

## Choosing the right CFL



Energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights are available in different styles

Energy-efficient lighting will help you save on your power bill and help our environment.

Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) are an energy- and cost-effective lighting alternative for your home. Compared to common incandescent light bulbs, CFLs last 6 to 15 times longer and use about one fifth of the energy.

CFLs are fluorescent tubes shaped to fit an ordinary light fitting. They save energy by reducing the wattage needed in a light fitting while producing the same amount of light.

When purchasing a CFL, there are a few simple steps that you can take to ensure that you choose the right CFL for you and your home.

### Take your old light with you

To take the guessing out of your CFL purchase, take your old incandescent light bulb with you.

Being able to compare will make it easier for you to ensure that you have the right wattage, size and fitting.

### What wattage do you need?

Incandescent Light Bulb	Compact Fluorescent Light
25 Watt	7 Watt
40 Watt	8 to 10 Watt
60 Watt	11 to 13 Watt
75 Watt	15 to 16 Watt
100 Watt	18 to 20 Watt
150 Watt	28 Watt

**Not all CFLs are the same quality, so look for brands offering the longest life.**

### Which fitting?

Make sure you check the fitting before purchasing your new compact fluorescent light. CFLs are available in different shapes, lengths and sizes and for different fitting types including screw and bayonet fittings.

### Choose the right colour/tone

- “Warm white” or “Soft white” provides a light very similar to that of an incandescent bulb, somewhat yellow in appearance;
- “White”, “Bright White”, or “Medium White” bulbs produce a yellowish-white light, whiter than an incandescent bulb but still on the warm side;
- “Cool white” bulbs emit more of a pure white tone; and
- “Daylight” is a slightly bluish-white.



### Now fit your new compact fluorescent light

- Turn off the light fitting
- Allow a hot bulb to cool before touching
- Grasp the bulb lightly but firmly and turn counterclockwise (if bayonet fitting) or unscrew until it is released from the socket
- Insert a replacement bulb lightly but firmly into the socket, and turn it clockwise until it's snug, or screw clockwise until firmly in place (if screw fitting)
- Turn the light fitting on
- Dispose of the used bulb.

### Further information

The *Switch to CFLs* fact sheet contains further information relating to CFLs, including:

- the incandescent light phase out
- environmental and economic benefits of CFLs
- what to do if a CFL breaks
- disposal of CFLs.

Please:

- visit our website at [www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au](http://www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au)
- phone the EPA Customer Service Centre on 1300 130 372.

### Remember, take care!

- *Do not put your fingers in the light socket.*
- *Never use screwdrivers, pliers or other devices to remove tight or broken light bulbs.*
- *If you can't remove a light bulb by hand, or if the light fitting is broken or damaged, contact your licensed electrical contractor to make any repairs and make it safe.*
- *Do not change a light bulb if the light fitting is damaged or broken.*

