

Climate Action Checklist

Renewable Energy

SOLAR ENERGY

- Solar geyser
- Solar panels
- Battery pack

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

- Electric car / Hybrid car

LOW-TECH HOME SOLUTIONS

- Cooking bag/box
- Solar oven
- Parabolic solar cooker
- Gravity light

Electricity

AIR CONDITIONERS / HEATERS

- Set temperature close to ambient
- Reduce running time
- Use shade (curtains/blinds/trees)
- Use fan instead of air conditioner
- Keep doors/windows closed
- Turn off when leaving the room
- Insulate ceiling

HOT WATER GEYSER

- Set to lower temperature
- Only heat water when needed
- Turn off for rest of day
- Install automatic timer
- Install digital geyser controller
- Consume less hot water
- Install electric heat pump
- Insulate geyser and pipes

LIGHTING

- Install LED (fluorescent) light bulbs
- Reduce number of lights
- Switch lights off
- Use natural lighting
- Install sky lights

APPLIANCES

- Boil as much water as needed
- Boil in kettle, not stove/microwave
- Store boiled water in flask for later
- Cook on low heat
- Cook for as short a time as possible
- Eat more raw vegetables
- Air-defrost food (not microwave)
- Look for green AAA rating

DISHWASHER

- Use full loads not half loads
- Skip hot drying cycle

WASHING MACHINE

- Wash clothes only when dirty
- Use full loads not half loads
- Use the coolest settings
- Use economy cycles

TUMBLE DRYER

- Air-dry clothes

- Use a cool setting
- Spin dry and untangle clothes first
- Keep filters clean
- Full (not half) loads, don't overfill

ELECTRONICS

- Turn screens off when not in use
- Reduce screen brightness
- Avoid large plasma televisions and gaming consoles
- Switch off appliances on wall

FRIDGES / FREEZERS

- Open/close fridge doors quickly
- Cool food down before refrigerating
- Protect fridge/freezer from sun
- Set temperature correctly
- Check seals, defrost
- Keep condenser coils dust-free
- Do not over-fill
- Fix gas leaks
- Replace with non-greenhouse gases

POOL PUMP

- Fill pool with rainwater
- Install solar powered pump

Transport

AIR TRAVEL

- Avoid flying
- Fly economy, not business class

CAR / ROAD TRAVEL

- Use car as little as possible
- Share trips with other people
- Work from home
- Use Google Maps to optimize route
- Drive small economical car
- Drive gently, not aggressively
- Drive between 40-100km/h
- Use free-flowing, faster routes
- Avoid rush hour and congestion

Industry

- Buy less stuff
- Buy less made of metal, plastic, minerals, chemicals
- Fix things when they break
- Use appliances until their end of life
- Give gift vouchers instead of things
- Buy, sell and pass on second-hand
- Buy quality, not throw-away items
- Don't buy things you do not need

Waste

- Avoid food waste: eat what you buy
- Refuse plastic as far as possible

- Refuse Styrofoam
- Reduce consumption all round
- Repair, don't throw away
- Reuse things
- Repurpose (find alternative use)
- Recycle and sort at home

Construction

- Live in the smallest house you need
- House share
- Rent out spare living space
- Low-carbon building materials
- Energy-efficient house designs
- Smart houses
- Green buildings
- Retrofit house to use less power

Nature

- Offset personal carbon footprint
- Plant indigenous trees
- Conserve and restore ecosystems
- Avoid chemicals that kill plants, animals or fungi
- Permanent plant/compost cover to protect topsoil
- Prevent soil from overheating/compaction/erosion/disruption

Water

- Save water
- Install rain water tanks
- Reuse grey water

Food

- Eat mainly plant-based food
- Ration meat, regular no-meat days
- Eat minimal red meat
- Eat less processed food
- Eat locally produced
- Do not waste food

People

- Pay someone to do something rather than buying a machine
- Pay 'poverty-busting' wages

Money

- Check the carbon footprint of your investments
- Disinvest from carbon intensive industries
- Ask for green investment options
- Invest in a sustainable, green energy economy

Voice

- Make changes in your home
- Pass on the word
- Tell friends and neighbours
- Educate your family
- Be an agent of change at work
- Vote for climate action
- Join global climate activism