

Don't always believe what you read in the newspaper!

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RESIDENTS in Sheffield are being urged to spend two minutes less in the shower - to save energy and help the environment.

A new study by energy giant e.on found city residents spend an average of **eight minutes and 45 seconds** in the shower **five times a week**, which equates to **382 hours** under the showerhead each year.

It means on average showers are costing individuals in Sheffield more than **£353** a year.

Energy experts are now calling on all Sheffield residents to make a small change to their bathing habits, which will result in a dramatic reduction in household water heating bills across the city.

Beverley Maguire, e.on energy fitness expert,

said: "While a lovely long hot shower or bath can be the ultimate treat, it's important to know the real cost of this and how it can impact on the environment.

"It's clear Sheffield residents love spending time in the bath and shower, but savvy families should consider adjusting their habits to save money, energy and water.

"We'd urge everyone in Sheffield to knock-off a minimum of two minutes from their shower, saving households across the area at least **£4 million a year.**"

The study also found 52 per cent of Sheffield residents admitted showering is their preferred bathing option.

Although, when they do choose the tub, it is for

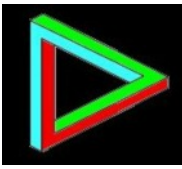


an average of 16 minutes and 36 seconds, twice a week.

Other tips for reducing energy consumption include: not running the shower before you get in; turning the shower off while lathering up; turning down the temperature of the shower and fitting a water-saving device to gauge usage.

Now see if you can answer the questions overleaf.

Name



1. What mathematical mistake did the author make? Can you explain?
2. How can you write 8 minutes 45 seconds as a decimal? (Clue-If it was 8 minutes 30 seconds that would be 8.5 minutes)
3. What is your answer to question 2 multiplied by 5 days?
4. How many weeks in a year?
5. What is your answer to 4 multiplied by your answer to 3? This is the total average time people spend in the shower in a year in minutes.
6. How many minutes make an hour?
7. Divide your answer to question 5 by 60. This is the average total time people spend in the shower in a year.
8. Round your answer to question 7 to the nearest hour. Can you see what mistake the author made now?
9. The author thinks on average we spend £353 on showering in a year. How much do you think this should be?
10. If everyone spent two minutes less in the shower the author thinks we could save £4 million a year. How much do you think we would save?
11. How long do you spend in the shower? Do you take more or less time than the average 8 minutes 45 seconds?