

HOW TO SAVE ON YOUR BILLS: ENERGY, GAS, WATER

Utility bills are fixed expenses with variable amounts because, as written above, they depend on our consumption.

In addition to all the daily actions that we can put into practice to save money (such as always checking that the lights are switched off as we leave the rooms, not leaving electronic devices charging or switched on when we are not supposed to use them), there are websites that allow us to compare offers for gas and electricity supply.

The Regulatory Authority for Energy Networks and Environment (ARERA) on its website, the Offers Portal, offers consumers the opportunity to evaluate energy and gas offers on the market, so that they can choose the most convenient one not only from an economic point of view, but also contractually. Simply choose from the drop-down menu the service we are interested in and the postcode of the house where we want to start or change the supply contract.

It is very important to keep track of the consumption of all utilities, especially gas, energy and water. On each bill we receive we will find on the first pages the billing period and, on the following pages, the estimated and actual consumption. Comparison with previous months will help us understand if our consumption is consistent (also with the time of year we are in: e.g. it will be normal to consume more gas or energy in the winter period, in conjunction with switching on the heating), or if we need to pay more attention to our actions.

CAUTION! One of the useful actions to be able to save money, effectively paying only what we have consumed (of gas, energy and water) and not a more or less average estimate, is to forward the meter reading to the utility company, according to the modalities indicated on the bill. Usually the water and gas meters are inside the house, while the energy meter is outside (e.g. in the cellar or on the landing, in the case of a multi-storey block of flats).

In this regard, ARERA also offers the opportunity to monitor and keep gas, energy and water consumption under control by entering them on its website, the Consumption Portal. Simply read the bill and, via SPID, [enter the portal](#) to report readings (taken) and consumption. In addition to this data, the consumer will also be able to read personal and contractual data regarding his or her utilities. On the website of the Regulatory Authority, consumers can also find information on energy, gas and water bonuses by [clicking ARERA - Social Bonuses](#).

ATTENTION! Changing the managers of several utilities is not free of charge. Any consumer wishing to change his or her supply contract will have to take into account any activation costs, such as change of bill holder, but also the remaining balance of the previous supply.