

# APPLIANCES

## Don't Forget the Phantom<sup>3</sup>

Appliances and other electrical/electronic equipment can still draw a small amount of power even when they're switched off. These "phantom loads" occur in items such as televisions, stereos, computers, small kitchen appliances, hair dryers and more. Phantom loads will increase energy consumption by a few watt-hours. These loads can be avoided by unplugging the item or using a power strip and switching it off to cut all power to the appliance(s)/equipment when not in use.

<sup>3</sup>Information taken from:  
[www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your\\_home/appliances/index.cfm/mytopic](http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/appliances/index.cfm/mytopic)



## The Savings Add Up, Too

There are so many things you can do to reduce your energy consumption. By following the tips you can

find on PWC's Web site, you can reduce your energy costs today - while protecting the environment and preserving resources for generations to come.

PWC also offers an on-line energy audit through Energy Depot, a tool that can help electric customers find energy savings throughout their homes.

Visit [www.faypwc.com](http://www.faypwc.com) to learn how you can begin saving on your electric bill today.



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## They're All On the Clock How Much Energy Does Your Household Use?



From lights to heating/cooling systems, to home entertainment, electronics and appliances - they all add up on your energy

bills. Appliances typically account for about 20% of your household's energy consumption. If you're shopping for a new appliance, remember that it has two price tags - the purchase price and the cost to operate. And those operating costs will be added to your utility bill every month for the next 10 to 20 years, depending on the life of the appliance. The federal government requires most appliances to display the yellow and black EnergyGuide label, which will tell you how much energy the appliance uses and provide estimated yearly operating costs.

To save money on operating costs (and conserve resources), look for the ENERGY STAR® label. ENERGY STAR® appliances have been identified by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the most energy-efficient products in their class. They usually exceed minimum federal standards by a substantial amount.

## Typical Energy Costs for Household Items<sup>1</sup>

ITEM/SYSTEM	COST TO USE
<b>APPLIANCES</b>	
Electric Range	10-16¢/hr, per burner
Gas Range	5¢/hr, per burner
Electric Oven	14-19¢/hr
Gas Oven	6-8¢/hr
Microwave Oven	1¢ for 5 mins
Dishwasher	13-18¢/cycle
Refrigerator	
Typical 1990 model	19¢/day
Typical 2000 model	16¢/day
Energy Star-labeled 2000 model	12¢/day
Clothes Washer w/electric water heater:	
Hot wash & warm rinse	65-80¢/load
Warm wash & cold rinse	20-30¢/load
Clothes Washer w/gas water heater:	
Hot wash & warm rinse	17-21¢/load
Warm wash & cold rinse	8-10¢/load
Electric Clothes Dryer	30-45¢/load
Gas Clothes Dryer	10-16¢/load

### HEATING, COOLING & VENTILATION

Electric Furnace	80¢ - \$1.20 /hour
Natural Gas Furnace	60-80¢/hour
Pilot Light	8-11¢/day
Central Air Conditioner	
Typical new	16-23¢/hour
ENERGY STAR-labeled	13-19¢/hour
Wall/Room Air Conditioner	7-10¢/hour
Whole House Fan	2-5¢/hour
Portable Fan	1¢/hour

### WATER HEATING

Conventional Electric Water Heater	90¢-\$1.30/day
Electric Heat Pump Water Heater	40-60¢/day
Conventional Gas Water Heater	40-60¢/day
Oil Water Heater	60-75¢/day

### HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Conventional Television, 27-inch	1-2¢/hr
VCR	less than 1¢/movie
Stereo, Component System	2-4¢/hr

### LIGHTING

75W Incandescent Bulb	0.5¢/hr
25W Fluorescent Tube	0.1¢/hr
Typical Total Household Lighting Cost	25-50¢/day

### MISCELLANEOUS

Clock	0.05 ¢/hr
Aquarium	6-10¢/day (10 hrs on/day)
Hair Dryer	3-5¢ per 15 min use
Christmas Lights	8¢/hr for 100 lights

<sup>1</sup>Information (compiled from various sources) taken from:  
<http://advisor.lbl.gov/apusage.html>



## High-Tech Can Lead to Higher Energy Use<sup>2</sup>

According to figures from the EPA and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), today's consumer electronics account for 15-20% of household electricity use (up from 5% in 1980). "TVs are the biggest energy beasts of the high-tech gadget world. Alone, they account for 4% of the nation's entire annual residential electricity consumption," says the NRDC.

### Some things to consider when purchasing a new TV:<sup>2</sup>

- Size matters – larger TVs use more energy.
- Plasma TVs can consume two to three times more energy than smaller types of TVs.
- While LCD screens are generally more energy-efficient than cathode-ray tube displays in computer monitors, the same does not necessarily hold true for TV screens. According to an NRDC report, once LCD TV screens exceed the size of computer monitors (and get as large as 40 inches), they offer no consistent energy-efficient advantage.

### Charged for the Charger<sup>2</sup>

With the growing use of cell phones, hand-held computer devices, laptops, digital music players and more, today's households are also "full" of power adapters/chargers. And these devices are not energy-efficient, using only 30-60% of the power they process. They also continue to use a "trickle" of electricity, even when they're not in use. To save energy, whenever you remove an item from its charger, unplug the charger, too.

<sup>2</sup>Information taken from:

[http://news.com.com/210-1041\\_3-5965771.html?tag=st.util.print](http://news.com.com/210-1041_3-5965771.html?tag=st.util.print)