

GO POWER SMART WITH ENERGY STAR

THE ENERGY STAR® LABEL TELLS YOU THAT YOUR APPLIANCES ARE THE MOST EFFICIENT AROUND. THAT MEANS LESS WASTE AND MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET.

If you're planning to replace your old clothes washer, refrigerator, freezer or dishwasher, look for models that have earned both a low EnerGuide rating and the ENERGY STAR label. These are the most energy-efficient appliances on the market today, offering top performance and major energy and water savings—all in one neat package.

NOT ALL APPLIANCES ARE CREATED EQUAL

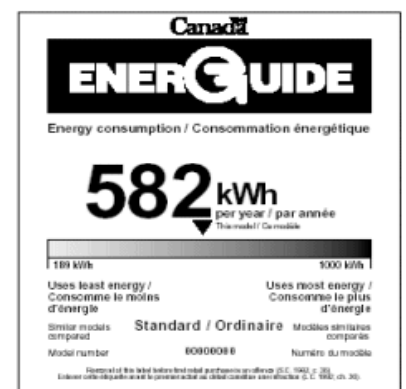
EnerGuide

When you're buying a new appliance, look first at the appliance's EnerGuide label, required by the Canadian government on all major appliances sold in this country. The label will tell you two important things:

1. How much energy the appliance will consume over a year under average conditions
2. How that energy consumption compares with different models of the same appliance

The large number is the appliance's estimated annual energy consumption, measured in kilowatt hours (kWh) per year.

The bar scale below the number shows how the appliance rates against other models. An arrow on the left side of the scale means lower operating costs and long-term savings. The arrow on this label sits in the middle of the bar, which means you could do better.



ENERGY STAR

If you see an ENERGY STAR label in addition to the EnerGuide label, you've most likely found what you're looking for. Appliances that qualify for the ENERGY STAR label meet or exceed the Government of Canada's highest standards for energy efficiency. That means that these appliances—while they can cost you a little bit more at the store—may more than make up the difference through energy savings in just a few years.



3 Easy Steps to Finding the True Cost

Any new appliance has two price tags: what you pay to take it home from the store, and what you will pay for the energy it uses up over its lifetime. The total of an appliance's two price tags is called its lifecycle cost.

Step 1: Calculate the energy cost for one year

Take the total number of kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity per year that the appliance uses on average from its EnerGuide label, and multiply it by the current cost of one kWh of electricity (you can find the current cost on your latest BC Hydro bill). This will roughly give you how much you will pay to power that appliance for one year.

Step 2: Calculate the life-long energy cost

Take the energy cost per year and multiply it by the number of years that you expect to use that appliance (the average is 10 to 20 years).

Step 3: Add the life-long energy cost to the price

Add the appliance's life-long energy cost to the original price of the appliance to arrive at the lifecycle cost: the total amount that the appliance will cost you over its lifetime.

By comparing an ENERGY STAR appliance with a non-ENERGY STAR appliance—applying the same current cost of electricity—you may find that investing in a new ENERGY STAR appliance now makes a lot of sense.

LIFECYCLE COST CALCULATION

1. kWh per year x current cost of energy = annual energy cost
2. Annual energy cost x anticipated years of use = life-long energy cost
3. Life-long energy cost + purchase price = lifecycle cost

For Example

Let's say you're looking at a new ENERGY STAR refrigerator that uses 450 kWh; your current cost of energy is, say, 7 cents per kWh; you expect to keep the appliance about 15 years; and the purchase price is \$850.00. Your lifecycle calculation would be:

1. 450 kWh x .07 = \$31.50
2. \$31.50 x 15 = \$472.50
3. \$472.50 + \$850.00 = \$1322.50

The true cost of the fridge you are looking at is \$1,322.50.

YOU'LL SAVE ON DRYING, TOO

To qualify for the ENERGY STAR label, clothes washers must have a Modified Energy Factor (MEF) of 1.72 or greater and a Water Factor (WF) of 8.0 or lower.

A high MEF/low WF means that your washer is able to remove a lot of the moisture from your clothes before they go into the dryer. Less moisture means less time in the dryer—and even more energy saved.

THERE'S MORE

Saving on your electricity bills is only one part of the ENERGY STAR story.

Front-Loading Clothes Washers

You can find both front-loading and top-loading clothes washers with the ENERGY STAR label. Both are up to twice as energy efficient as standard models—which means they wash twice the amount of clothes using the same amount of energy. But front-loaders also offer a number of additional advantages:

Less water

ENERGY STAR front-loading washers use up to 50 per cent less water than non-ENERGY STAR, top-loading models. If you're paying for municipal water, that means big savings on your water bills.

Fewer loads

Front-loading washers don't have bulky agitators, which frees up space for more clothes—and that means fewer loads of laundry.

Happier clothes

Instead of twisting and pulling your clothes, front-loading washers flip or spin clothes gently, even delicate items that you would normally hand-wash.

Refrigerators

More efficient

If you're like most of us, your refrigerator uses more energy than any other appliance in your home. ENERGY STAR refrigerators require about half the energy of models manufactured before 1993—and they are at least 10 per cent more efficient than fridges built to meet today's minimum standards.

Total control

ENERGY STAR refrigerators are better insulated and have more precise temperature settings. In other words, your food stays at the temperature you set.

Whisper quiet

When it comes to fridges, more efficiency equals less noise. ENERGY STAR refrigerators are significantly quieter than conventional models.



DON'T FORGET THE MAINTENANCE!

All appliances will work better and more efficiently over the long term if they are well maintained.

Save money (and headaches) in the future by following the manufacturer's recommended service schedule.

Chest Freezers

Cold air savers

You can find both chest (top-loading) freezers and upright (front-loading) freezers with the ENERGY STAR label. While both are more energy efficient than non-ENERGY STAR models, chest freezers are the most energy efficient because cold air stays inside when you open the lid.

Energy misers

ENERGY STAR chest freezers are about 38 per cent more efficient than ENERGY STAR uprights that can hold the same amount—and about 50 per cent more efficient than older, non-ENERGY STAR chest freezers of the same size.

Dishwashers

Smart with energy

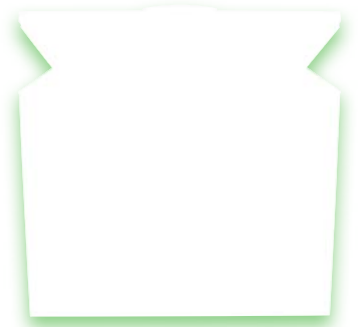
ENERGY STAR dishwashers are at least 25 per cent more efficient than dishwashers built to meet minimum standards.

Stingy with water

ENERGY STAR dishwashers clean as well or better than conventional washers, with less water—so your water bill will go down. Because energy-efficient dishwashers heat water internally, they can also save you up to 20 per cent on your water-heating costs.

Great for dishes

While you still have to scrape the worst of the leftover food off your plates, ENERGY STAR dishwashers clean dishes more effectively than conventional dishwashers. No more re-washing!



Looking for ways to tame the hungry appliances in your home? Get in touch with us for useful energy tips and more information about ENERGY STAR appliances.

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