



Do we need electricity?

Electricity travels along wires and makes all kinds of things work.

We use electricity all the time. It would now be very difficult to live without it.

In the past people did live quite happily without electricity. It was only made useful about a hundred years ago.

So what do we need electricity for, and why can't we do without it now?

Let's start by looking at what life was like before electricity.

This kitchen, and everything in it, belongs to a time (called Victorian times) over a hundred years ago. Everyone then lived in an age before electricity.





You need electricity to make a birthday cake even if you cook by gas (the controls use electricity).



We need electricity to get water – unless we are prepared to pump it for ourselves (the pumps in the waterworks run on electricity).



Surfboarding and all outdoor sports can still be done without electricity.



Electricity makes the petrol burn in car engines, powers the headlamps and works the stereo system.

What electrical things would you see in a modern kitchen?