

How Much Power Do Your Appliances Use?

(<https://www.amazon.com/Neurio-Electricity-Monitor-American-Version/dp/B0149EE5KS>) These figures are approximate representations, and the actual power consumption of your appliances may vary substantially from these figures. Check the power tags, or better yet, measure the amperage draw with a clamp-on ammeter or home energy monitor like a Kill-A-Watt meter. You can usually find ammeters and Kill-A-Watt meters at your local hardware store or online. Multiply the hours used on the average day by the wattage listed below. This will give you the watt-hours consumed per day.

Remember that some items, such as garage door openers, are used only for a fraction of an hour or minute per day. A 300-watt item used for 5 minutes per day will only consume 25-watt hours per day. Where a range of numbers is given, the lower figure often denotes a technologically newer and more efficient model. The letters "NA" denote appliances that would normally be powered by non-electric sources in a PV powered home. If you are considering making your own power, we strongly suggest that you invest in a true RMS digital multimeter, a clamp-on type ammeter or a Kill-A-Watt meter. It actually makes sense to know where your power is being used even if you are not producing it, and if you are, these meters are essential diagnostic tools.

Click to see our list of [53 No-Cost and Low-Cost Ways to Conserve Energy](#). (</solar-information/how-to-save-energy/save-energy#StepsToLowerEnergyUse>) Check out how to [save energy and reduce your energy cost](#). (</solar-information/how-to-save-energy/save-energy>)

How much money can you save by going solar?

A solar panel system for the average U.S. home can pay for itself in as little as 5-6 years.

Use our solar cost calculator to find out how long it would take to eliminate your electric bill.

CALCULATE MY SAVINGS **Appliance Consumption Table**

Appliance <small>(/solar-information/solar-cost)</small>	Watts	Appliance	Watts	Appliance	Watts
Kitchen		Living Room		Tools	
Blender	500	Bluray Player	15	Band Saw - 14"	1100
Can Opener	150	Cable Box	35	Belt Sander - 3"	1000
Coffee Machine	1000	DVD Player	15	Chain Saw - 12"	1100
Dishwasher	1200-1500	TV - LCD	150	Circular Saw - 7-1/4"	900
Espresso Machine	800	TV - Plasma	200	Circular Saw 8-1/4"	1400
Freezer - Upright - 15 cu. ft.	1240 Wh/Day**	Satellite Dish	25	Disc Sander - 9"	1200
Freezer - Chest - 15 cu. ft.	1080 Wh/Day**	Stereo Receiver	450	Drill - 1/4"	250
Fridge - 20 cu. ft. (AC)	1411 Wh/day**	Video Game Console	150	Drill - 1/2"	750
Fridge -16 cu. ft. (AC)	1200 Wh/day**	Lights		Drill - 1"	1000
Garbage Disposal	450	CFL Bulb - 40 Watt Equivalent	11	Hedge Trimmer	450
Kettle - Electric	1200	CFL Bulb - 60 Watt Equivalent	18	Weed Eater	500
Microwave	1000	CFL Bulb - 75 Watt Equivalent	20	Misc.	
Oven - Electric	1200	CFL Bulb - 100 Watt Equivalent	30	Clock Radio	7
Toaster	850	Compact Fluorescent 20 Watt	22	Curling Iron	150
Toaster Oven	1200	Compact Fluorescent 25 Watt	28	Dehumidifier	280
Stand Mixer	300	Halogen - 40 Watt	40	Electric Shaver	15
Heating/Cooling		Incandescent 50 Watt	50	Electric Blanket	200
Box Fan	200	Incandescent 100 Watt	100	Hair Dryer	1500
Ceiling Fan	120	LED Bulb - 40 Watt Equivalent	10	Humidifier	200
Central Air Conditioner - 24,000 BTU NA	3800	LED Bulb - 60 Watt Equivalent	13	Radiotelephone - Receive	5

Central Air Conditioner - 10,000 BTU NA	3250	LED Bulb - 75 watt equivalent	18	Radiotelephone - Transmit	75
Furnace Fan Blower	800	LED Bulb - 100 Watt Equivalent	23	Sewing Machine	100
Space Heater NA	1500	Office		Vacuum	1000
Tankless Water Heater - Electric	18000	Desktop Computer (Standard)	200	<p>Note: TVs, Computers, and other devices left plugged in but not turned on still draw power.</p> <p>**To estimate the number of hours that a refrigerator actually operates at its maximum wattage, divide the total time the refrigerator is plugged in by three. Refrigerators, although turned "on" all the time, actually cycle on and off as needed to maintain interior temperatures.</p>	
Water Heater - Electric	4500	Desktop Computer (Gaming)	500		
Window Air Conditioner 10,000 BTU NA	900	Laptop	100		
Window Air Conditioner 12,000 BTU NA	3250	LCD Monitor	100		
Well Pump - 1/3 1HP	750	Modem	7		
Laundry		Paper Shredder	150		
Clothes Dryer - Electric	3000	Printer	100		
Clothes Dryer - Gas	1800	Router	7		
Clothes Washer	800	Smart Phone - Recharge	6		
Iron	1200	Tablet - Recharge	8		

* The daily energy values listed here are for the most efficient units in their class and the information was obtained from Consumer Guide to Home and the General Electric website.

Use this table with our Load Evaluation Calculator to find out how many kWh your appliances would use per month.

Go To Load Evaluation Calculator → [\(/solar-information/start-here/offgrid-calculator#load-evaluation\)](/solar-information/start-here/offgrid-calculator#load-evaluation)

[\(/appliances\)](/appliances)

Energy Star Appliances

The laundry area and kitchen of the modern house contain the biggest users of electricity. If energy is conserved and use of [Energy Star appliances](/appliances) is maximized, your home is

well on the way to becoming an example of independent living.

Energy Efficient Refrigerators

power each appliance uses.

Refrigerators are infamous for using way too much energy. If your existing refrigerator is over 10 years old, replace it how you use them. In general, with a new energy efficient refrigerator ([appliances.html#SunFrost](#)). Newer side-load washers use less energy than top-load washers. Models are much more energy efficient. Many food preparations can be done without electricity, and at grandma's house. New refrigerators meals can be cooked alternatively don't have to be expensive to be with a Dutch oven, pressure efficient. Check the Energy Guide cooker, or toaster oven, and three stickers as well as the price tags. And last but not least, consider a smaller unit cook's time and conserve energy because, with refrigerators, bigger is not better.

If replacing your old unit with a modern high efficiency model is not an option, keep your old fridge tuned up by cleaning the ventilation grilles and giving it some room from the wall to allow for ventilation. Use the energy saving feature, if available, or set the thermostat to the minimum requirement of 38 degrees. Keep your freezer as full as possible. Use plastic bottles filled with water for empty spaces.

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