

Cool Your Home with Fans & Spend Less



*You can save energy and money, while staying comfortable, by using **fans** instead of air conditioning in the summer.*

Ins and Outs of Window Fans

Window fans fit into window frames and pull cool air inside. No special installation is required.



- Place **IN**ward blowing fans in windows that are in the shade or in a cooler room.
- In two-level homes, install **IN**ward blowing fans in lower-level windows to draw in cool air. On the upper-level open a window, or use **OUT**ward blowing fans, for hot air to exit.
- In one-level units, put **IN**ward blowing fans on one side of the building and **OUT**ward blowing fans on the other, to push hot air out.
- Experiment to find the best configuration for your home. Window fans work best when it is cooler outside.

Chill Out with Ceiling Fans

Ceiling fans move air to create a “**wind chill**” effect, dramatically improving comfort.

- Even when you use air conditioning, with a ceiling fan you can set your thermostat 4°F higher while maintaining the same level of comfort and saving energy and money.

TIP: Temporally increase cooling by placing an ice-cold wet towel across an inward-blowing fan. Avoid water dripping on outlets or cords.

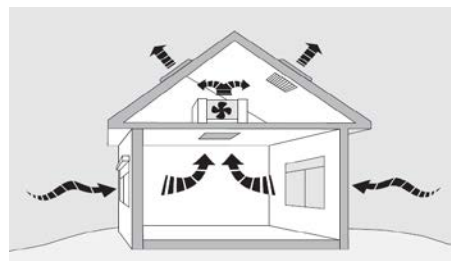
Table or Floor Fans: All about Location

- Place a fan in each occupied room to create a wind-chill effect.
- Place the fans so that they move air in the same direction as window fans.
- Place square or rectangular floor fans in windows.
- Turn off when leaving a room – these fans cool you, not the room.

Whole-House Fans

A whole-house fan sits in an attic and cools your home by drawing outside air through windows and up through the attic. In most climates, a whole-house fan can substitute for air conditioning for much of the year.

- Use in the morning or evening, or other times when the outside air is cooler.
- Seek a professional for installation.



TIP: Using a programmable power strip, you can turn fans off when the house is empty but have them re-cool the house before your return.

Additional Reading

* <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/fans-cooling>

* <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy01osti/29513.pdf>