

Reducing Standby Power Waste

This playbook outlines the steps necessary to minimize electricity waste from electronics that continue to draw power while turned off or in standby mode, commonly referred to as 'vampire power.'

Step 1: **Identification**

Identify all electronic devices in the home or office that continue to consume power when not in active use. Look for items such as TVs, computers, chargers, and kitchen appliances.

Step 2: **Unplugging**

Unplug devices that are not in use or do not require constant power. This is a simple and effective way to reduce standby power consumption.

Step 3: **Power Strips**

Use power strips to group devices and turn off multiple items at once. Power strips with a switch can cut power to several devices with a single action, preventing them from drawing standby power.

Step 4: **Timers**

Install timers on devices that only need to be powered at certain times. This is especially useful for devices that do not need to be on all the time, like heaters or lamps.

Step 5: Smart Plugs

Utilize smart plugs to remotely control the power supply to individual devices. Smart plugs can be programmed to turn off automatically or controlled via a smartphone app.

Step 6: Energy Monitors

Employ energy monitors to track which devices use the most standby power. Monitoring provides insight into where the most significant power savings can be achieved.

Step 7: Upgrade Devices

Consider upgrading to appliances and electronics with better energy efficiency ratings. Newer models often have reduced standby power consumption.

General Notes

Awareness

Increasing awareness about which devices consume standby power can encourage habit changes to routinely unplug or switch off non-essential devices.

Safety First

Always prioritize safety when unplugging devices and ensure that cords are not a tripping hazard.

Quality Power Strips

Invest in quality power strips with surge protection to prevent damage to electronics.

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