

TOO MUCH A/C ISN'T COOL



Americans spend up to 70% of their summer electricity bills on air conditioning. All that juice adds up to \$11 billion a year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

It may keep us comfortable, but A/C creates a lot of waste and costs a lot of money.

At Big Ass Fans®, thermal comfort is our business. Here are a few tips for dialing back the A/C, saving cash and staying cool this summer.

USE YOUR THERMOSTAT WISELY

Does your setpoint sit at 72 °F all summer? Raise it a few degrees and speed up your ceiling fan at the same time. An ENERGY STAR® certified ceiling fan can make you feel up to 10 °F cooler, and you'll save up to five percent on air conditioning costs for each degree you raise your thermostat.

EMBRACE THE SHADE

Much of the heat in your home is the result of sunlight coming in through the windows. Plant bushes and trees or install awnings, shades or shutters to keep unwanted heat where it belongs: outside.

AUTOMATE YOUR COMFORT

Prefer to let technology do the work? Seek out smart home products, such as the Ecobee smart thermostat or Big Ass Fans' Haiku® ceiling fan. These cutting-edge devices have built-in sensors that monitor temperature and humidity within your space and automatically adjust to keep you comfortable as well as reduce energy costs by up to 30 percent. And after an initial setup, you'll never have to lift a finger again.

DON'T ADD TO THE HEAT

Everything that draws electricity generates heat. Energy-efficient indoor appliances create less heat, but some appliances, such as ovens, produce heat by design. Consider using those appliances less this summer. (As if you needed another reason to grill out...)

LET MOTHER NATURE HELP

Turn off the A/C when the temperature outside dips and open windows on parallel walls to create a cross breeze. If it's hot during the day but cool at night, crack the windows while you sleep, then shut them in the morning to lock in cool air.

GIVE YOUR A/C SOME TLC

Regular maintenance will keep your A/C unit running at peak efficiency. Change your air filter every three months, and get your system inspected every year.