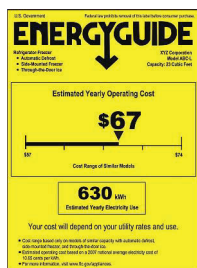


Shop Smart Buy ENERGY STAR

Every appliance has two price tags: what you pay to purchase it, and what you pay for the energy and water it uses. Appliances with the **ENERGY STAR** label meet strict energy-efficiency criteria established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Compared to standard models, **ENERGY STAR** qualified refrigerators use 20 percent less energy and **ENERGY STAR** qualified dishwashers use 10 percent less energy and 18 percent less water. Make it a practice to look for the label!

Look for the labels

ENERGY STAR
Take advantage
of rebates for
ENERGY STAR
qualified appliances.



From U.S. Department
of Energy's website

EnergyGuide
Use this label to
determine the
model's energy
use, compare
the energy
use of similar
ENERGY STAR
qualified
models, and
estimate annual
operating costs.

Love Saving Energy?

Making your home more energy efficient with **ENERGY STAR** can help to reduce high energy bills, improve comfort, and help protect the environment.

Saving energy in the kitchen starts with the refrigerator.
It is typically one of the largest energy drains of all major home appliances.

ENERGY STAR Qualified Refrigerators

- ◆ Keep your refrigerator at 35 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit
- ◆ Place your fridge in a cool place.
- ◆ Allow air circulation behind the fridge.
- ◆ Keep the condenser coils clean if you have an older model.
- ◆ Make sure the refrigerator door seals are airtight.
- ◆ Minimize the time the refrigerator door stays open.

ENERGY STAR Qualified Clothes Washer

- ◆ Wash your laundry with cold water whenever possible.
- ◆ Hot water heating accounts for about 90 percent of the energy your machine uses—only 10 percent goes to electricity used by the washer motor.
- ◆ Switching to cold water can save the average household more than \$40 annually (with an electric water heater) and more than \$30 annually (with a gas water heater).
- ◆ Washing full loads can save you more than 3,400 gallons of water each year.

ENERGY STAR Qualified Dishwasher

- ◆ Rinsing dishes can use up to 20 gallons of water. Save yourself the rinsing—just scrape food off the dishes. **ENERGY STAR** qualified dishwashers are designed to do the cleaning so you don't have to.
- ◆ If your dirty dishes sit overnight, use your dishwasher's rinse feature. It uses a fraction of the water needed to hand rinse.
- ◆ Select the no-heat drying option. It gives good drying results with less energy.

Clothes Dryer

- ◆ Don't over-dry your clothes. If your dryer has a moisture sensor that will automatically turn the machine off when the clothes are done, use it.
- ◆ To increase drying efficiency, clean the lint trap before each and every load.
- ◆ Dry loads made of similar fabrics, so the entire load dries just as the cycle ends.

Range

- ◆ Use the right sized pot on stove burners. A 6" pot on an 8" burner wastes over 40 percent of the burner's heat.
- ◆ Using the right sized pot on stove burners can save about \$36 annually for an electric range, or \$18 for gas.
- ◆ Cover pots and pans to keep heat in and keep your kitchen cooler.
- ◆ Keep gas range burners clean to ensure maximum efficiency. Blue flames mean good combustion; yellow flames mean service may be needed to ensure the gas is burning efficiently.

From U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website





How a Product Earns the ENERGY STAR Label

What is ENERGY STAR?

ENERGY STAR is the trusted, government-backed symbol for energy efficiency helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy-efficient products and practices.

The ENERGY STAR label was established to:

- ◆ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants caused by the inefficient use of energy; and
- ◆ Make it easy for consumers to identify and purchase energy-efficient products that offer savings on energy bills without sacrificing performance, features, and comfort.

How does the Environmental Protection Agency choose which products earn the label?

Products can earn the ENERGY STAR label by meeting the energy efficiency requirements set forth in ENERGY STAR product specifications. EPA establishes these specifications based on the following set of key guiding principles:

- ◆ Product categories must contribute significant energy savings nationwide.
- ◆ Qualified products must deliver the features and performance demanded by consumers, in addition to increased energy efficiency.
- ◆ If the qualified product costs more than a conventional, less-efficient counterpart, purchasers will recover their investment in increased energy efficiency through utility bill savings, within a reasonable period of time.
- ◆ Energy efficiency can be achieved through broadly available, non-proprietary technologies offered by more than one manufacturer.
- ◆ Product energy consumption and performance can be measured and verified with testing.
- ◆ Labeling will effectively differentiate products and be visible for purchasers.

How does EPA decide when to revise specifications?

Generally, a market share of ENERGY STAR qualified products in a particular category of 50 percent or higher will prompt consideration for a specification revision. However, there are other factors that weigh into the decision, such as:

- ◆ A change in the Federal minimum efficiency standards.
- ◆ Technological changes with advances in energy efficiency which allow a revised ENERGY STAR specification to capture additional savings.
- ◆ Product availability.
- ◆ Significant issues with consumers realizing expected energy savings.
- ◆ Performance or quality issues.
- ◆ Issues with Test Procedures.

From U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website

Love Saving Energy? We Do!

Conservation begins with you,
and the things that you do at
home every day!

The Florida Public Service Commission understands that conservation and the efficient use of resources must be considered as a responsible approach to protecting the environment and reducing costs. Electric and water utilities, under the PSC's jurisdiction, are encouraging their customers to use less, recognizing that our resources are finite and that building new power plants is a huge economic burden. All of us working together will ensure that future generations have a safe, clean environment and an adequate supply of energy and water.



Florida Public Service Commission

Office of
Consumer Assistance & Outreach
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

1-800-342-3552

e-mail: contact@psc.state.fl.us

web: www.FloridaPSC.com



FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

MARCH 2024