ENERGY SERIES

Understanding your gas bill

Why are bills complicated?

Energy bills are getting easier to understand, as there has been lots of pressure applied to energy companies over the years to simplify bills. Many people are frightened by terms like kWh's and MPRNs, as they are not used by many people in day to day living. Energy bills have lots of numbers on them, and most people are frightened by numbers to some degree. Whilst bills may become easier to read in the future, most of us will always find them challenging.

Becoming energy bill aware

What is

the key

I need to

know?

Once you become energy bill aware, you are more likely to read your energy bill, and then more likely to think about energy efficiency, and then more likely to regularly switch suppliers.

Energy Company Gas meter point reference 123456789 0800 123 456 (GMPR) number information 123123123 Mon-Fri 8am - 8pm Date of bill: 21 December 2021 The MPRN is unique to your The account number is unique to you and you should use this whenever you property and you need this Mr Smith are talking to the energy company. when switching suppliers. 1 Great Street or if you have a gas leak. Oldham **OL0 0OL** Hello Mr Smith Your Gas Bill How much money was For 19 November 2021 - 20 December 2021 (31 days) on your account from your previous bill. £10.00 in credit The balance on your latest bill What you paid this You paid us £60 Debit month. 1 payment of £60 How much gas you Your charges for this period (Including VAT@5%) £52.66 were billed this month. Your new account balance £2.66 in debit Your new account balance is 1 (£10.00) + 2 (£40) - 3 (£52.66) = 4 (- £2.66). This becomes the balance on your next bill and shows whether you owe the energy company any money.

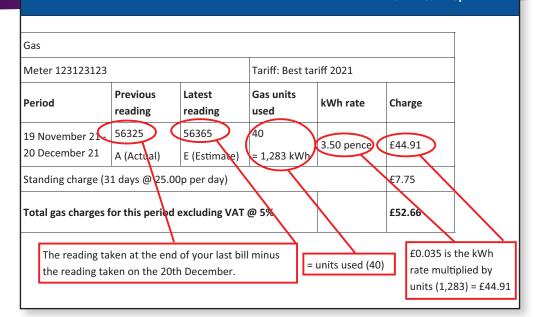




Account Number 123456789

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Energy Company 0800 123 456 Mon-Fri 8am - 8pm



Why are gas bills measured in units rather than kWh's?

Gas is something that you physically import into your home and is generally measured in cubic metres. One cubic metre of gas would equal one unit. The energy companies convert that unit into the kWh's that would be produced from burning that gas. The calculation is long, but is fairly straightforward:

Gas units used x 2.83 x Calorific value 39.9 x Volume correction 1.02264 ÷ 3.6 = kWh's

Imperial or Metric?

Most gas meters are metric, but some old properties may still have an imperial meter. Metric meters measure gas in cubic metres, whereas imperial ones measure in cubic feet. If you have an imperial meter, then it is very important that your energy company knows this, as you could be being charged incorrectly and risk falling into debt. More information about the difference between metric and imperial gas meters is available in Energy Series 05 - Reading your energy meters.

Contact details

We are here to support you and you can contact us in the following ways:



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How can I help?