

Look for other useful labels



European Ecolabel

This label indicates that the product has been independently assessed and found to meet strict environmental criteria (considering more than just energy consumption), putting it among the best in its class.



Energy Saving Trust Recommended

This logo can only be used on the most energy efficient products; usually the top 20 per cent of those available.



Energy Star

This label is only used on office equipment and shows that a product has achieved energy efficiency standards set by the EU.

Find out more

- For more information about the EU energy label visit:
www.direct.gov.uk/energylabel
You can also contact the Defra team via email on:
efficient.products@defra.gsi.gov.uk or telephone on **08459 33 55 77** to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the label.
- For more information about saving money on your energy bills visit:
www.est.org.uk/myhome
- You may also find the Green Claims Guidance useful which sets out the standards of information consumers can expect when provided with information about the environmental performance of a product. Search online for '**Green Claims Guidance**'.

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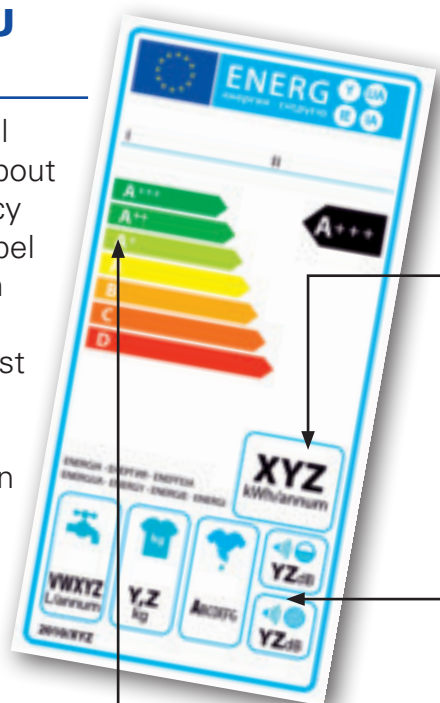
The new EU energy label explained



What is the EU energy label?

The EU energy label gives information about the energy efficiency of a product. The label rates products from dark green (most efficient) to red (least efficient). The label also shows total energy consumption and provides other information relevant to that product, such as water consumption and noise levels for washing machines, and screen size for televisions.

Products in the darkest green category are the most energy efficient. Dark green rated products use less energy and help you to lower your energy bills and CO₂ emissions. In the past, the top label was always an 'A' but now it might sometimes be an A+, A++ or an A+++.



This tells you how much electricity the product uses in kilowatt hours (kWh) and allows you to compare different models. The lower the figure the less energy it will use, hence saving you more money on your energy bills. Actual savings will, of course, depend on how you use the product and how much you pay for your electricity.

The icons on the bottom of the EU energy label will be different depending on the product type and will give you additional information about the product such as its water consumption and noise levels.

Which products are covered?

The following household products will have the label displayed:

- Refrigerators, freezers and fridge-freezers
- Washing machines
- Electric tumble dryers
- Combined washer-dryers
- Dishwashers
- Lamps (light bulbs)
- Electric ovens
- Air conditioners
- Televisions (from the end of 2012)

In future, even more products will have an energy label including vacuum cleaners, boilers and water heaters.

The new labels will be introduced on a product by product basis over time which means that both, old and new, will be in use for some time.

What else influences energy efficiency?

The way a product is used will also influence how much energy it ultimately uses. Fridges and freezers, for example, work harder than any other kitchen appliance and are on 24 hours a day. An energy efficient fridge freezer for example uses only a third of the energy to do the same job as a 10-year-old model.

What if there is no label on the appliance?

If you can't find the energy label on the product you should ask the retailer as they must provide this information by law.

What else can I do?

The following tips can help you save energy:

- Run your washing machine and dishwasher with full loads
- Switch off lights when not needed
- Don't leave your appliances on standby
- Use economy and low temperature settings
- Ensure that fridges and freezers are installed away from cookers and other sources of heat