



Saving energy  
at home\*

Fact sheet:

# Renewable energy



## What it means to choose a Green Star product

Products marked with the green star are designed to help customers identify items within our ranges with a focus on reducing environmental impacts.

Customers can use the information provided to filter and understand more about the products they're interested in or have purchased.

## Why renewable energy matters

There has been increased take up of renewable energy on residential homes. In France, the capacity of residential photovoltaic (PV) energy systems [increased over 4.7 times between 2010 and 2022](#). In the UK, the [Energy Saving Trust](#) estimates that over 1 million homes now generate electricity from solar or wind. A [survey in February 2022](#) found that 4.5% of homes in northern and southern Spain already have solar photovoltaic panels and over 34% were interested in installing them.

Generating renewable energy creates lower levels of emissions than burning fossil fuels ([United Nations, Climate Action](#)).

Renewable energy includes solar, wind, geothermal, hydropower and ocean energy (tidal and waves), but many of these sources are more suitable for non-residential energy generation. Microgeneration sources include solar and wind.

Heat pumps are often classified as renewable as the energy they produce is derived from renewable sources. But as they still require some electricity to operate the pump, they are included in the Heating Homes factsheet.

If a home has solar PV panels, running electrical devices (for example, washing machines and dishwashers) during the day can help to make use of the electricity produced. Timers and smart home controls can help with this. Using a home battery will enable use of the electricity at other times of the day.

# Criteria 1:

## How we assess Green Star products



Every product should meet:

- All relevant legal requirements**
- All Kingfisher policy requirements**

[You can access the Kingfisher policies here.](#) These include Human Rights, Supply Chain Workplace Standards and Sustainable Packaging.

Products are also checked against a Watch List. The watch list contains several criteria or features, relevant to the product type, that if present disqualify the product from being marked with a green star. The relevant Watch List can be found at the end of this factsheet. The Watch List is reviewed and revised annually.

Life cycle assessments have not been completed for every green star product, but by employing policies and the Watch List Criteria in Kingfisher's Sustainable Home Product Guidelines, many factors in the life cycle of a product are considered.

The green star 'renewable energy' assessment focuses on the in-use phase of the product's life cycle. This is where the product can bring the biggest benefit to the user across its utilisation, however green star excludes products that may have other environmental aspects that are harmful either as a result of manufacture or end of life disposal.

# Criteria 2:

## Green star programme entry



The green star 'renewable energy' assessment is based on a product meeting the following criteria:

- Solar thermal systems.
  - These systems use solar energy to heat water.
- Solar photovoltaic systems.
  - These systems convert solar energy into electricity.
- Products that use solar energy
  - Light fittings that include a solar panel are included in the 'Lighting Homes factsheet.
- Wind turbines.
- Renewable energy accessories:
  - Battery storage.
    - A home battery (sometimes called a solar battery) enables more use of energy produced by a home's solar voltaic panels in the home.
  - Photovoltaic diverters.
  - Thermal energy stores.



**Providing Criteria 1 and 2 have been met, a product can be highlighted with the Green Star.**

### **Reviewing and confirming Green Star status**

- ✔ All products nominated are assessed internally by our sustainability team and submitted to NGO Bioregional for external validation. Assessments and validation aim to establish if a product meets Criteria 1 and 2. To find out more about NGO Bioregional, [click here](#)
- ✔ Once the external review is conducted, the product can then be confirmed and marked with the Green Star.
- ✔ A full review is conducted annually to ensure all products continue to meet the selection criteria.

### **Watch List Criteria relevant to renewable energy**

These criteria specify features of products that make them unsuitable for Green Star assessment:

- ✘ Products powered by burning wood (air pollution concerns).
- ✘ Components made from paper or wood that do not meet Kingfisher's Forest Positive policy.
- ✘ Recycled plastic products where the source of the plastic is unknown and/or cannot be confirmed as being safe.
- ✘ Products where the packaging contains PVC or expanded polystyrene.
- ✘ Products containing palm oil, cotton, rubber or leather with no evidence that the materials have been responsibly sourced.

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