







# Go Electric!

## How to make an electrification plan

Transitioning to efficient electric technologies is a process, not a single project. An informed plan will help you electrify, whether you want to swap systems out as they fail or you're ready to get off fossil fuels and improve your home's performance right now.

### The basic steps:

-  **Take a home inventory:** Use the checklist on the next page, or an online tool such as the [Rewiring American Home Electrification Planner](#), to see what equipment you have.
-  **Check your electrical panel:** Find out if it has adequate power and space for new circuits, and do any necessary pre-wiring.
-  **Get an energy audit:** Get the full picture of your home's energy use, and opportunities to improve efficiency, comfort & safety.
-  **Start with your priorities:** What is your motivation for electrifying? Lower your climate impact? Maximize health and comfort? Lower energy bills? Upgrade older equipment?
-  **Get estimates from trusted contractors and explore available incentives:** Compare multiple estimates, and get the details on available incentives and rebates.
-  **Plan upgrades over time:** You don't have to do everything at once. Plan to replace old appliances before they fail or make one big upgrade annually.

## Tools to help you make an electrification plan

### Rewiring America Home Electrification Planner

Create an account, answer a few basic questions, and you'll get a customized electrification plan that breaks everything down into a series of projects, with estimated costs, energy savings, and federal incentives.

[homes.rewiringamerica.org](https://homes.rewiringamerica.org)

### The Switch is On

Serving California and Washington with helpful tools for home electrification. Find local, state and federal incentives, and trusted contractors for home energy audits and upgrades. [switchison.org](https://switchison.org)

### Electrify Oregon

Serving Oregon with Information on electrification benefits, available incentives, and trusted contractors in your area. [electrifyoregon.org](https://electrifyoregon.org)

# Take a quick home inventory

What type of system do you currently have in place?

Candidate for  
upgrade/electrification?

Priority  
(High/Med/Low)

## Space Heating and Cooling(HVAC)

*Do you have a gas furnace? Electric baseboard heating? Central AC?  
When were these systems installed?*

Heating System: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cooling System: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Water Heating

*Do you have a gas or electric water heater? Find out how to determine its  
age at [hotwatersolutionsnw.org/news](https://www.hotwatersolutionsnw.org/news)*

Water Heater: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Appliances

*Do you have a gas or electric range and dryer? When were they installed?*

Range/Oven: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Clothes Dryer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Weatherization

*Are your walls, attic and floors insulated? Do you know the R value? Are  
your windows single or double pane? When were they installed?*

Wall insulation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Attic and floor insulation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Windows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Other

*What kind of car do you drive? Do you have a gas or wood fireplace? Do  
you have a gas lawnmower or leaf blower?*

Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fireplace: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Lawn equipment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Check your electrical panel

One of the first things to do is check the size of your home's electrical service. Whether you're electrifying one appliance or all of them, you'll likely need an electrician to pre-wire your home. To electrify everything, you need at least 100A service and space for some new circuits. With some planning, most homes can electrify everything in their home on their existing panel, but sometimes an upgrade to a 200A service is required.

With your inventory and priorities in hand, talk with a few electricians about the state of your panel, your long term electrification plan and the pros and cons of pre-wiring for all of your projects ahead of time vs. wiring for each project separately. Pre-wiring all at once can often save you money, since you get charged every time an electrician comes to your home.

Electrical Panel Size: \_\_\_\_\_

## Get a home energy audit

A home energy audit can act like a roadmap to help you increase your home's energy efficiency. You will learn whether your home needs insulation, weather sealing or duct maintenance, which appliances are most in need of replacement and any problem areas and fixes you should prioritize to save energy and improve the comfort of your home. It should include a heating load calculation to properly size your HVAC system and an overview of approximate costs and benefits for any recommended upgrades.

## Start with your priorities

If you want to gradually upgrade your equipment, consider starting with what is most near its end of life. If you're looking to improve your indoor air quality, you may want to replace your gas range with an induction range and enjoy the health and performance benefits every time you cook. If you're looking to reduce your carbon footprint, your water heater, car, and furnace are the biggest sources of carbon emissions. If you're looking to improve your home comfort, a heat pump will warm *and* cool, providing year-round comfort.

## Get estimates from trusted contractors

- Use [theswitchison.org](https://theswitchison.org) or [electrifyoregon.org](https://electrifyoregon.org) to find trusted contractors in your area.
- Make sure you're working with someone who's experienced with and enthusiastic about electrification technologies, such as heat pumps or heat pump water heaters.
- Get estimates from at least three contractors for each project. Use written contracts.
- Request price, payment terms, project schedule, and if you'll need to do any prep work before they can begin (e.g. get an electrician to add a circuit).
- Ask for information about local, state and federal incentives, resources for low/moderate income households, and an AHRI Certificate rating from your HVAC contractor to ensure that the proposed system is efficient enough to qualify for federal tax credits.
- If you find a contractor you like, ask them for referrals to other trades you'll also need.