

# Phantom Power Primer

*Standby power. Phantom power. Vampire power.*

Even when electronics and appliances aren't powered on, they're often still using energy if they're plugged in, which is where these terms come from. Americans have 20 - 40 products that constantly draw when plugged in, accounting for about 10% of electricity use.

Here are some clues to recognizing a product that draws power continuously:

- ◇ It has a remote control
- ◇ It requires an external power supply
- ◇ It has a digital display, LED status light, or digital clock
- ◇ It contains or is a battery charger
- ◇ It has a soft-touch key-pad

Of course you aren't going to unplug all of these every time you use them, but which ones do you use only occasionally that you can you cluster onto a single power strip and turn off when not in use?

Whatever you call it—vampire power, phantom power or standby power—it's easy to save save energy to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions—and save money in the process!

Learn more at:

<http://standby.lbl.gov/standby.html>  
<http://energy.gov/articles/resolve-save-energy-year>



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## Phantom Power Hunt

Here's a fun way to find the sources of phantom power in your home!

1. Print the attached Phantom Power Hunt bingo board and Save Our Sea Ice playing pieces.
2. Explore your office or home, unplugging each item as you find it—don't forget to ask Mom & Dad!
3. Cover the square containing each item you unplug with an SOS playing piece.
4. Check your electric bill before the hunt and again a month later. When the kilo-watt hours you use go down, you win!

Notice the blank squares at the bottom of the bingo board? We challenge you to fill in those squares with energy-sucking items we forgot—bonus points if you can find an extra nine!





# Phantom Power Hunt

Rechargeable Toothbrush	Cell phone charger	Microwave	Television	Cable box	DVD player
Coffee pot	Headphones	Gaming station	Printer	Computer monitor	Camera
Rechargeable battery charger	Coffee Grinder	Computer tower/ desktop	Laptop computer	Tablet charger	Fax
Modem	Clock radio	Nightlight	Answering machine	Cordless phone charger	Rabbit ears
Stereo	iPod	Computer speakers	Timers	Garage door opener	Surge protector
Rechargeable tools	Rechargeable candles	Docking station			





