

# Everest Electrical Proposes Cost-Efficient Downlight Options As Australians' Energy Use Consciousness Grows

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With rising energy costs and issues of climate change looming over the heads of Australians, smarter living and energy consumption solutions are being sought. Domestic electrical services provider, Everest Electrical, encourages the use of cost-efficient downlights to address these pressing concerns.

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According to results from the 2007-08 Environmental Views and Behaviours component of the Multipurpose Household Survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), nearly three quarters or 74% of Australian adults were concerned about climate change. Combined with concerns about rising energy costs, this manner of thinking has led homeowners to pay greater attention to the impact of their choices on their overall energy consumption and carbon footprint. Everest Electrical Services, a leading Northern Beaches-based domestic electrical services provider, encourages Australian locals to rethink their home lighting solutions by providing a helpful guide on the benefits of using LED downlights over more traditional halogen counterparts.

A downlight, also known as a recessed light, is a light fixture that is installed into a hollow opening in a ceiling. This opening or housing causes the light to become concentrated in a downward direction, giving the appearance of light shining from small holes in the ceiling. This lighting solution first became popular in Australia about 15 to 20 years ago in the form of the halogen downlight. Because downlights brought an elegant, designer feel to any room, thousands of these lights were soon introduced to homes across the country.

In recent years, however, halogen lights were discovered to have a significant impact on sky-rocketing electricity prices. "Halogen downlights run at an operating temperature well above 300 degrees Celsius and provide bright light as a result of this heat," explain the electricity experts at Everest Electrical. "In a room with multiple downlights, the temperature of the room can be raised considerably...you didn't buy the lights to create heat, but you were indeed paying for it."

With widespread efforts on the part of government agencies and organisations aiming to make the global effects of pollution, excessive energy consumption, and harmful consumer practices and behaviours slowly catching the attention of homeowners, Australians began making smarter choices in relation to the way they ran their homes and managed their lifestyles. The ABS 2011 Energy Use and Conservation Survey showed that consumers now considered the cost price and energy star rating to be the most important considerations when purchasing household appliances and fixtures. When it came to lighting solutions, one particular type is now gaining a solid reputation as both an energy-saving and highly cost-efficient lighting solution for homes and commercial spaces alike: light-emitting diodes or LED lights.

LEDs are made up of small capsules or lenses wherein tiny chips are fixed onto heat-conducting materials, compared to fluorescent and incandescent lights that are made up of glass bulbs that contain gases or filaments.

Everest Electrical recommends using LED lights and downlights for Australian locals' home lighting needs based on a number of proven benefits. These lights have a broad spectrum, meaning they emit lights in any colours without using colour filters, which contribute to lower overall costs. They radiate very little heat compared to harmful halogen lights that can also put homes at considerable risk of fire. LEDs produce more light per watt than incandescent lights and can be easily dimmed; in fact, LEDs dim slowly over time compared to incandescent bulbs that burn out all of a sudden. What's more, according to NationalGeographic.com, a high-power white LED light has a longer life (ranging from 35,000 to 50,000 hours) compared to incandescent bulbs (750 to 2,000 hours) and compact fluorescent lights (8,000 to 10,000 hours).

"Today, there are many cost-effective replacement options for the halogen downlight—from a simple replacement globe to a complete replacement fitting, the prices range from \$4.00 per light for a cheap Chinese-made replacement globe to \$150.00 for the top-of-the-range complete LED fitting," an Everest Electrical spokesperson points out. "When people realise that these new lights will run without costly service from electricians for 35+ years, provide excellent lighting, and consume one-third or less of the energy of a halogen downlight, they will begin to see the light—so to speak—and install them readily."

Everest Electrical Services contractors provide general maintenance and repairs, safety inspections, alarm installations, and various other electrical services across the areas of Warringah, Pittwater shires, and beyond with the aim of delivering the highest level of quality at fair and market-competitive prices. For more information on how a [home electrician](#) can help improve the functionality and cost-efficiency of today's home electricity setups, visit Everest Electrical's website today.

Andrew Jefferys

Everest Electrical

0410 229 139

[Email Information](#)

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