Buyer's guide

Choosing energy-saving appliances

When looking for energy efficient appliances for your home, you need to look out for the energy ratings label and consider the size of the appliance that you require.

Large appliances that generate cold (such as fridges and freezers) and those that use heat (such as washing machines and dishwashers) generally use the most energy.

Large appliances consume about 15% of an average home's energy bills.



Energy ratings are generally given to products based on their size category.

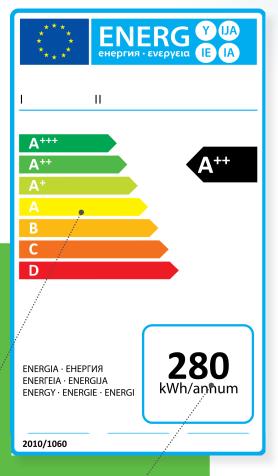
Two differently sized appliances with the same rating may use quite different amounts of electricity.





Look out for the EU energy label

The EU energy label shows the energy efficiency rating of different products.



Previously the top rating was an 'A' but now some types of product can achieve an A++ or A+++ rating.

The kWh figure shows how much electricity an appliance is expected to use in a year.

You can use the kWh figure to compare the energy usage of different sized appliances.



EU energy label

What does this mean for my running costs?

Here are some examples of the costs of running appliances with different energy ratings



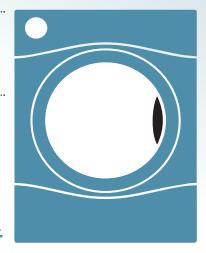
Washing machines

Choosing an A+++ washing machine over an A+ one could save you around £5 a year.



Tumble dryers

Drying clothes outdoors on a washing line or indoors on a rack costs nothing and uses no energy so it is the ideal way to dry your clothes. But if you need to use a tumble dryer, choose one with a good energy label rating. Choosing an A+++ tumble dryer over a C-rated one could save you around £46 a year.



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Fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers

These are switched on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so it's well worth finding models that are energy efficient. Typically, choosing an A+++ fridge freezer over an A+ unit will save you about £190 in energy bills over the lifetime of the product. However, as the energy rating is based upon classification by size, a smaller 'A' rated fridge could use less energy than a larger 'A+' rated fridge.



Cookers

A new A+++ rated electric oven could use around 60% less energy than a B rated one.



Dishwashers

Dishwashers can take up a significant chunk of your electricity bill, costing on average £44 a year to run. Over a year, it costs around £8 less to run a typical new dishwasher than it does an old, inefficient machine of the same size, and it will use less water.





Using your in-home display:



Keep an eye on your in-home display when using different appliances to understand how



Think about how long appliances are used for in addition to how much energy they use at one time

