

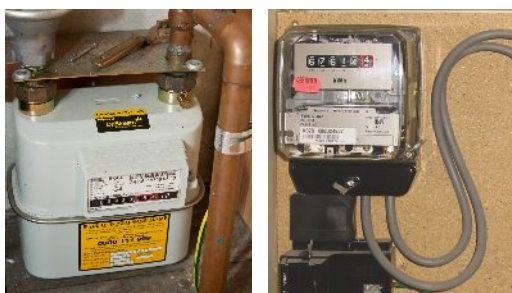


Gas and electricity – how to read your meters



An EasyRead Guide

Gas and electricity - how to read your meters



Meters show how much gas and electricity you have used.



Why read your meters?

People do not come around to read your meter as much anymore.



If you don't read your own meter you will still be sent a bill.



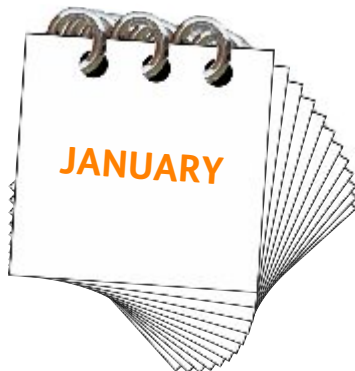
The energy company tries to work out what you have used and uses that guess for the bill.



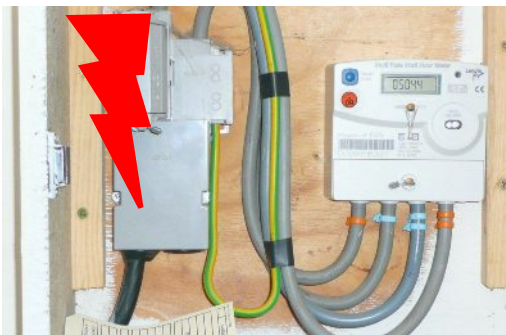
You could end up paying too much or too little for the gas and electricity you use.



If you pay too little you could end up owing a lot of money. You will have to pay this off later.



It is best to read your own meter once a month.



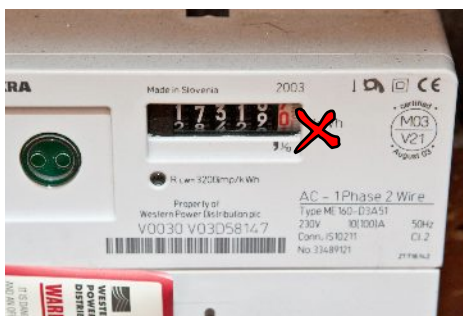
Which meter is which?

Electric cables can be seen coming in and out of an electricity meter.

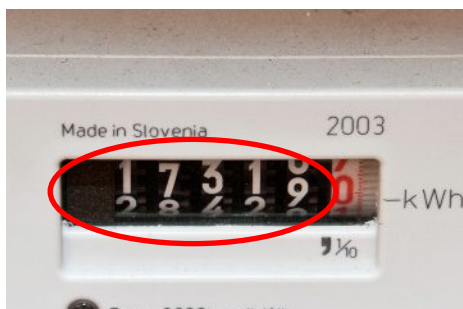


Thicker pipes and hoses come out of gas meters.

Electricity



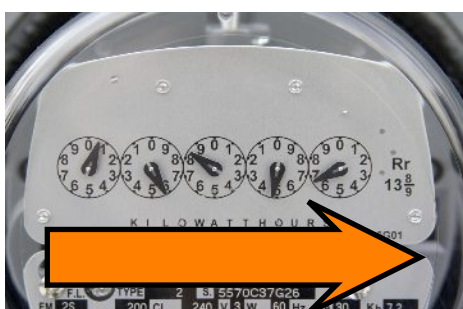
Ignore any red numbers.



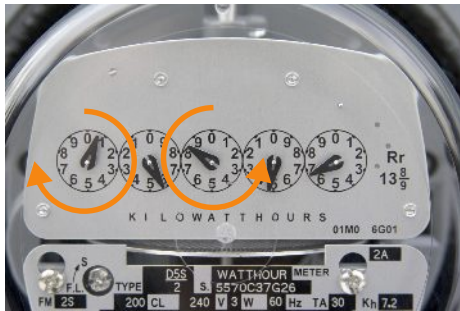
This one reads **17319**.



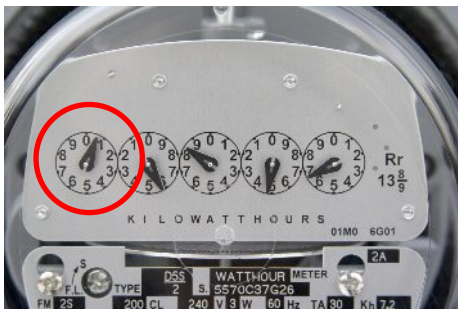
Some older meters have dials, like little clock faces.



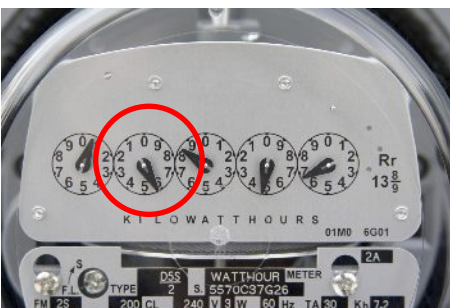
To read this kind of meter, start with the dial on the left.



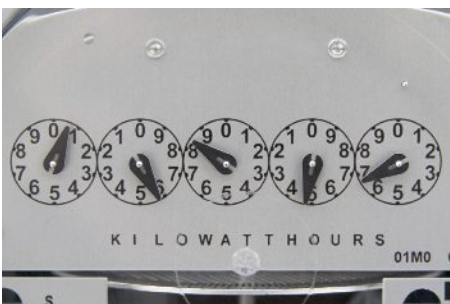
Some dials in the row turn clockwise while others turn anti-clockwise.



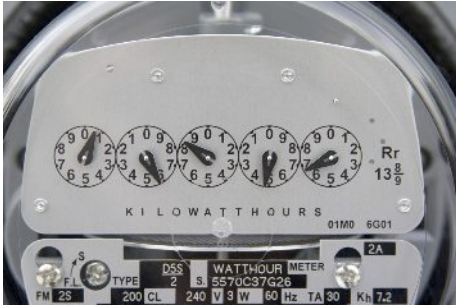
Write down the number that the pointer has just gone past. In this case it reads **0**. Then move on to the next dial.



This looks as if it shows **6**. But we only want the number that it has passed - which is **5**.



The full reading for this meter is **05846**.



05846

When reading an electricity meter, you should always end up with 5 numbers.



Gas

Read the numbers from left to right. Ignore any red numbers.



7120

Some meters may have dials. To read these meters, start on the left. See the number that the pointer has just passed. The meter here reads **7120**.



You end up with 4 numbers.



Call your gas or electricity company

7120
08456



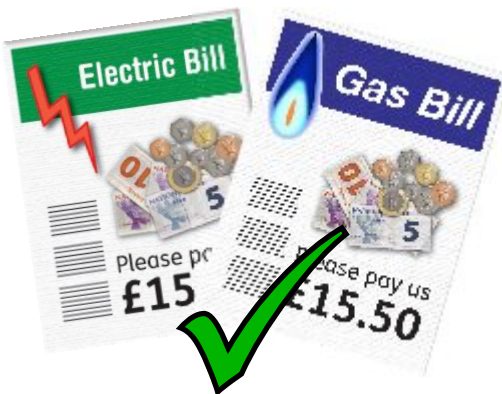
When you have read your meters, write down the numbers.



Call up your gas or electricity company and give them the numbers.



You will find their phone number on your gas or electricity bill.



They should send you a new bill. It should have the right amount on it.



The Centre for Sustainable Energy is a charity.



The Home Energy Team gives free advice on energy saving to people in Bristol and Somerset.



Call free - **0800 082 2234**



Email - **home.energy@cse.org.uk**

Web - **www.cse.org.uk/loveyourhome**



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