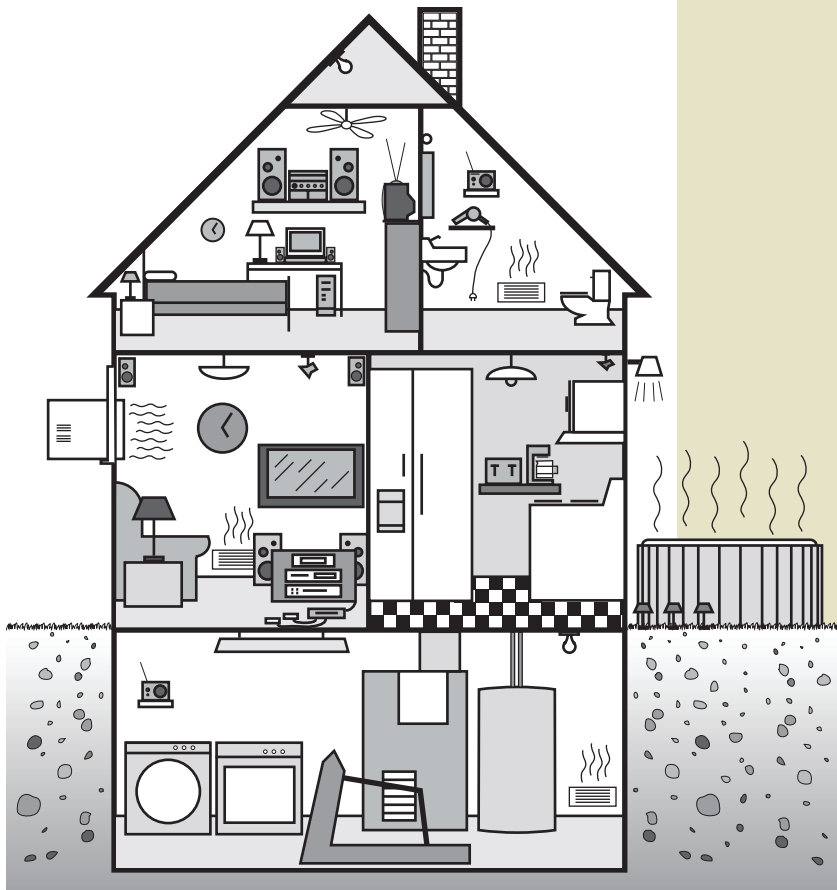


# Understanding Electricity Usage and Costs



The amount of electricity you use each month is shown on your electric bill in kilowatt-hours (kWh). To calculate your average cost per kWh, divide the dollar amount of your electric bill by the number of kWhs you used.

The costs shown on this sample fact sheet are based on an average total price of 11.569 cents per kWh. Your own cost could be higher or lower depending on your usage patterns, your actual electric rate, the wattage of your appliances and the amount of time you use them.

Using the formula below, you can calculate any appliance's kWh usage and cost (in cents per kWh):

$$\frac{\text{Appliance wattage} \times \text{hours in use}}{1,000} \times 11.569 \text{ cents} = \text{Average cost (0.11569)}$$

Many homes have more than one of any given appliance – for example, lamps, televisions, light bulbs or clocks. Be sure to multiply your costs by the number of appliances you use to get a more accurate estimate of your energy consumption.

Electric Appliances	Watts	Avg. Hrs. Used/Mo.	Avg. kWh Used/Mo.	Average Cost/Mo.
<b>Kitchen</b>				
Coffee maker	1,500	5	7.5	\$0.87
Dishwasher – air dry	300	13.75	4.1	\$0.47
Dishwasher – heat dry	1,200	13.75	16.5	\$1.91
Freezer	450	215	96.75	\$11.19
Microwave oven	800	15	12	\$1.39
Oven	3,500	4.25	14.87	\$1.72
Range top – large burner	2,400	15	36	\$4.16
Range top – small burner	1,300	15	19.5	\$2.26
Refrigerator/freezer – Energy Star	800	117	93.6	\$10.83
Refrigerator/freezer – pre 1992	600	215	129	\$14.92
Toaster oven	1,500	2	3	\$0.35
<b>Laundry</b>				
Clothes dryer	5,500	14.75	81.12	\$9.38
Clothes washer (does not include hot water)	665	18	12	\$1.39
Iron	1,000	5	5	\$0.58
<b>Lighting</b>				
Compact fluorescent bulb	25	30	0.8	\$0.09
Energy efficient light bulb (equivalent to 60w incandescent)	16	30	0.48	\$0.06
Flood light (exterior)	150	240	36	\$4.16
Standard incandescent bulb	100	30	3	\$0.35

<b>Electric Appliance</b>	<b>Watts</b>	<b>Avg. Hrs. Used/Mo.</b>	<b>Avg. kWh Used/Mo.</b>	<b>Average Cost/Mo.</b>
<b>Heating &amp; Cooling</b>				
Add on heat pump	5,000	150	750	\$86.77
Air conditioner (window unit)	1,100	90	99	\$11.45
Air conditioner (central)	6,000	90	540	\$62.47
Air purifier	50	275	13.75	\$1.59
Attic fan	400	360	144	\$16.66
Baseboard heater - 8 ft.	2,000	150	300	\$34.71
Ceiling fan	65	360	23.4	\$2.71
Dehumidifier	400	360	144	\$16.66
Fireplace (electric) heater inserts/blower	1,500	90	135	\$15.62
Furnace (electric)	15,000	150	2,250	\$260.30
Furnace fan	500	Continuous	360	\$41.65
Heating tape	150	360	54	\$6.25
Humidifier	170	Continuous	122.4	\$14.16
Humidifier (on furnace)	25	Continuous	18	\$2.08
Pellet stove (wood/corn)	100	Continuous	72	\$8.33
Portable space heater	1,500	77.75	116.62	\$13.49
Water heater, 52 gal.	4,500	75	337.5	\$39.05
Window fan	180	360	64.8	\$7.50
<b>Home Electronics</b>				
Cable/Satellite box	11	Continuous	7.9	\$0.91
Computer monitor (17" CRT)	80	60	4.8	\$0.56
Computer monitor (20" LCD)	50	60	3	\$0.35
Computer printer	180	20	3.6	\$0.42
Computer laptop	15	60	0.9	\$0.10
Computer desktop	65	60	3.9	\$0.45
Cordless telephone and answering machine	6	Continuous	4.3	\$0.50
DVD/VCR player	25	24	0.6	\$0.07
Stereo component	200	120	24	\$2.78
Television, standard CRT tube 28"	120	180	21.6	\$2.50
Television, LCD 32"	160	180	28.8	\$3.33
Television, plasma 42"	270	180	48.6	\$5.62
<b>Gaming Systems</b>				
PS3	190	30	5.7	\$0.66
Wii	18	30	0.54	\$0.06
Xbox 360	180	30	5.4	\$0.62
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Clock	2	Continuous	1.4	\$0.16
Digital picture frame	12	Continuous	8.64	\$1.00
Electric blanket	180	90	16.2	\$1.87
Hot tub/spa pump	1,000	183	183	\$21.17
Hot tub/spa heater	5,000	183	915	\$105.86
Oxygen machine	400	360	144	\$16.66
Septic pump	1,000	40	40	\$4.63
Sump pump	500	20	10	\$1.16
Swimming pool filter pump	1,400	Continuous	1,008	\$116.62
Swimming pool heater	5,800	360	2,088	\$241.56
Vacuum cleaner	740	2	1.5	\$0.17
Well Pump	1,100	14	15	\$1.74

**Important Note:** These estimates are based on average size and use of each appliance. Operating costs may vary considerably due to the type, size, frequency and duration of use, as well as differences in family living habits. While most appliances last a long time, older appliances often use far more energy than new, energy-efficient models.