PENINSULA
CLEAN ENERGY

The ultimate guide to ditching gas and going electric for your home!

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Why go electric? (Setting the stage)

Let's talk about making your home healthier, more efficient, and just plain better.

Its about making smart upgrades with real benefits—lower bills, cleaner indoor and outdoor air; better appliances, and long-term value/savings. It's about taking control of your home's energy use and leaving outdated gas systems behind.

This guide will walk you through every step of home electrification. Whether you're replacing one appliance or planning a full transition away from gas, you'll get clear
advice, real numbers, and help finding the rebates and support available to you.
No fluff. No scare tactics. No biases. Just a better way forward.

Say goodbye to gas bills (and hello to savings)

Electrification is one of the smartest financial upgrades you can make in your home. Modern electric appliances—especially heat pumps and induction cooktops—use energy more efficiently than gas. That means lower monthly bills over time.

For example, switching from a gas to a heat pump water heater can save the average household like yours about 20% on its total energy bill, totaling between $160 and $300 per year, according to data from the California Energy Commission.

With PCE, your electric rate is already lower than PG&E's. Pair that with energy-efficient appliances and you're stacking savings.

Quick reality check on your bills: Yes, your electric bill will go up—that's what happens when you plug in more stuff. But your gas bill will drop, or even disappear. And when you compare the two, the math still favors electric. You're using cleaner energy more efficiently, and over the life of the appliance, it's almost always the cheaper path.

Breathe easier: cleaner air inside and out

Gas appliances don't just pollute the atmosphere—they pollute the air inside your home. Gas stoves release nitrogen dioxide and other combustion byproducts that can trigger asthma, worsen allergies, and lower indoor air quality overall. In fact, studies show gas stoves can raise indoor air pollution levels to the point where they'd violate outdoor EPA standards. Kids living in homes with gas stoves are 42% more likely to experience asthma symptoms.

Electric (e.g. water heaters) and induction (e.g. cooktops) appliances don't produce indoor air pollutants—because there's no flame, no gas, and no combustion. That means cleaner air in your kitchen, your living room, and your lungs.

This isn't just a talking point—it's backed by science. Research from RMI and Stanford shows how quickly gas stoves can degrade indoor air, and why going electric is a cleaner, safer choice for your household. Read the report if you want to dive deeper.

Tech that makes life easier

Forget the dated myth that electric appliances are a downgrade. The reality? They're smarter, faster, quieter, and easier to live with. Yes, there was a day decades ago where you could make the argument that gas is better - remember that old saying from 1939 "now you're cooking with gas". Like everything, modern tech has come a long way in 85 years and modern electric appliances are now far superior than gas appliances.

Induction cooktops boil water in 90 seconds and never overheat your kitchen. Heat pump water heaters and HVAC systems give you consistent comfort year-round, and many can be controlled from your phone. These aren't fringe technologies. They're the future of home living—and they're

already here.

Future-proofing your home

Cities across California are already phasing out gas appliances in new construction—and the shift isn't slowing down. By 2027, California will prohibit the sale of all new gas appliances for homes, as well as gas-powered lawn equipment under 12 horsepower (think leaf blowers, lawnmowers, chainsaws). That means electric isn't just an upgrade—it's the new normal.

The good news? Homes that are already electrified are ahead of the curve. Whether you're staying put or thinking about selling someday, an all-electric home is easier to maintain, cheaper to run, and more appealing to future buyers. It's a smart move now—and an even smarter one later.

Myth-busting: it's not as hard as you think

Worried about your electric panel? Don't be. While panel upgrades can be expensive and time-consuming, the good news is that most homes with a 100-amp panel can electrify several major appliances, and even the entire home, without needing an upgrade, especially with smart load management or minor electrical tweaks. Why is this myth now busted for most homeowners? This is an over simplification but a big part of it is that so many of the things that draw electricity in our homes are now much more efficient that they aren't drawing as many amps so there is less load on your panel.

And if you do add new load to your panel you don't have to make tweaks all at once. You can take it one appliance at a time. Prioritize based on what's breaking, what's costing you the most, or what makes your daily life easier. It's flexible—and very doable.

Your electrification journey

Think of this guide as your roadmap. You'll learn how to assess your home, understand your options, plan upgrades, and connect with the right professionals. You'll also see how to take advantage of Peninsula Clean Energy's support every step of the way.

This isn't about being perfect. It's about making progress—and we're here to help you do it right.

Financial support: yes, there's money on the table—for YOU

There are rebates, incentives, and support programs available right now to make electrification more affordable.

Peninsula Clean Energy offers cash rebates for heat pump water heaters and HVAC systems. We also provide no-interest financing and a free professional home energy check-up to help you plan your upgrades. And we'll walk you through how to layer in federal and state incentives as well.

If it sounds like a lot, don't worry—we'll help you cut through the red tape and get what's yours.

Will you save money with electric appliances?

Here's an easy way to think about this: DOWN, UP, DOWN

Here's the reality—throughout the lifetime of your new electric appliance, your total energy costs, compared to gas, will go DOWN.

Your gas cost for that appliance is $0, but the electricity portion of your bill will go UP.

With every gas appliance you replace, the pollutants in your home will go DOWN.

That's the Down, Up, Down of going electric.

Would you like to see how the costs play out?

Choose your journey

Electrifying any home isn't one-size-fits-all. Peninsula Clean Energy offers three levels of tailored support so you approach home electrification in a way that works best for you and your budget:

1

Self-Service Installation

Choose your own products, pick your own contractor, and use our toolkit—including rebate finders, cost estimators, and 0% interest loans—to back you up.

2

Personalized Support

PCE experts will help you with planning, technical questions, contractor quotes and more—at no cost.

3

Full-Service Installation

We'll take care of everything to ensure you get the right rebates, set pricing, and guaranteed work from our trusted partners.

Pick the path that fits your timeline, your budget, and your goals.

Every step you take toward electrification makes a difference—and it starts right here.

Getting started: planning your electric transformation

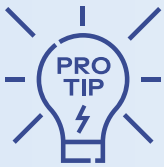
You don't have to be an engineer to electrify your home. You just need a plan. This section helps you get your head around the process, the priorities, and the power behind your panel.

No pressure to do everything at once. But it pays—literally and figuratively—to know what you're working with.

Quick safety note before we dive in: Electricity is no joke. Don't open your electrical panel unless you know what you're doing. Don't try to rewire outlets or circuits on your own. There's a big difference between learning and guessing—and when it comes to your panel, guessing can get dangerous fast. Call a pro for anything that involves wiring, breakers, or load management. You've got options—and we'll show you when to call in help.

Let's take stock - create a cheat sheet

Start with a simple self-audit and document your audit in a list or cheat sheet. What runs on gas in your home right now? Water heater, furnace, stove, dryer? Jot them down. Be sure to take note of how old your appliance is. As a quick rule of thumb: if an appliance is more than 10–15 years old, it's probably less efficient and closer to needing replacement.



The manufacturing date is often included on the manufacturing label on the side of your water heater.

This list becomes your electrification cheat sheet—and you'll keep coming back to it as you plan.

What's using what?

Some appliances use way more energy (and money) than others. Your furnace is probably the biggest gas guzzler in the house. Water heaters are a close second. Cooktops and dryers are smaller players, but still part of the game.

The point here isn't to guilt-trip you. It's to spot the low-hanging fruit and the potential issues. Knowing what uses the most gas helps you make smarter decisions about what to replace first.

Evaluating your electrical panel

Let's demystify the panel. Find it (it's usually close to where the line comes into your home from the street/pole). Open it—just the front door. Be careful not to touch any wires. See what the main breaker (usually the biggest breaker) says.

100 amps? You're probably fine for most upgrades—yes, even for a heat pump or two. 200 amps? You're likely golden. Here's an example of 100amp main breaker:

100 amp breaker

200 amp breaker

But even if you're on 60 or 70 amps, don't assume you need a total panel upgrade. Talk to a qualified electrician who understands load management and doesn't automatically recommend costly upgrades you may not need.

Do you have space for the number of new breakers you need? There is an easy way to do a quick check. If you see blank spaces on your panel (see the image on the left) that's where new breakers (circuits) can go. If you don't have open spaces, it's likely you can't add a new circuit but double check with an electrician.

Panel with 4 open spaces

Panel with no open spaces

If the panel looks ancient or full of double-tapped breakers (two wires into a single breaker) or screw-in fuses, it might be time to upgrade. But don't panic. Panel upgrades are common—and we'll talk about incentives later that can help cover the cost.

Your home's energy profile

Check your utility bills. See how much electricity and gas you use each month and for a full 12 months. This gives you a baseline. After you electrify, you'll be watching that gas use drop—and you'll want to know where you started.

Bonus points if you sign up for your PG&E online account and download a full usage report. Nerdy? Maybe. But it'll help you plan like a pro. Note: PG&E delivers our (PCE's) electricity to you. We source your electricity cheaper and cleaner than PG&E can; they deliver it to you via their wires and poles.

What's nearby?

Planning an appliance swap? Look at your outlets. A nearby 240-volt outlet means you're halfway to installing something like an induction stove or a heat pump dryer. No 240V? You may need a new circuit—and space for it on your panel.

Also consider the physical space. Will the heat pump water heater fit in your garage? Will a mini-split need wall clearance? Don't just dream. Measure. All manufacturers provide appliance dimensions, clearances and air volumes. Just pick an appliance you think you might install just

as a point of reference, using the name and model number just Google its "specifications" and you will find all kinds of resources. We recommend using the manufacturer's site whenever possible; large online retailers like Amazon, Home Depot, Lowes, etc. are also good sources if they carry that appliance.

Where to start?

Here's the cheat code:

- If your water heater is more than 10 years old, start there.
- If your HVAC is acting up or just not heating/cooling like it did, a heat pump is the move.
- If you love to cook or just hate noxious gas flames, induction is a lifestyle upgrade.

Any one of these is a win. Stack them when you can, but start where it makes sense.

Phasing your project

Don't try to electrify everything in a single weekend. Break it up.

Think about prewiring. Start with one or two appliances. Apply for rebates. See what your panel can handle. Talk to a pro. Stack upgrades with other home improvements (new roof? great time to go solar too).

Treat this like a marathon, not a sprint. But remember—you don't have to walk it alone.

Budgeting like a pro

Start with a rough estimate for each project. Heat pump water heaters run between $2,000–$4,000 after incentives. Induction stoves can be less than $1,000. Full HVAC systems?
Think $10,000–$20,000 before rebates—and cost way less to run over time than gas.

A good rule of thumb? Installation often makes up 50% or more of your total project cost. So if you see a $1,200 appliance, plan for a $2,400 project. Permits, labor, electrical upgrades, and removal of old gas lines should all factor into your budget.

Make sure to include:

- Installation and labor
- Permits and inspections
- Any necessary panel work
- Timeline to apply for and receive rebates

It adds up—but so do the long-term savings. Electrification isn't just a clean energy upgrade—it's a smart financial one.

The rebate treasure hunt

There's more money out there than you think.

Start with the exclusive Peninsula Clean Energy's rebate finder. Then layer in state programs (TECH Clean California, for example), and federal ones under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

Pro tip: Rebates may be stackable, but some require pre-approval. So read the fine print—or let us help.

Where to find the money

Start here: Peninsula Clean Energy rebates.

Then check:

- BayREN
- TECH Clean California
- EnergyStar Rebate Finder

Federal tax credits may be claimed on your tax return (Form 5695).

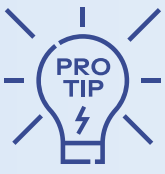
Making sense of the paperwork

Rebates require applications. Sometimes you need pre-approval. Sometimes you need a licensed contractor. Sometimes you need receipts, invoices, and photos.

Keep your paperwork organized. Don't let a missing form void your rebate. And don't worry—we'll call out the big steps and red flags in the checklist section below.

Getting the kind of help you want

If you're thinking about DIYing your upgrade, just need a little help, or want everything done for you, PCE has the services that suit what you want.



If electrical work is needed don't risk it, call a professional.

Electrician essentials

A good electrician will do more than just install a breaker. They'll help you:

- Assess panel capacity
- Add new circuits or outlets
- Manage loads smartly (without overbuilding)
- Keep your project safe and to code

If an electrician insists you need a full 200-amp upgrade without doing a load calculation or looking at your panel. Get a second opinion to be sure.

HVAC heroes

Heat pumps aren't plug-and-play. They need proper sizing, proper ducting (or not), and proper installation.

Ask your HVAC contractor:

- Are you using Manual J for sizing (the industry-standard method for calculating the right system size based on your home's layout, insulation, and climate)?
- Can you quote ductless and ducted options?
- Do you participate in rebate programs?

If they can't answer, they're not ready.

Plumbing pros

Water heater swaps can involve more than unplugging a tank. You may need new plumbing (likely minor), condensate drains, gas line capping, and new fittings.

Get a plumber who's worked with heat pump water heaters.

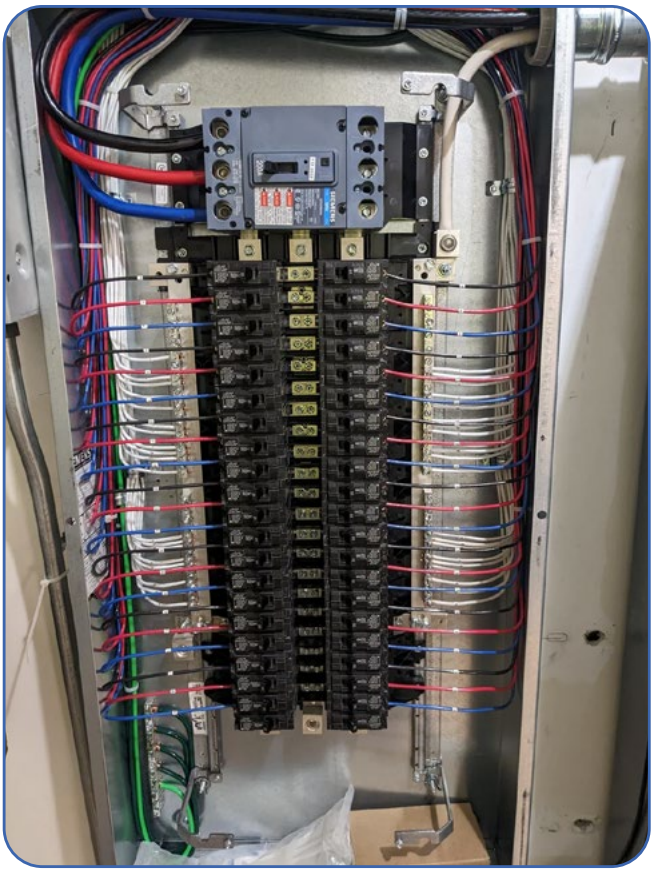
Permitting and inspections

Yes, you usually need a permit. And yes, you should get one. It protects you if something goes wrong and keeps things up to code. Remember, if you do unpermitted work and something goes wrong it could make you liable and negatively impact your insurance coverage.

Your contractor should handle this. If they won't, find someone who will.

Get a copy of the final inspection with the signature of the inspector and date of approval. Too often contractors skip this step or forget to get the final inspection. Keep a copy in a safe place.

Ask them to show you a picture of an electrical panel that they installed (not that you need a panel). If the panel looks tidy, well labeled and they take pride in it, that is a great leading indicator that they are diligent and good at what they do.



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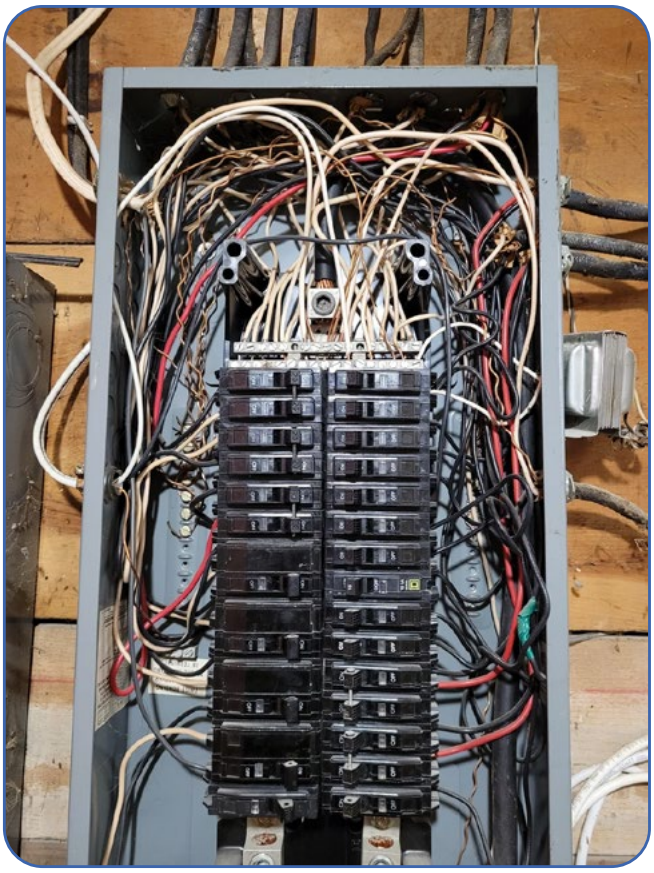


NOT This

Calling it like it is: the cost reality

Electric appliances can have higher upfront costs. No one's sugarcoating that. But over the lifespan of the appliance? Electric wins. Every time.

You'll spend less on fuel (gas). Less on maintenance. Less on unexpected repairs. And as gas prices keep rising, your electric savings keep growing.

Let's talk numbers:

- A heat pump water heater can save the average California household $160–$300 per year on energy bills.
- A heat pump HVAC system can cut your heating and cooling costs by 30–50%, depending on what you're replacing.
- Induction cooktops use around 15–20% less energy than traditional electric coils and significantly less than gas.

Add in rebates, federal tax credits, and local incentives—and those upfront costs start shrinking fast. And once the system's in? It just keeps saving you money, month after month.

It's an investment. And a smart one.

Emergency replacement – PCE can help

One last thing. If something breaks unexpectedly—your furnace dies in December or your water heater floods the garage—use that as your chance.

Most people replace broken gas appliances with another gas appliance. Don't do that because you're losing a great opportunity for savings and a healthier home.

PCE can help.

If your gas water heater fails, we offer fast emergency replacement services—and if you qualify, we'll install a high-efficiency heat pump water heater at no cost to you.

Many rebates are designed for emergency swaps like this. So don't just react—upgrade. Learn More

The electric appliance deep dive

If you're going electric, these are your new best friends: heat pumps, induction cooktops, and heat pump HVAC systems (e.g. mini splits/ductless, air source/ducted). Each one does its job better than the fossil-fueled version it replaces—and in many cases, they cost less to run, too.

This section breaks down the major players, what to look for, and when to call in backup.

Heat pump water heaters:

A primer on heat pumps and when best to use them

A heat pump water heater doesn't burn gas to make hot water. It pulls heat from the air—like a reverse refrigerator—and uses it to warm up your water tank.

That makes it 2–3 times more efficient than gas or standard electric water heaters. They work best in temperate to warm climates (yes, like most of Northern California) and in spaces that have enough air circulation—like a garage, utility room, or large indoor closet. Bonus: some models can dehumidify the space they're in.

And yes—you might hear a low hum when it's running. That's the fan and compressor doing their thing. It's usually pretty quiet, but if you're installing near a bedroom or living space, your installer can suggest ways to dampen the sound if needed.

Does it feel cold around the heat pump water heater? It pulls heat from the air, so that's how you know it's working.

If your current water heater is 10+ years old or making weird noises, now's the time to switch to a heat pump.

Choosing the right size

For a standard household of 3–4 people, a 50-gallon heat pump water heater is usually perfect. Larger families may want to look at 65- or 80-gallon models.

The most important factors are:

- How much hot water you use in a short time (morning showers, back-to-back laundry, etc.)
- The recovery rate (how fast it reheats)

Quick heads-up:

Heat pump water heaters are usually taller than old gas models—sometimes by several inches—because of the heat pump components at the top. Make sure you have enough ceiling clearance where you plan to install.

Your installer can help size it properly—or use sizing guides from ENERGY STAR or your local utility.

To 120v or 240v: what to consider

There are two main electrical sizes of heat pump water heaters:

IIf you want a simpler install and have the room, 120v can be a great choice. If you're looking for faster recovery times and a slimmer fit—and can add a circuit—240v might be worth it.

Check your outlet. Measure your space. Ask your installer. Plan smart.

120-volt "plug-in" models:
Easier installs without needing a new circuit, and often slightly less bulky, so double-check your space.

240-volt models:
Heat water faster and tend to be a little more compact, but usually require installing a dedicated 240v circuit.

DIY considerations (and when to call an expert)

Swapping a water heater is not a plug-and-play job. You'll need to:

- Drain the old tank safely
- Cap off your gas line (yes, professionally)
- Install a new outlet or dedicated circuit (if needed)
- Make sure there's proper airflow and a condensate drain
- Strap the tank (earthquake requirement)
- In some cases - elevate the tank 30" off of the floor (e.g. in a garage)
- Install a drain pan

Induction cooking: fast, efficient, and fun

Choosing your cooktop

Induction cooktops use magnetic fields to heat your pots directly. That means:

- Faster heating (boils water in 90 seconds)
- Better control (instant temp changes)
- Safer cooking (no open flame)
- Easier cleaning (spills don't bake on)

Look for:

- Multiple burner zones
- “Bridge” burners for griddles
- Boost mode for ultra-fast heating
- Controls don’t have to feel like a spaceship console if that’s not your thing

You can choose a full cooktop or a range (with an oven). Many portable induction units are available to test in your home.

Cooking with induction

There’s a learning curve—but not a steep one. Most stainless steel and cast iron pans work. If a magnet sticks to the bottom, you’re good.

Some tips:

- Don’t crank it to max. Use “boost” mode sparingly
- You may hear a light hum. That’s normal.
- You’ll get used to the speed quickly. And you’ll miss it when you use gas somewhere else.

Boil a pot of water in under 90 seconds (instead of 5+ minutes with gas). Hit a simmer and actually stay there. Turn the heat down and watch it drop instantly—no lingering flame, no scorching. And unlike gas, induction doesn’t add heat to your kitchen or release pollutants into your air.

Cleaning that’s as easy as one swipe.

You’ll get used to the speed quickly. And once you do, cooking on gas will feel like a step backward.

Induction is fast, clean, precise—and once you get it, you won’t go back.

DIY Considerations (and When to Call an Expert)

Installing a plug-in portable unit? You’re fine.

Swapping a full cooktop or range? You’ll need:

- A 240v circuit
- Compatible wiring and outlet
- Clearance in your panel

You can handle the appliance install if you’re handy, but get an electrician for the wiring. Don’t chance this—get it done safely and to code.

Heat pump HVAC (mini-splits and ducted systems): comfort all year round

“Two-way AC” that works smarter

Modern heat pumps cool and heat your home using the same system. In summer, they act like an air conditioner. In winter, they reverse direction and pull heat from outside—even when it’s cold out—and bring it inside.

They’re quiet, efficient, and super customizable. And unlike traditional HVAC systems, they don’t waste energy heating or cooling unused rooms—unless you want them to.

Best of both worlds

New heat pumps are engineered for year-round performance. They can:

- Cool like a high-end AC
- Heat efficiently down to freezing temps
- Dehumidify your home
- Zone your heating and cooling room by room

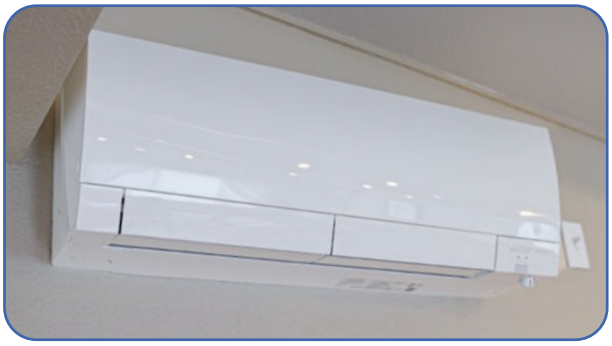
You get comfort, control, and lower bills in one unit.

Mini-splits vs. ducted systems: which is right for you?

Let’s break it down.

Mini-split systems—also called ductless heat pumps—have two main parts: an outdoor unit and one or more indoor units mounted on the wall or ceiling. Each indoor unit heats or cools a specific zone or room, and there’s no ductwork required. That makes them great for older homes without existing ducts, new additions, or situations where you want precise control in specific areas.

Ducted systems, on the other hand, push heated or cooled air through a network of ducts connected to vents in each room. The entire home is served by a central system—just like a traditional furnace or AC, but with the efficiency and flexibility of a heat pump.



Mini-split systems are perfect if:

- You don't have ductwork
- You want to heat/cool specific rooms
- You want fast installs with less construction

Ducted systems work best if:

- You already have decent ductwork
- You want centralized heating/cooling
- You don't want wall-mounted indoor units

Some homes even use a hybrid approach: a ducted system downstairs and mini-splits upstairs, or mini-splits in additions or rooms with different comfort needs.

The right system depends on your home, your comfort goals, and your budget—but the good news is, both options are efficient, flexible, and electric.

No-Install HVACs: 120V Plug-and-Play Options

Need to heat or cool just one room—without a construction project? There's a new solution on the scene: **120-volt "plug-and-play" heat pumps**, like those from Gradient and other companies.

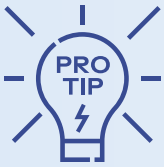
These systems work a lot like mini-splits:

- They have an indoor unit that mounts inside your window (without blocking the view)
- A small outdoor unit hangs on the outside
- They provide full heating and cooling
- They **plug into a standard 120V outlet**—no new circuits, no refrigerant handling, no contractor needed.

Perfect for:

- Bedrooms, home offices, or additions
- Renters or people who don't want permanent changes
- Quick upgrades where you don't want a full system install

You'll still want to check weight limits on your window frame, and some models may require simple brackets—but if you can install an A/C window unit, you can probably handle this.



Some rebates are starting to cover these systems too, so check for rebate & incentive programs!

DIY considerations (and when to call an expert)

For most full-home HVAC systems—especially ducted ones—DIY isn't a good option.. Proper sizing, refrigerant lines, duct design, zoning, electrical... it's all technical, code-sensitive, and best left to licensed pros.

But mini-splits are a different story. Some manufacturers offer pre-charged, DIY-ready mini-split systems that don't require special tools or refrigerant handling. If you're comfortable with detailed instructions, basic electrical work, and drilling through walls, this can be a solid DIY project that saves thousands of dollars on labor.

Before going that route, ask yourself:

- Do I understand the power requirements and wiring needs?
- Am I confident I can safely mount and seal the indoor and outdoor units?
- Will I be forfeiting rebates or warranties by installing it myself?

If you're not sure, it's smart to get a quote from a pro and compare. Or schedule a consultation with our Personalized Support experts (not cost & no obligation).

And whether you DIY or go with a contractor, make sure you ask the right questions:

- Are you doing a Manual J load calculation for sizing?
- What are the SEER and HSPF ratings of the system?
- Do you participate in local rebate programs?

Don't let anyone talk you into an oversized system, a gas backup, or a quick fix. Ask questions. Compare bids. Demand performance.

The DIY electrification checklists

Your roadmap to a cleaner, smarter home

Use these checklists to track your progress before, during, and after electrification projects. Whether you're planning a water heater upgrade or a full HVAC swap, each step helps you stay on track, avoid surprises, and make the most of available incentives.

Pre-electrification checklist

- ○ Home energy audit completed
- ○ Electrical panel assessed, how many amps is your panel
- ○ Budget and timeline established
- ○ Rebate programs identified and applications started
- ○ List of current gas appliances documented

Notes:

Heat pump water heater checklist

- ○ Correct size and model selected for household needs
- ○ Location chosen with proper airflow (garage, closet, utility room)
- ○ Installation space cleared and accessible
- ○ Electrical outlet (120v or 240v) available or scheduled for install
- ○ If required (e.g. in garage), a 30” pedestal installed capable of holding the weight of the tank.
- ○ Condensate drain planned and/or installed
- ○ Plumbing connections verified
- ○ Old gas water heater safely removed
- ○ Gas line properly capped by a professional
- ○ Rebate paperwork started or submitted

Notes:

Induction cooktop checklist

- ○ Cooktop or range model chosen (features and size match your needs)
- ○ Electrical circuit confirmed (typically 240v)
- ○ Outlet and breaker available or scheduled
- ○ Old gas cooktop removed
- ○ Gas line properly capped by a professional
- ○ Cookware tested for induction compatibility (magnet test)
- ○ Rebate eligibility checked

Notes:

Heat pump HVAC checklist

- ○ System type selected (mini-split or ducted)
- ○ Number of zones and comfort needs defined
- ○ Size calculated using Manual J or equivalent
- ○ Existing ductwork assessed (if applicable)
- ○ Installation locations chosen (indoor and outdoor units)
- ○ Electrical service and panel capacity confirmed
- ○ Electrician scheduled if needed
- ○ HVAC contractor selected (familiar with rebates + permitting)
- ○ Permits pulled or submitted
- ○ Thermostat or smart control chosen

Notes:

Post-electrification checklist

- ○ All new appliances tested and working
- ○ Smart controls installed and set up (e.g., thermostat, apps)
- ○ Rebates submitted with documentation
- ○ Old gas lines safely capped and/or removed
- ○ Old appliances responsibly disposed of or recycled
- ○ Final inspection signoff and paperwork provided to you
- ○ Energy usage monitored (via PG&E or smart home tools)
- ○ Appliance warranties registered
- ○ Maintenance reminders scheduled
- ○ Switch to the E-ELEC rate to maximize savings

Notes:

Optimizing Your Bill: Rates and Timing Matter

Once your new electric appliances are up and running, you'll start to see changes in your utility bill. The key to maximizing savings? Picking the right electric rate plan—and using power when it's cheapest.

Start by switching to the EV2-A rate.

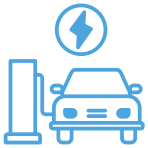
This all-electric rate is often the best option for homes that have replaced gas appliances with electric ones. It's designed specifically for high-efficiency, all-electric households—and in many cases, it leads to lower overall costs.

Time-of-Use rates also matter.

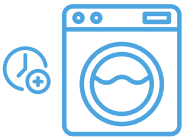
Most rate plans charge different prices depending on the time of day. That means you can save even more by shifting your usage to off-peak hours, typically before 4 p.m. and after 9 p.m.

Here's what that looks like in practice:

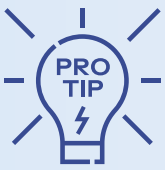
Run your dishwasher right after lunch or at bedtime



Charge your EV or plug-in appliances during work hours or overnight



Use delay-start timers on laundry or water heaters when available



You can log into your PG&E account to compare rate plans, track usage, and even simulate how different schedules affect your bill. It's worth a look—and it can help you lock in even more value from your electrification upgrades.

Troubleshooting and FAQs (your electric lifeline)

So you've installed your new electric appliances—or you're getting close—and something's... off. Maybe the heat pump is running longer than expected. Maybe the induction cooktop beeps too much. Maybe your contractor is trying to talk you out of switching away from gas.

Don't panic. Here's what you need to know if there are snags—or when you just need a gut check.

Common issues and solutions

Problem: My heat pump water heater is taking longer to heat water than my gas tank did.

Solution: That's normal. Heat pumps work more slowly but more efficiently, especially 120V models. If you need faster recovery, check for a hybrid mode or consider a larger tank. Also make sure it's in a space with good airflow.

Problem: My induction cooktop makes a humming sound.

Solution: Totally normal. It's the magnets doing their thing. The sound depends on the cookware and power level. If it's high-pitched or distracting, try a heavier pan.

Problem: My mini-split doesn't feel as warm in winter.

Solution: Heat pumps don't blow super-hot air like a gas furnace. They maintain temperature steadily. If it feels underpowered, check your settings (try "heat" mode, not "auto") or call your installer to confirm it was sized correctly.

Problem: My contractor says I have to upgrade to a 200-amp panel.

Solution: Maybe. But maybe not. Ask for a load calculation. Many homes with 100-amp panels can be fully electrified, adding heat pump water heaters, heat pump HVACs, induction cooktops, and more with smart load management or a subpanel.

Problem: I'm stuck in an endless loop of rebate paperwork.

Solution: We've all been there. Track your receipts, contractor invoices, serial numbers, and install dates. Reach out to the program contact directly. Or let Peninsula Clean Energy help you navigate the process.

From the community: real projects, real progress

You're not the only one considering electrification—and you don't have to figure it out alone. Across San Mateo County and Los Banos, real people are replacing old gas appliances, saving money, and breathing easier in their fully electric homes.

Homeowner spotlights

Community Champions – Peninsula Clean Energy
Peninsula Clean Energy honors local residents making clean energy real through its Community Champions program.

Explore More →

The Whitehair Home – San Mateo

A 2,200-square-foot home recognized as a 2023 All-Electric Leader for its comprehensive electrification retrofit.

Casita Kastrop ADU – Redwood City

This solar-powered, all-electric 699-square foot ADU is an excellent example of small and sustainable housing.

Peer-to-peer advice

Looking for unfiltered, on-the-ground insight?
These are the places where electrification gets real—and local:

- **Reddit:** r/HomeImprovement
- **Build It Green**: A California-based community for sustainable building, retrofits, and climate-smart home design
- Neighborhood forums like **Nextdoor** or **Facebook** groups

Got a story to share? **Reach out to Peninsula Clean Energy**. Your project might inspire the next person to take the leap.

Where to find more help

When you're ready to take action—or just need expert backup—these are the resources to know:

- **Peninsula Clean Energy Electrification Hub:** Tools, planning guides, and personalized advice
- **Residential Rebates & Offers:** Up-to-date incentives for water heaters, HVAC, cooking, and more
- **Free Home Energy Assessment:** Schedule a walkthrough (in-person or virtual)
- **Switch Is On – Contractor Directory:** Vetted professionals who specialize in electrification and rebate-eligible installs
- **BayREN Home+ Rebates:** Additional rebates for Bay Area homeowners
- **Need a real person?** Contact Peninsula Clean Energy by phone or email for direct support

As a reminder...you have choices for how much support you want

Some people want to DIY everything. Some want a partner to guide them.
Others want it done, period.

Peninsula Clean Energy offers three levels of support to meet you where you are:

1

Self-Service Installation

Choose your own products, pick your own contractor, and use our toolkit—including rebate finders, cost estimators, and 0% interest loans—to back you up.

2

Personalized Support

PCE experts will help you with planning, technical questions, contractor quotes and more—at no cost.

3

Full-Service Installation

We'll take care of everything to ensure you get the right rebates, set pricing, and guaranteed work from our trusted partners.

The choice is yours. Just don't let confusion or complexity be the thing that holds you back.

Celebrating your success! (You did it!)

Pat yourself on the back

You did it. Whether you swapped out a gas stove for induction, installed a heat pump water heater, or went all-in on a full electrification overhaul—this is a big deal.

You've taken a major step toward a cleaner, healthier, more future-ready home. You've lowered your carbon footprint. You've improved your indoor air quality. You've made a smart investment that benefits your household and your community.

This was about taking action—and you did it. And you made it happen.

Sharing your story

Electrification is contagious—but only if people see it happening.

If you're proud of your project, share it. Post your new appliance setup on social media. Tell your neighbors what you learned. Mention the contractor who actually knew what a load calculation is. Brag about how fast your induction cooktop boils water.

Use your voice. Use your story. You might be the reason someone else makes the switch.

Want to be featured? Reach out to Peninsula Clean Energy.
We love spotlighting local electrification heroes.

What's next?

The benefits don't stop once the install is done. There are still ways to save energy, fine-tune your system, and build on your progress.

- Get familiar with your smart controls and settings
- Set thermostat schedules that match your routine
- Track your energy usage through your utility dashboard
- Try switching to PCE's ECO100 plan for 100% renewable electricity
- Look into solar + storage, especially if you're already electric
- Switch to the EV2-A rate to reap the savings

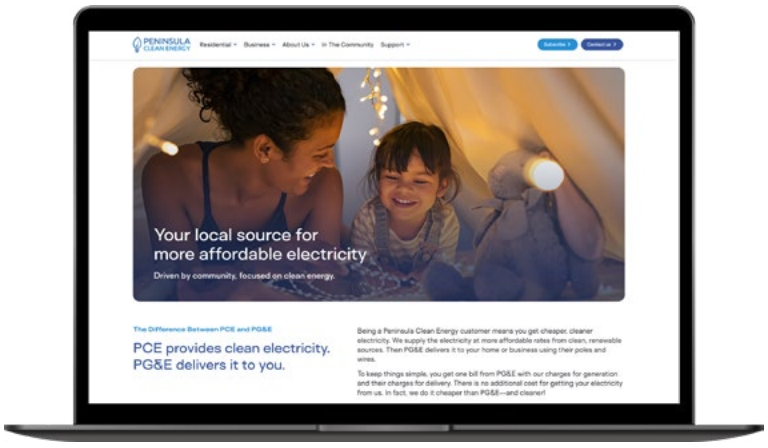
Every small improvement compounds over time. Stay curious. Keep optimizing.

Getting the most out of your investment

You invested in your home—and like any investment, it pays to maintain it.

- Sign up your equipment for manufacture's warranty
- Store your receipts and warranty information in one place
- Follow the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines
- Replace air filters on your heat pump system regularly
- Keep vents and air returns clear
- Drain and clean your water heater every 6-12 months if recommended
- Change your anode rod every couple of years or install an electric anode (e.g. CorroProtec) so you never have to do it again
- Check for software updates (yes, even your water heater might have them)
  If something goes wrong, don't wait—contact your installer or manufacturer right away. Most appliances come with warranties, but they work best when you're on top of them.

Electrifying your home is just the beginning. Now that you've made the leap, you're part of a growing movement—and it keeps getting better from here.



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