

Electrical Efficiency Table

Wednesday, 13 February 2008

Last Updated Wednesday, 13 February 2008

So you're looking at getting a generator but need to know what size to carry on your activities of normal daily living without the power interruptions we are having with the current load shedding.

To assist you in choosing the right size generator, below is a table, by no means comprehensive, but with most of the household items we use on a daily basis so that you can calculate your daily electricity consumption.

All electrical appliances will carry labels stating how many watts are required for them to run. If the wattage is not stated then you can calculate the wattage by multiplying the volts by the amps. The table below is an approximate guide to the amount of electricity used by the most-used household appliances. Generally speaking, for items like TVs, etc. you will notice quite large variations and that is because the bigger the screen, the more power it uses. The same goes for an oven, the larger the oven, the more energy it uses. The table below represents the amount of watts per hour used by a particular item. Appliance Energy used (watts per hour)

Tumble dryer	4,000 – 6,000
Oven	3,000 – 6,000
Air-conditioning unit	1,000 – 6,000
Stereo System	250 – 750
Computer	1,000 – 1,500
Electric space heater	2,000 – 4,000
Fan heater	2,000 – 3,000
Kettle	1,500 – 2,500
Hob	1,000 – 2,000
Iron	1,000 – 1,500
Toaster	1,000 – 1,500
Dishwasher	1,000 – 1,500
Hairdryer	700 – 1,500
Microwave	500 – 1,000
Washing Machine	400 – 1,500
Fridge	500 – 1,500
Freezer	500 – 1,500
Vacuum Cleaner	200 – 1,000
Television	50 – 400
Video/DVD/Satellite	50 – 400
Cooker Extractor Fan	100 – 200
Bathroom Extractor Fan	20 – 200
Regular light bulb	40 – 150
Low-energy light bulb	10 – 20
Fluorescent Light	10 – 20