

If you are 60 or over you may be able to get a Winter Fuel Payment to help you keep warm in winter.

See www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment

You can call the Winter Fuel Payment helpline on 0800 731 0160 to find out if you can get these payments and how to apply.

Textphone users should call

0800 731 0464.

Contact Us

We have a range of leaflets on different topics available on request. If you would like further information on the types of assistance available to homeowners please contact:

Dumfries & Galloway Council

Communities
Strategic Housing
Municipal Chambers
Buccleuch Street
Dumfries
DG1 2AD

Tel: 030 33 33 3000

Email: strategichousing@dumgal.gov.uk
[www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15101/
Housing](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15101/Housing)