

Go Electric!

Frequently asked questions



Why is electricity better for your budget?

Converting to electric appliances such as heat pump water heaters and heat pump HVAC systems will help save you money on your overall energy costs. The average residential customer that switches from gas to all-electric can save an average of over \$500 per year on their energy bills*.

Here are examples of estimated annual savings when switching from gas to electric appliances:

- **Heat Pump HVAC:**
\$450 – \$610 annual energy bill savings
- **Heat Pump Water Heater:**
\$125 – \$140 annual energy bill savings

**Based on 2020 PG&E gas/SMUD electric rates.*

Why is electricity better for your safety?

- Unlike electric appliances, gas appliances have open flames, increasing the risk of fire. Converting to electric appliances removes that danger. Plus, going all-electric eliminates the carbon monoxide pollution that results from burning this fossil fuel inside your home and reduces the risk of gas leaks.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is called the "invisible killer" because it's a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. More than 150 people in the United States die every year from accidental non-fire-related CO poisoning.
- Gas lines going in and out of your house can also have some nominal leakage which could potentially release methane into the air.



Why is electricity better for your health?

- On average, we spend about 90% of our time indoors, where pollutant levels are often higher than those outside. Converting to electric appliances will eliminate the indoor air pollution that gas-burning appliances release into your home.
- Cooking with gas expels pollutants directly into your home, contributing to poor indoor air quality. Pollution from gas cooking can be reduced by continuously running your vent hood while cooking.
- Indoor pollution is estimated to cause hundreds of thousands of respiratory health problems each year.



Why is electricity better for our world?

- “Natural” gas is a fossil fuel that releases a variety of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere that contribute to climate change.
- Going electric is cleaner and better for our environment. Living all-electric will help improve public health, reduce air pollution and assist our local cities and towns in reaching their climate goals.
- Even though natural gas is still used to create some of the electricity in California, there are immediate benefits in switching to electrically powered equipment. These benefits will increase over time as regulations such as SB100 continue to move the electric industry toward 100% carbon-free sources.

The myths of “natural” gas

Myth #1: More efficient

Fact: Electric heat pump water heaters, heat pump HVAC systems and induction cooktops use less energy and are 2-3 times more efficient than gas.

Myth #2: More affordable

Fact: Homes with newer heat pump water heaters and HVAC systems have lower utility bills overall than homes with gas appliances.

Myth #3: Better for cooking

Fact: Induction cooktops heat up twice as fast as gas, provide more accurate temperature control and are easier to clean.