



AvidConnect

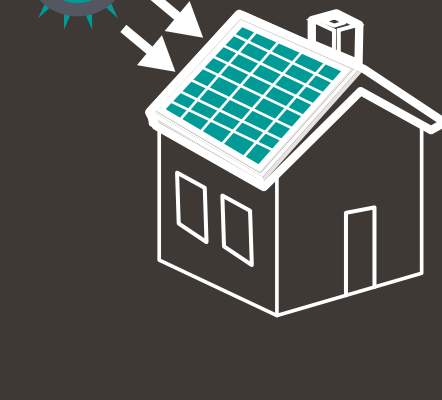
We listen to your every need and with owl like wisdom, guide and assist you throughout your journey in achieving your ideal home.

Smart tips for designing your new home and garden.

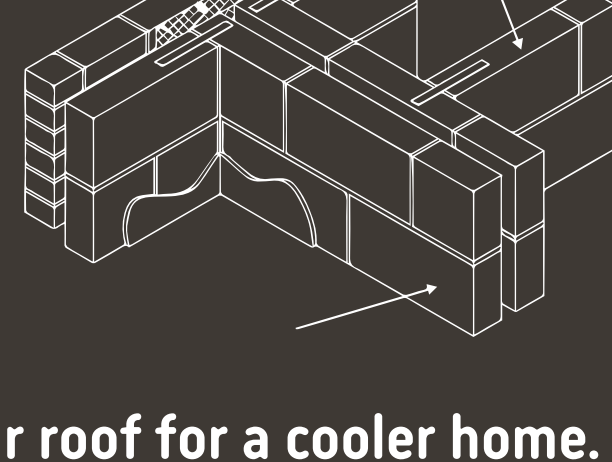
Making smart choices early on in building your new home will help you create a comfortable home and enhance it's resale value.

1 Getting the temperature right

Use natural sources of heating and cooling, such as the sun and cooling breezes to save on energy & lighting costs.

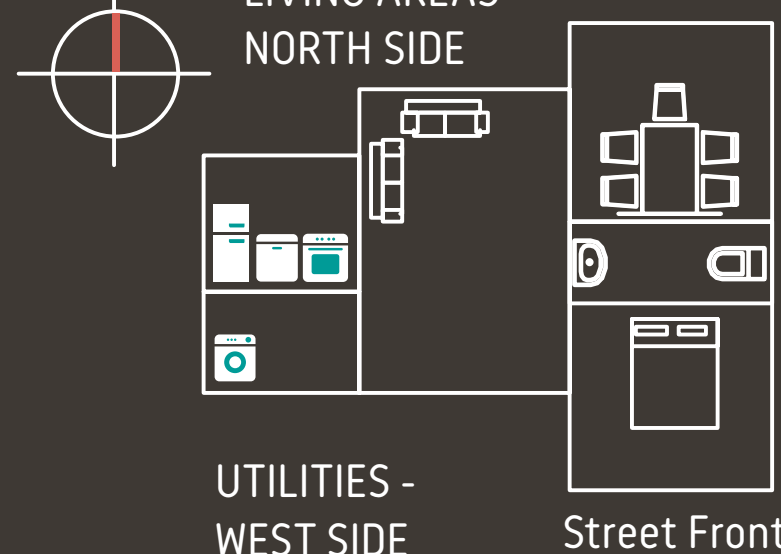


Use quality insulation in roof and walls for 20-40%* energy savings.

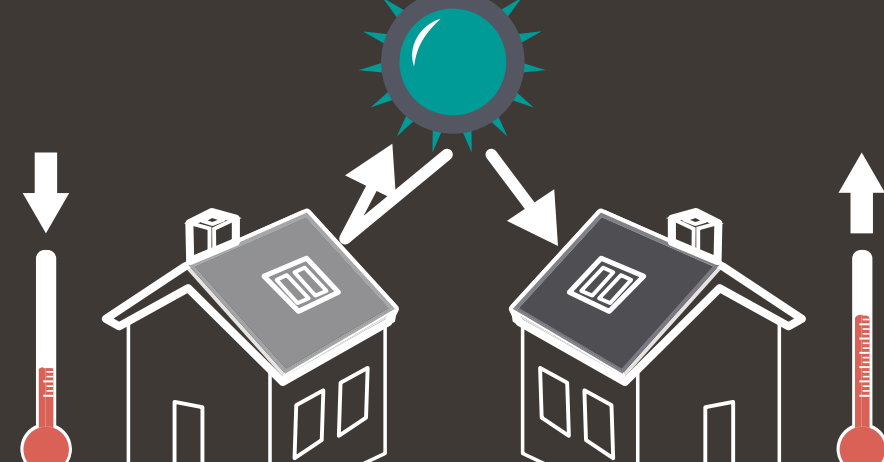


Optimise natural light

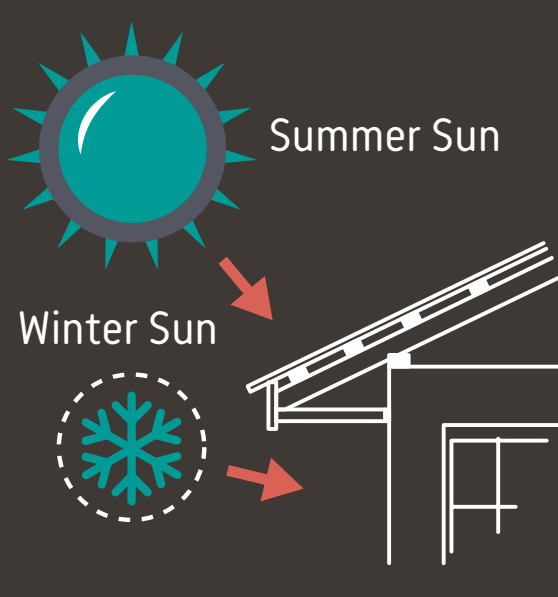
Plan living areas on the north side of the house, utilities on the western side.



Choose a light colour roof for a cooler home.



Make the best use of eaves for winter and summer sun.



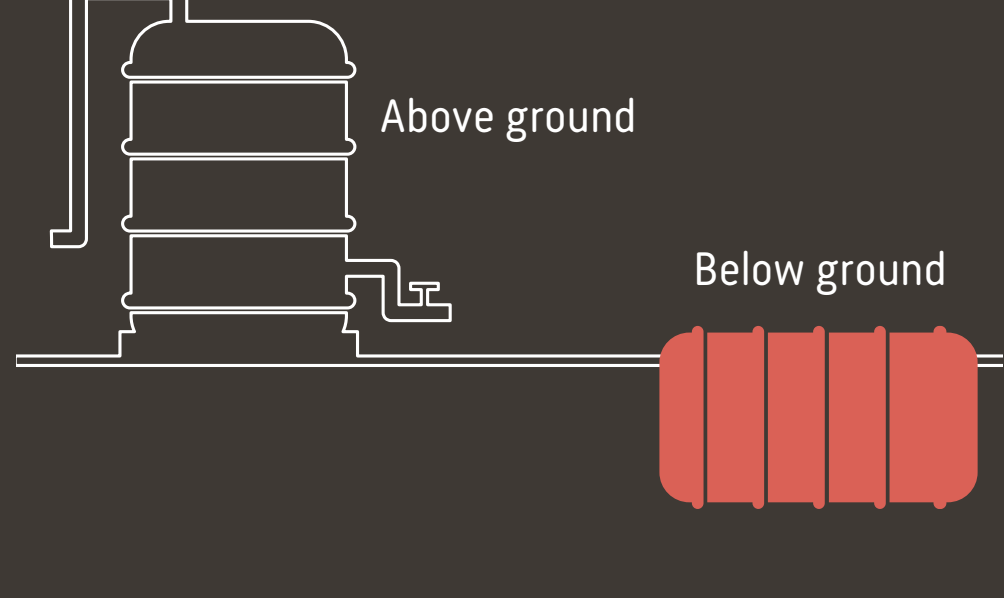
Encourage cross ventilation and breezes with multiple doors and windows.



2 Harvest the rain and sun

Maximise the benefits of rainwater collection and stormwater runoff. Save up to 50% of your water bill by using recycled and tank water.

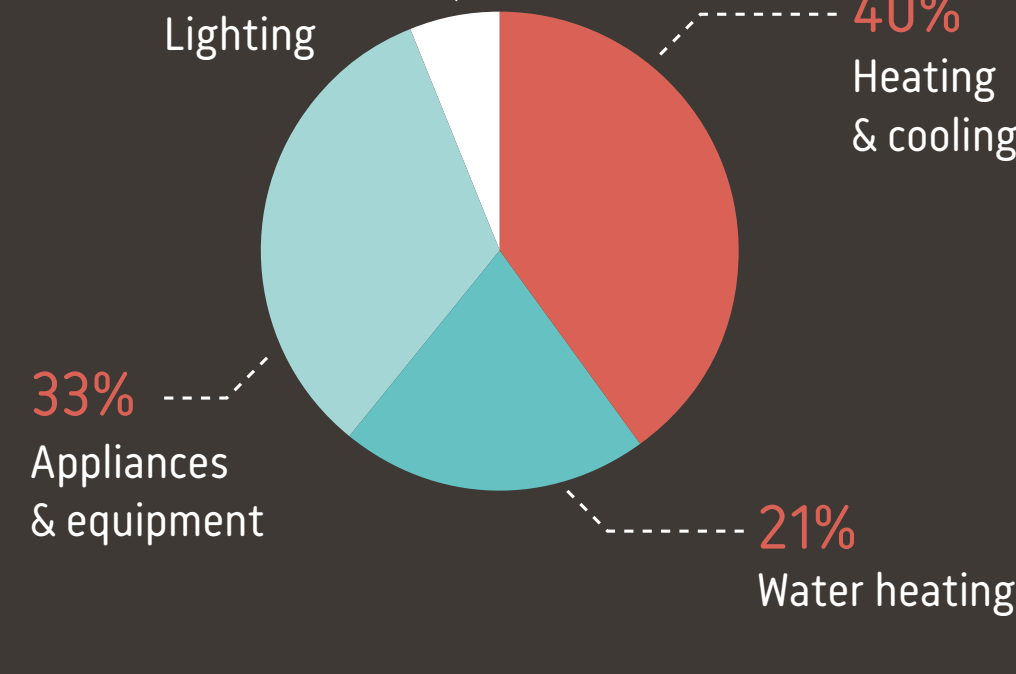
Talk to your builder about whether to choose an above or below ground tank.



Reduce energy costs by up to 80% with solar power.

Household Energy Use* (%).

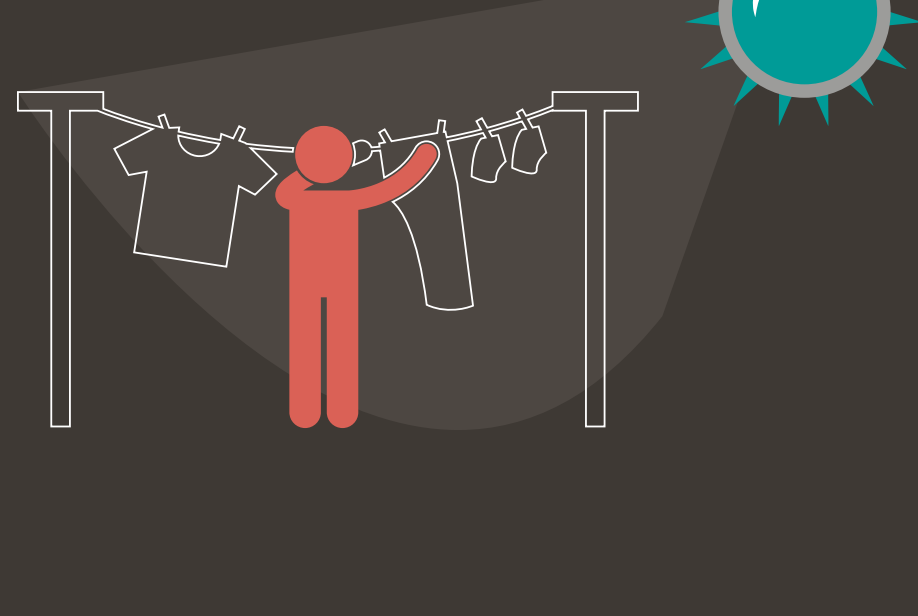
Source: DEWHA. 2008



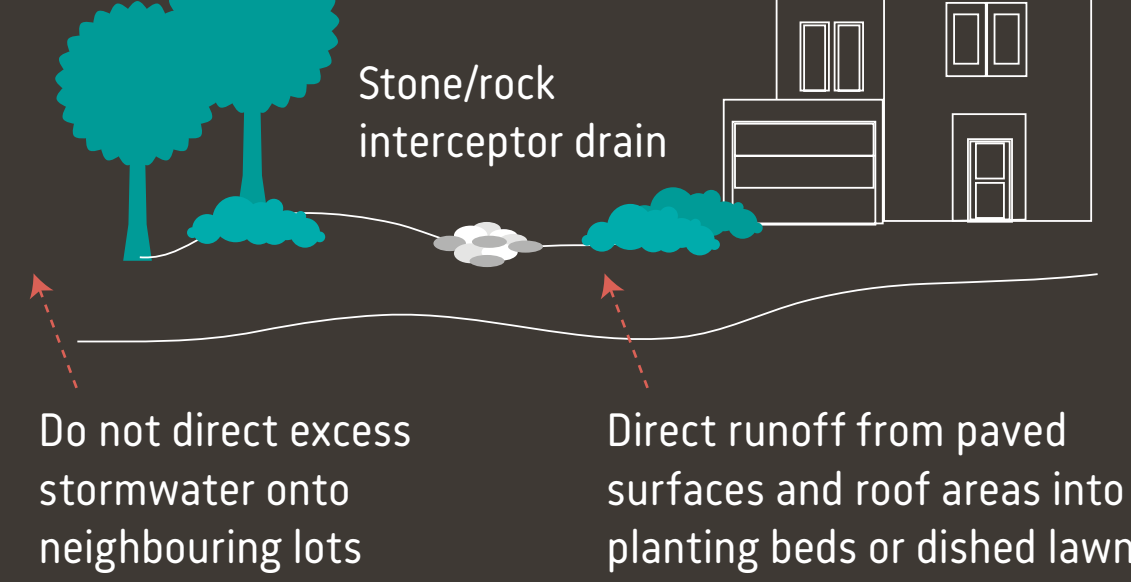
Use tank water for toilets and washing machines and in the garden.



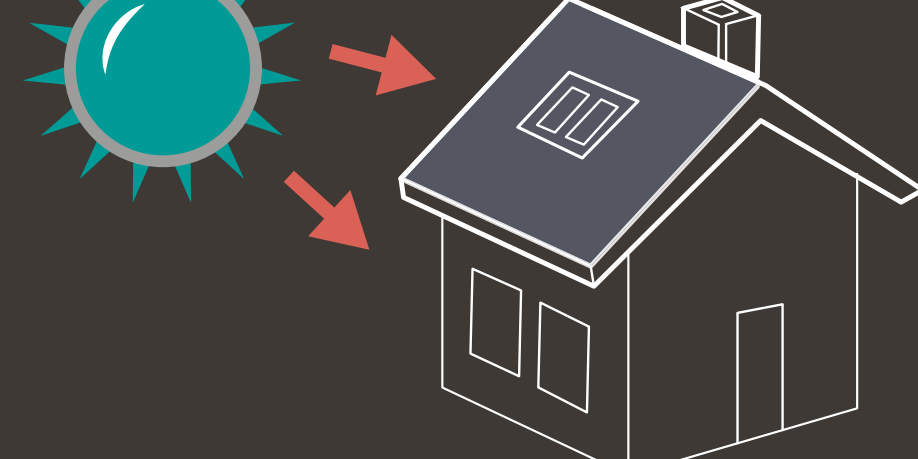
Save on energy by installing a north facing clothesline.



Landscape to optimise stormwater runoff.



Maximise natural light with skylights and windows.



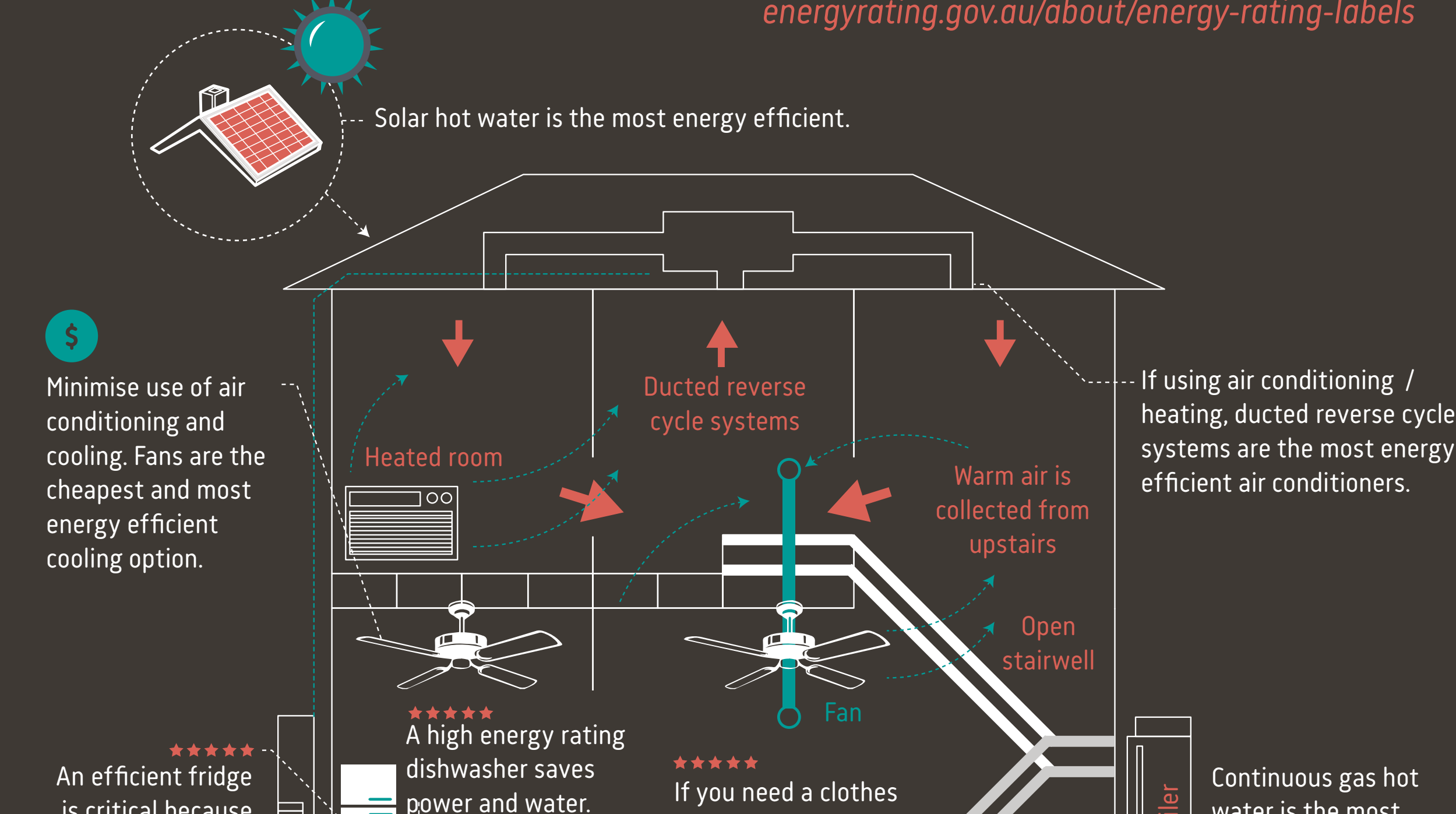
3 Reaching for the stars

Our top tips for managing your ongoing running costs and building a healthier home:

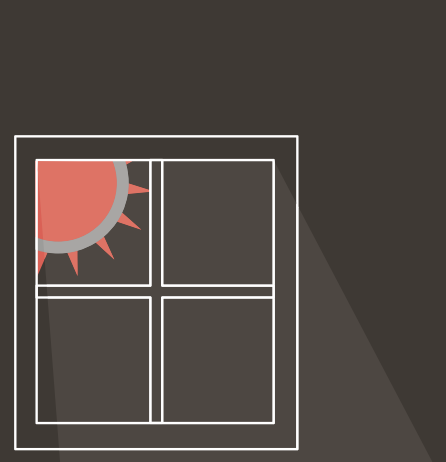
Design a smart home that needs less heating and cooling.

For long term savings, look for a high energy rating on appliances.

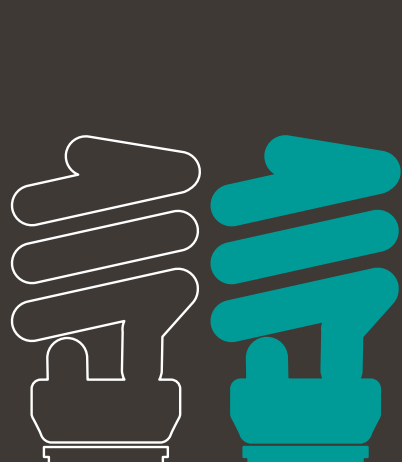
Follow these guidelines for the star ratings energyrating.gov.au/about/energy-rating-labels



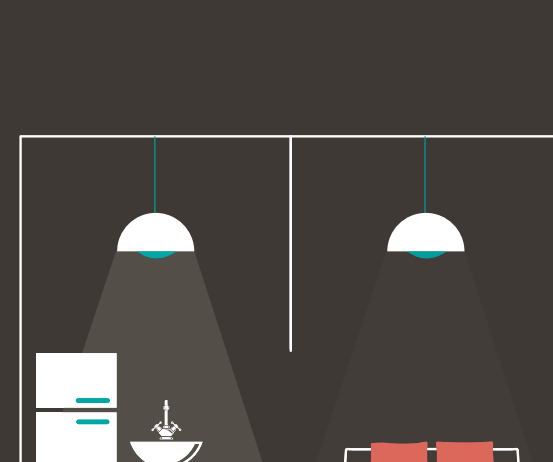
4 See the light



Maximise natural light sources.



Use energy efficient light globes.

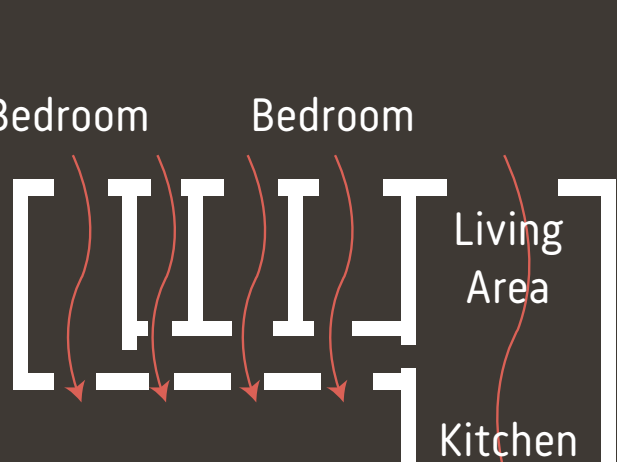


Plan for different lighting needs in different rooms.

5 A healthy home



Choose low Volatile Organic Compound (VOCs) finishes.



Use cross ventilation to optimise airflow, reduce fumes and prevent damp.



Indoor plants can help remove pollutants and improve air quality.

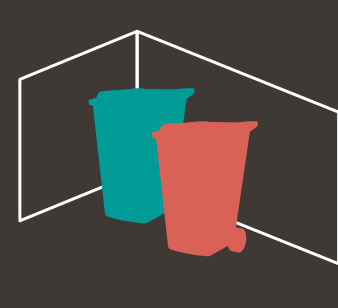
6 A happy garden

You might like to think about attracting local fauna into your garden by choosing native species and creating little habitat areas.



- Use landscaping and plantings to your best advantage.
- Attract local fauna by planting native species.
- Help your garden and reduce waste by starting a compost heap or worm farm.
- When choosing fencing consider safety, privacy, noise control, aesthetics and cost.

Think about screening of AC units and waste storage, and remember to provide easy access for bin collection.



For more information on smarter choices, refer to yourhome.gov.au

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