

# Lights that don't burn money

South Africa has approximately nine million electricity-consuming households, using an average of five light bulbs each. By simply changing the country's light bulbs, we can substantially improve electricity supply while saving the national economy billions of rands.



We need light to complete our daily tasks, study and enjoy the time we spend with our families. Lighting constitutes 19% of all electricity used worldwide, consequently there has been a collective push to promote more energy efficient lighting.





































## Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)?

The energy saving benefits of CFLs and the positive impact on household budgets and the environment have been published extensively. It is widely known that CFLs last six times longer than traditional bulbs while consuming 80% less electricity, hence we'd rather provide you with tips on making the most of your CFL. When shopping for a CFL, keep the following in mind:

1. CFLs are available in two broad colour options, namely Warm White and Cool White Light. Cool White Light is preferred for visual tasks while Warm White Light is better for living spaces.

2. CFLs are now available in a variety of shapes and styles.

-  **Spiral lamps** are designed as a continuous tube in a spiral shape.
-  **Triple tube lamps** have more tubing in a smaller area, delivering high light output from a very small space.
-  **Standard lamps** are spiral lamps with a dome cover. They are designed to give the appearance of the traditional light bulb for consumers looking for the more familiar light bulb appearance.
-  **Globe lamps** are commonly used in bathroom vanity mirrors or open hanging lamps and bare bulb applications.
-  **Flood lamps** are ideal for recessed and track lighting fixtures, indoors and outdoors.
-  **Candelabras** screw-in torpedo shape and small-base is designed for smaller light fixtures throughout the house.

	Harp Shade	Clamp Shade	Pendant Fixture	Ceiling Fixture	Ceiling Fan	Wall Source	Recessed Can	Track Lighting	Outdoor covered	Outdoor exposed
for this fixture										
Choose this bulb										
										
			 		 					

How to choose the correct light bulb per application

3. CFLs are excellent electricity savers but they do have some limitations. Keep these in mind to make the most of your lighting:

**On/Off cycling:** CFLs are sensitive to frequent on/off cycling and will not last the rated 6 000 hours if switched on and off very often. Rather use incandescent lights in closets and other places where lights are needed for brief illumination.

**Dimmers:** not all CFLs can be used on dimmer switches, but they can be used with a timer or a three-way fixture.

**Outdoors:** CFLs can be used outdoors, but should be covered or shaded from the elements. Low temperatures may reduce light levels.

4. An average CFL will provide 6 000 hours of light versus the 1 000 hour operating lifespan on an incandescent. The energy-saving factor in CFLs lies in their reduced electricity consumption, with a 14W CFL providing as much light as a 60W incandescent.

5. All CFLs contain a small amount of mercury (5 milligrams) as an irreplaceable element of the bulb. The mercury in a CFL

is one-fifth of the amount found in a watch battery and 100 times less than the amount found in a household thermometer.

Although CFLs are safe for everyday household use, as they contain mercury, they need to be disposed of carefully. Dispose of them in the same way that you would batteries or oil-based products, remember to seal the CFL in a plastic bag. Contact your local municipality's waste management department for your closest drop-off point.

### **Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) – the way the world is moving**

Most of us are familiar with LEDs as single-bulbs in instrument panels, electronics, pen lights and, recently, strings of outdoor Christmas lights. LEDs are small, solid light bulbs which are extremely energy efficient. They are not yet widely in use as they are still quite expensive but there is no question that LEDs are poised to supersede CFLs in the near future.

For more information please visit [www.eskom.co.za/dsm](http://www.eskom.co.za/dsm)

Keep your eyes open for the new look CFLs.

