



5 EASY WAYS FOR SME'S TO REDUCE THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Reducing your environmental impact as a small business isn't just about the planet; it's also about creating efficiency, lowering costs, and aligning with the values of eco-conscious customers. Every business, no matter its size, can take steps to reduce its environmental footprint. Here are five essential steps to get you started:



1. KNOW YOUR FOOTPRINT

Before making any changes, you need to understand where your business has the biggest environmental impact. By measuring and monitoring energy use, waste, water, and other resources, you can identify inefficiencies and track progress over time. Installing smart meters and conducting an environmental audit will give you a clear picture of where your business can improve.



2. POWER DOWN TO POWER UP

Energy use is often one of the largest sources of environmental impact for businesses. Simple actions like switching to energy-efficient lighting, using programmable thermostats, and investing in renewable energy can significantly cut emissions. Reducing energy usage not only helps the planet but also lowers your energy bills, making your business more cost-effective.

3. WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

Effective waste management is key to minimising your environmental footprint. Implement recycling programs, reduce single-use products, and think about ways to reuse or repurpose materials. By keeping waste out of landfills, your business reduces harmful emissions and can even find cost savings in areas like packaging and supply chain.



4. CHOOSE WISELY

The goods and services your business purchases can have a significant impact on your carbon footprint. Opt for local suppliers who use sustainable practices, source eco-friendly materials, and minimise packaging waste. Sustainable procurement not only reduces environmental harm but can also build relationships with like-minded businesses and consumers who value green practices.

5. SPREAD THE WORD

Transparency is key when it comes to sustainability. Engage with your stakeholders; customers, employees, and suppliers, by sharing your environmental goals and achievements. Encouraging collaboration, whether through partnerships or internal initiatives, can further your business's influence. Communicating your green credentials also enhances brand reputation and can attract new eco-conscious customers.



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