



## ENERGY STAR® Qualified Clothes Washer

An average family will use between 300 and 400 gallons of water a week to wash clothes. Given that most of the energy used for clothes washing is used for water heating, reducing water use makes clothes washers more resource efficient.

ENERGY STAR qualified washers use half as much water and less energy than conventional washers. These efficient models use between 18 and 25 gallons per load compared to 30 to 40 gallons with a conventional model. Essentially, you could save 10,000 gallons of water or more each year!

Energy efficient clothes washers can save 10,000 gallons of water or more per year!



ENERGY STAR qualified washers:

- Use 40% less water and 50% less energy than conventional washers.
- Save up to 25 gallons of water per load compared to conventional machines.
- Extract more water from clothes during the spin cycle, reducing dryer time and energy use.
- Limit wear and tear on your clothes through a gentler washing cycle.



Calculate your energy savings based on your clothes washing habits at [www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com). Use the online Energy Calculator!

## Potential Savings from Upgrading to an Energy Efficient Machine

Number of loads (weekly)	Annual Water Savings (gallons)	Annual Savings
4 to 6	4,700 to 7,800	\$27 to \$45
7 to 11	8,400 to 14,000	\$50 to \$80
12 to 19	14,900 to 24,900	\$90 to \$140

*Estimated costs based on updating a top-loading clothes washer that is 10 to 15 years old to an ENERGY STAR qualified front-loading clothes washer. Estimates are also based on natural gas water heating costs.*

## Helpful Shopping Tips

Below are some tips to help you make an energy-smart decision when you're shopping for a new washing machine. Choose a washer that offers:

- Temperature controls, so you can choose cold-water settings.
- Water level controls, so you can use less water for small loads.
- A presoaking option, to help clothes get clean with a shorter wash cycle.
- A high-speed spin cycle for better water removal and reduced drying time.



### What does ENERGY STAR mean?

ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. Energy efficient choices can save families about a third on their energy bill with similar savings of greenhouse gas emissions, without sacrificing features, style or comfort.



[www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com)  
1-800-227-1376



## Front-Loading Clothes Washer

Front-loading washing machines require less water, hold larger loads and save energy in reduced water heating. These washers operate without an agitator, which is the large paddle-device in the center of the wash tub. Thus, the average load increase is 30%. A front-loading machine is also:

- **Gentle on laundry items.** Gentler wash action, with no agitator.
- **Quiet.** No clunky sounds, just the whirl of the spin cycle.
- **Tough on stains.** Front-load washers clean many stains better than conventional washers.
- **Stackable.** The dryer can be stacked on top of the washer for space savings. (Not all models have this feature.)



## Top-Loading Clothes Washer

Traditional top-loading washing machines are available in a wide assortment of efficiency levels, models, price ranges and styles. The most basic models perform very well and are generally a good value for a no-frills, clean wash. Other models offer more cycle and temperature selections, spin speeds and fabric-care extras as they increase in price. Overall, top-loading washers are generally less expensive to purchase than front-loading machines, but may be slightly more costly to run because they use more water and electricity.



## Choosing the Right Size

Typically, washer capacity ranges from approximately 2.5 cubic feet to approximately 3.8 cubic feet. For high-volume laundry households, maximizing your washer capacity is key, but smaller households should also consider the flexibility of a larger washing machine. Most washers, starting at the mid-price range for top-loaders and the majority of the front-loaders, have either a manual or automatic feature that adjusts water levels according to the load size.



## Other Resources

Vectren's online Home Energy Audit will help you pinpoint opportunities for energy savings, and its Bill Analyzer, which uses actual billing data, will help you gauge why bill amounts may vary from month to month. Use these tools at [www.vectren.com](http://www.vectren.com).

The ENERGY STAR program provides information on energy efficient products that meet ENERGY STAR standards. Learn more at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) or call 1-888-782-7937.



## Natural Gas Dryer

Today's gas dryers use less energy than older models. Because today's models automatically light without a pilot light, you can save more than half of your operating costs by replacing your old gas dryer with a new, energy efficient model.

### Gas dryers produce less static cling.

When a gas dryer turns off, the heat dissipates quickly, reducing the amount of wrinkling.

### Gas dryers sense when your clothes are dry,

which saves energy and reduces the risk of shrinkage. That's because many models measure the heat and moisture levels throughout the drying cycle.

Weighing energy efficiency against price is very important in your purchase decision. Although you may be able to buy a lower efficiency gas dryer for less, keep in mind that the more efficient your gas dryer is, the less energy it takes to dry your clothes, and the more you save.

## Energy Efficiency Tips

- Avoid overloading. Items should tumble freely. Include only a few large pieces; fill load with smaller pieces.
- Avoid overdrying; it wastes energy and causes shrinkage, static cling and wrinkling.
- Whenever possible, dry several loads one after another. It takes less energy to bring the dryer to the required temperature each time.
- Vent the dryer to the outside to carry moisture-laden air out of your home.
- Use the fast spin cycle of your washer to remove as much water as possible from laundry before putting in dryer.



VECTREN Energy Delivery

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