

Vampire Loads Are Costing You Money



You probably didn't even know you had a vampire load, but you do, and ignoring it can cost you quite a bit of money.

Household electronics and small appliances you think are turned off may actually still be using small amounts of electricity. If you have a house full of these draining vampires, it can add up.

Quick Facts

In the average home, more than 50% of the electricity used to power electronics is consumed while the devices are turned off.

In the U.S. alone, vampire loads cost consumers more than \$3 billion a year. That is equal to the output of several full-size power plants.

Each load may range from just a few watts to over 20 watts.

Standby consumption, or vampire load, once accounted for only one percent of a home's energy bill. Today, it's more like 10% and growing.

What can you do to master the beast?

Check and unplug any equipment or appliances that are not in use or use a power strip and switch the entire strip off to cut all power to the appliance. There are even power strips that allow you to turn off most of your electronics while leaving others on.

When you reduce your vampire load, you save money every day because you've reduced the minimum level of energy (base load) your home uses every day. But what if you regularly forget to turn off your power strips? Then you're not getting rid of your vampire load, right? Consider purchasing an Advanced Power Strip. These "smart" power strips cost more than the regular ones, but they shut-off automatically.

Where are your home's vampire loads lurking?

Phone and other portable device chargers

TVs, DVRs, VCRs, Blu-rays, CD players, radios

Devices with digital clocks

Computers, computer displays, printers, scanners, fax machines, copiers

Digital picture frames

Projectors

Desktop and floor lamps

Coffee makers

Toaster ovens

Personal electric heaters

