

Three Steps to Cost-Effective Apartment and Condo Heat Protection

Step 1: Plan ahead to keep cool

Do-it-yourself, \$0



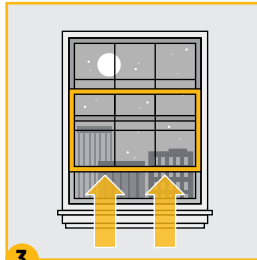
1

Help vulnerable neighbours, family, friends prepare and arrange to check on them during heat events.



2

Sign up for heat alerts on your phone (e.g., [WeatherCan](#)).



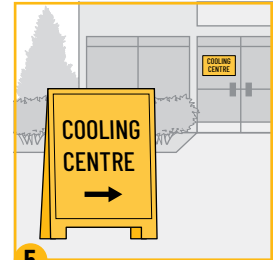
3

Learn how to best use windows and doors to naturally ventilate your unit, particularly at night.



4

Choose energy efficient lights and appliances that produce less "waste" heat.

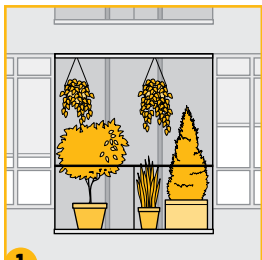


5

Arrange to work or sleep in a cooler place (e.g., shared cooling space).

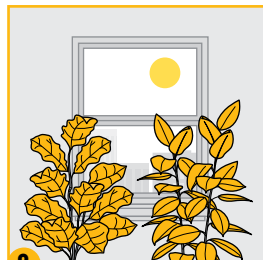
Step 2: Complete simple upgrades

Do-it-yourself, for under \$250



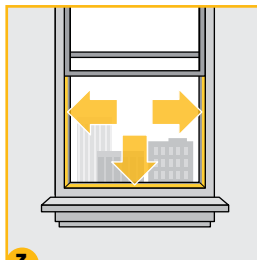
1

Green your balcony or deck with potted, hanging and climbing plants.*



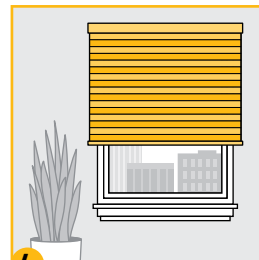
2

Place tall plants with large leaves near light-facing windows.



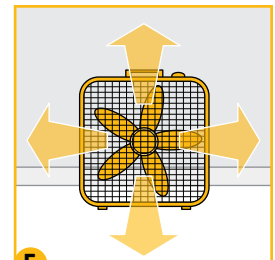
3

Improve unit insulation and air tightness (e.g., draft strips).



4

Install blinds, heat-resistant curtains, or films on windows.

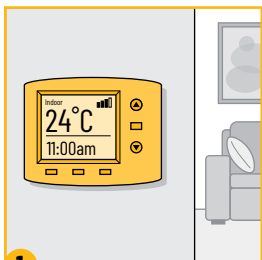


5

Use portable or ceiling fans that increase air circulation.

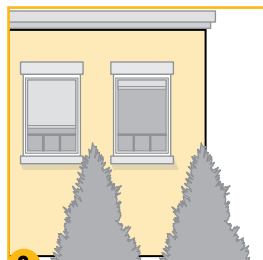
Step 3: Complete more complex upgrades

With building managers, for over \$250



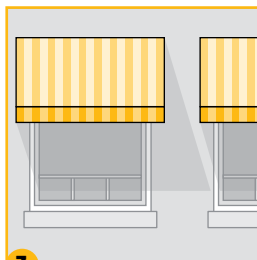
1

Install temperature and humidity monitors or controls.



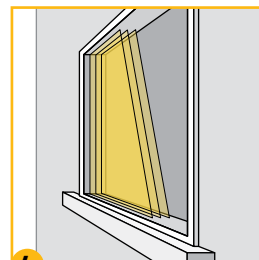
2

Paint unit walls with white paint or light colours.



3

Shade windows with outdoor shutters and awnings.



4

Install windows and doors with low Solar Heat Gain Coefficients, that let less heat in.



5

Install and maintain a heat pump or air conditioning unit.

* In places at risk of wildfire, the use of green infrastructure must be considered alongside [FireSmart™](#) guidance.

