



Game Instructions

Climate Scale Card Game

Where can I get the Climate Scale Card Game?

You can order the card game in German for free from the [Federal Environment Agency's website](#). You can request the English version of the card game by emailing mail@nachhaltigerkonsum.info.

Alternatively, you can make the playing cards yourself in just a few steps:

1. Click "Print" (printer icon) in the PDF program currently open.
2. Select the following settings on your printer:
 - Pages to print: 6 - 19
 - Two-sided/double-sided & color printing
3. Print out the seven A4 sheets.
4. Cut out the cards. Have fun playing!

Tip: To ensure the cards last a long time, we recommend laminating them.

Summer festival coming up?

With the "right" climate scale, you'll have THE eye-catcher at your info booth

Instead of cards, the "right" climate scale uses cans of varying weights. Just like the cards, each can represents the greenhouse gas reduction effect. When you place a can on each side of the scale, the side with the greater climate protection effect will dip. The scale is a proven crowd-pleaser at any information booth.

It can be easily and inexpensively built yourself or borrowed free of charge from several locations in Germany. A list of rental locations and the DIY instructions can be found at www.Klimawaage.de.

Your opinion matters!

Your feedback helps us further develop the Climate Scale and the card game and make them even more user-friendly: <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/online-umfrage-zur-klimawaage>

Have you created a great new variation of the card game? Are there important measures missing? Do you need support in using the card game or the climate scale?

Get in touch with us:

mail@nachhaltigerkonsum.info

Tel. 0340 – 2103 2200


How the card game works:


There are many actions to save CO₂ in everyday life. But which of these are particularly effective for climate protection? The Climate Scale card game provides answers to this question.

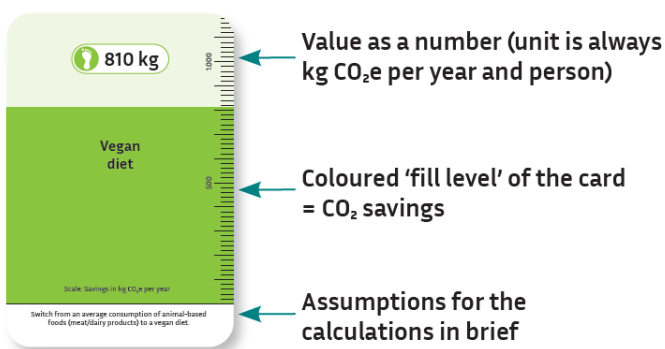
Each card shows the amount of CO₂ saved by certain sustainable everyday decisions. The **front** of the card shows the action, while the **back** shows the CO₂ savings. The **back** of the 'vegan diet' card, for example, shows how much CO₂ you would save if you only ate a plant-based diet in future. The colourful 'fill level' of the card illustrates the savings value graphically (lots of colour = lots of savings).

The colours represent different areas of everyday life in which you can **reduce your personal carbon footprint**:

- Nutrition
- Mobility
- Heating & living
- Electricity
- Conscious consumption

 'Foot' icon = action reduces your own carbon footprint

 'Hand' icon = action increases your ecological handprint




How are the values calculated?

The calculations and assumptions are based on current average values. A summary can be found on the **back** of each card.

All data sources and calculation methods used are described in detail at www.Klimawaage.de Important:

In specific individual cases, the actual savings may differ significantly from these average values.

 The colourful cards represent actions that **increase your ecological handprint**. They show how we can take action to positively influence other people, society, politics and existing structures – for example, by **inspiring** others, **motivating** them to get involved or **working together**. Since these actions cannot always be assigned to a specific area of everyday life and the basis for calculation is slightly different, all handprint actions are colourfully represented.

Why are there cards with a question mark?

Some handprint cards have a question mark on the **back** instead of a fixed value because their effect cannot be calculated precisely. It varies greatly depending on the person and environment: How actively will someone get involved? How many others will join in? And what are the current political or social conditions? All of this influences how big the handprint will be in the end.

Starting a conversation: The 'Impulse Cards'

The card game is designed to stimulate thought and get people talking. That is why it also includes nine 'Impulse Cards'.



These encourage further reflection and can, for example, be shared to small groups, discussed together in a workshop or used as essay inspiration for homework assignments.

There are 'Impulse Cards' that encourage reflection on one's own actions and 'Impulse Cards' that look at social and political aspects.

Game variations

To maximise the fun of guessing and the surprise effect, it is important that players only see the front of the cards at first and only turn them over when the answer is revealed! Please sort the Impulse cards before playing.

TRICK TAKING GAMES: FOR FUN IN SMALL GROUPS

1 'Big Point beats Peanut' 2 to 4 players

- All players receive five random cards **face up**. The rest form the draw pile.
- One person starts by placing a card in the middle. The others each choose a card that they think will have a higher **savings effect**.
- **Reveal:**
- The highest card wins the trick.
- If there is a joker card ('?') in the trick, the entire trick is set aside. The person who wins the next trick also receives the trick that was set aside.
- Everyone draws cards until they have five cards in their hand again. Then it is the next person's turn.
- The game continues until the draw pile is exhausted and a player has no cards left. **The player who has collected the most tricks wins.**

2 'Objection!' 2 to 6 players

- Shuffle the cards and place them face down as a draw pile. Draw three cards, turn them over and lay them out in ascending order according to the CO₂ scale (**back facing up**).



- The starting player draws a card and places it face down in the appropriate place in the row.
- **Resolution by turning over**
- **Correctly sorted:** Card goes to your own score pile (1 point).
- **Incorrectly sorted:** Card goes to the discard pile (0 points).
- **Joker card ('?')**: Always gives 1 point, regardless of whether it is correct or incorrect – regardless of where it was sorted
- Then it is the next person's turn. The discard pile is shuffled again if necessary.
- The game is played until all cards have been used up or someone has reached a predetermined number of points (e.g. 10 points/cards). The first person to reach this number of points or who **has the most cards** at the end wins.

Special feature: 'Objection!' (Veto)

- Before revealing the card, you may object if you believe that the card has been sorted incorrectly. To do so, you must use one of your own point cards.
- **Correct veto:** You get your own card back plus the new point card..
- **Incorrect veto:** The card used goes to the opposing side.
- No objection can be made without a card that has already been played.

TIP: The level of difficulty can be varied by the number of open cards: 2 cards (**easy**) to 5 cards (**professional**).



GAMIFICATION FOR CLASSROOMS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

3 'Estimate, stand, walk' For large groups

- Each person receives a card.
- **Task for everyone:** 'Spread out across the room from the estimated smallest CO₂ saving to the largest.' Participants are allowed to talk to each other, but not look at the backs of the cards.
- **Now it's time to reveal the answers:** Everyone checks the **back** of their card and rearranges themselves according to the actual value. Who had to walk the furthest? What was surprising?
- **Second task:** 'Spread out in the room from the easiest measure to implement to the measure with the greatest hurdles.' This very subjective assessment can then be discussed in the group.
- **Variation for the second task:** The game master reads a card aloud and the players spread out in the room according to their subjective assessment. Now discuss or continue playing with the next card. Idea: Can also be combined with the question from variation 4.

4 'From small to large' For all group sizes

- All cards are placed face up on a table. The participants spread out around them.
- **Task for everyone:** 'Put the cards in the correct order: from the smallest saving to the largest.'
- **Variation for larger groups:** The game master reads the cards aloud one after the other and, after a joint discussion, attaches them to the board with magnets.

5 'Dos and Don'ts?' For all group sizes

- All cards are laid out on the table or attached to the board with magnets. One person sorts the cards into four categories: 'I already do this,' 'I would try this,' 'I won't do this,' and 'I can't influence this.'
- Afterwards: Group discussion about the selection: would others have sorted them differently and what obstacles are there?

Buy second-hand clothing instead of new

(10 items per year)



Smartphone refurbished instead of buying new



Shop online instead of by car

(twice a month)



Don't use disposable cups anymore



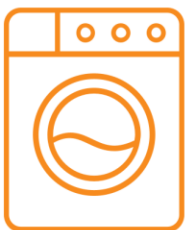
Pet: Rabbit instead of cat



Halve the use of plastic packaging



Repair your washing machine instead of buying a new one



Vegan diet



More plant-based proteins, fewer animal proteins



 **20 kg**

Online shopping instead of shopping by car (twice a month)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two shopping trips per month (5 km each) are replaced by two online orders per month.

 **15 kg**

Smartphone refurbished instead of buying new

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Buying second-hand extends the mobile phone's useful time by 3 years.

 **110 kg**

Buy second-hand clothing instead of new (10 items per year)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

10 items of clothing are bought second-hand, which means that the same number of new items don't need to be bought.

 **19 kg**

Halve the use of plastic packaging

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Half of the average amount of single-use plastic packaging is eliminated without replacement, i.e. without being replaced by glass, paper or reusable containers.

 **115 kg**

Pet: Rabbit instead of cat

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

In a two-person household, a herbivore is kept as a pet instead of a carnivore.

 **0,7 kg**

Don't use disposable cups anymore

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Save 34 disposable cups per year.

 **510 kg**

More plant-based proteins, fewer animal proteins

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Switch from average to low consumption of meat/sausage/fish (1.3 kg → 0.3 kg/week) and milk and cheese products (including 0.6 kg → 0.2 kg cheese/week).

 **810 kg**

Vegan diet

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Switch from an average consumption of animal-based foods (meat/dairy products) to a vegan diet.

 **35 kg**

Repair your washing machine instead of buying a new one

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Repairing a washing machine's heating element by a customer service technician instead of buying a new one. This extends its useful life by five years.

**Halve
food waste**



**Mainly
regional and
seasonal
food**



**Drink tap water
instead of
bottled water**



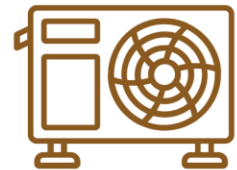
**Oat milk instead
of cow's milk
(1 litre per week)**



**No purchase
of strawberries
in winter**



**Heat by a
heat pump**



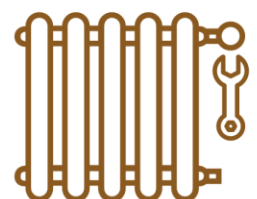
**Insulate your
home**



**Shower for half
the time**



**Get a hydraulic
balancing
carried out.**



 **36 kg**

Drink tap water instead of bottled water

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Half a litre every day.

 **80 kg**

Mainly regional and seasonal food

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Switch from using a small amount of regional and seasonal produce to using mainly regional and seasonal produce.

 **30 kg**

Halve food waste

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The most effective way to reduce food waste is to stop it from spoiling in the first place.

 **870 kg**

Heat by a heat pump

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household, detached house, 103 sqm of living space, annual energy consumption of 13,390 kWh, switch from natural gas to heat pump.

 **10 kg**

No purchase of strawberries in winter

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Going without twelve 250g containers of strawberries in winter.

 **50 kg**

Oat milk instead of cow's milk (1 litre per week)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Replacing 1 litre of cow's milk with 1 litre of oat milk per week.

 **130 kg**

Get a hydraulic balancing carried out.

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household, detached house, 103 sqm of living space, natural gas heating.

 **240 kg**

Shower for half the time

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Halve shower time from 8 to 4 minutes based on average showering behaviour: (showering 5 times a week with a water flow of 12 l/min).

 **810 kg**

Insulate your home

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household, detached house, 103 sqm of living space, 18,540 kWh energy consumption per year, fossil fuel.

Use a
water-saving
shower head



Wash your hands
with cold water



Lower the room
temperature
by 1 degree



Separate waste
correctly



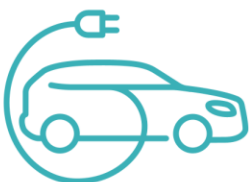
Holidays without
flying: the
Adriatic instead
of Tenerife



Use public
transport
instead of the car
to get to work



Switch to an
electric car



Country hotel
instead of cruise
(1 week)



Use
car sharing



 **100 kg**

Lower the room temperature by 1 degree

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household, detached house, 103 sqm of living space.

 **70 kg**

Wash your hands with cold water

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

10 times a day, 1 litre per wash cycle, natural gas heating.

 **240 kg**

Use a water-saving shower head

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Average shower behaviour (showering 5 times a week, 36 degrees, 8 minutes), high water flow (12 litres) vs. economical (6 litres).

 **1.180 kg**

Use public transport instead of the car to get to work

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Commute of 17.2 km (one way), 184 days per year, petrol car with 8 l/100 km, occupancy rate 1 person.

 **950 kg**

Holidays without flying: the Adriatic instead of Tenerife

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Option 1: Flight from Frankfurt a. M. to Tenerife.
Option 2: Car journey from Frankfurt a. M. to Split (Croatia).

 **24 kg**

Separate waste correctly

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

In Germany, packaging recycling prevents around 2 million tonnes of greenhouse gases from being emitted every year.

 **600 kg**

Use car sharing

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year


Replace private car with car-sharing services.

 **650 kg**

Country hotel instead of cruise (1 week)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Accommodation in a 4-star hotel compared to a sea cruise (1 week), travel to and from the destination not included.

 **780 kg**

Switch to an electric car

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Use of electric cars instead of petrol cars, with an annual mileage of 8,800 km per person (the German average) and taking into account manufacturing and fuel consumption.

**Cycle to work
by pedelec**

(twice a week instead
of driving)

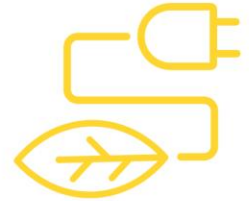


**Cycle twice a
week to do the
shopping**

(instead of driving)



**Switch to green
electricity**



**Install balcony
power plant**

(500 W)



**Use the
dishwasher
instead of
washing up by
hand**



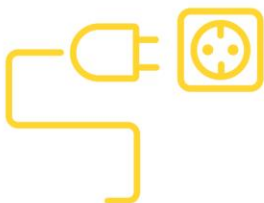
**Cut streaming
time in half**

(music, videos & games)



**Unplug charging
cables when
not in use**

(mobile phone)



**Search queries
without AI tools**

(1 per day)



**Donate climate
contribution
for 1 t CO₂
avoidance**




 **490 kg**

Switch to green electricity

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household, average electricity consumption of 2,600 kWh, switch from standard tariff to green electricity.

 **140 kg**

Cycle twice a week to do the shopping (instead of driving)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Travel by bicycle instead of by car, distance 3 km.

 **415 kg**

Cycle to work by pedelec (twice a week instead of driving)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Twice per working week by pedelec instead of by car, journey to work is 10 km

 **12 kg**

Cut streaming time in half (music, videos & games)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Halving of average streaming usage among young people (aged 12 to 19) from 34 to 17 hours per week.

 **30 kg**

Use the dishwasher instead of washing up by hand

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Two-person household with dishwasher. Dishwasher option: 4 times a week, fully loaded; hand washing option: twice a day, 15 litres of water per wash cycle.

 **240 kg**

Install balcony power plant (500 W)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Vertical installation on the balcony (90°), electricity yield of around 345 kWh per year.

 **1.000 kg**

Donate climate contribution for 1 t CO₂ avoidance

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Donation to a climate protection project with certified greenhouse gas savings.

 **0,1 kg**

Search queries without AI tools (1 per day)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

One classic, index-based search query per day instead of one using an AI tool.

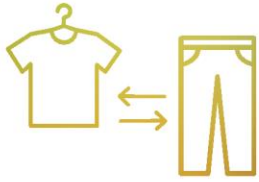
 **0,3 kg**

Unplug charging cables when not in use (mobile phone)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The mobile phone's charging cable is always unplugged from the socket after charging.

Organise a clothes swap party at school



Halve the proportion of meat dishes in the canteen



Convince three people (flatmates or family) about oat milk



Install a water-saving showerhead at your parents' place



Go to a climate protest



Sign a petition



Become a member of a climate or environmental NGO



Get involved locally

(e.g. environmental education, repair café, sustainability working group)



Donations for climate and environmental protection



 150 kg

**Convince three people
(flatmates or family)
about oat milk**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Three people replace one litre of cow's milk with one litre of oat milk per week.

 5.000 kg

**Halve the proportion
of meat dishes
in the canteen**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Canteen serving 100 meals per day converts half of its meat-based menus to vegetarian or vegan menus.

 500 kg

**Organise a clothes
swap party at school**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

100 pupils exchange one top each, 100 new purchases are avoided.

 ? kg

Sign a petition

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.

 ? kg

**Go to a
climate protest**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.

 480 kg

**Install a water-saving
showerhead at your
parents' place**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Average showering behaviour (showering 5 times a week, 36 degrees, 8 minutes, high water flow (12 litres) vs. economical (6 litres).

 ? kg

**Donations for
climate and
environmental
protection**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.

 ? kg

**Get involved locally
(e.g. environmental
education,
repair café, sustainability
working group)**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.

 ? kg

**Become a member
of a climate or
environmental NGO**

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.

Consider climate protection in elections



Convince your neighbours about a balcony power plant (1.000 W)



€1,000 investment in wind power project



Switch schools to recycled paper (includes writing paper and toilet paper)



Impulse card



Impulse card



Impulse card



Impulse card



Impulse card



 **1.400 kg**

€1,000 investment in wind power project

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

For example: as a savings deposit with a green bank, as a membership share in a cooperative or as a participation certificate (financial instrument with profit sharing).

 **480 kg**

Convince your neighbours about a balcony power plant (1.000 W)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Vertical installation on the balcony (90°), electricity yield of around 690 kWh per year.

 **? kg**

Consider climate protection in elections

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

The extent to which your ecological handprint grows as a result of this action depends on your actions, the people who join you, and the social and political conditions that apply.



What would happen if everyone puts these actions into practice in their everyday lives?



What is the best way to encourage others to take the initiative without appearing condescending?

 **770 kg**

Switch schools to recycled paper (includes writing paper and toilet paper)

Scale: Savings in kg CO₂e per year

Switch to recycled paper for exercise books, photocopying paper and toilet paper (1,000 pupils).



Should some of these everyday actions perhaps even be legally mandatory? If so, which ones - and which ones should not be?



Are there things that not everyone can currently do, e.g. due to a lack of time, money or knowledge? Who could provide support, and how?



Which political or social factors make this action easier or more difficult?

Impulse card



Impulse card



Impulse card



Impulse card





**Which everyday activities
suit me?
Which could I really enjoy?**



**What things do I find
particularly difficult to
implement? Have I ever
made a lasting decision that
took effort to achieve, and
was it worth it in the end?**



**Would this action affect
how I interact with others
or how they perceive me?
Would my daily life change?**



**Which action
surprised me in terms of
how much or how little it
actually helps the climate?**

