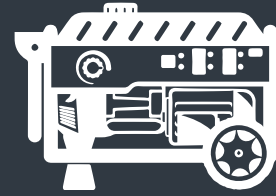




# Choosing the Right Generator for your Power Needs



The first thing you need to know when buying a generator is what you would like to power and how much wattage you will need. In general, a higher-wattage generator lets you power more items at once.

The worksheet below will help you determine your power needs.

## Total starting watts needed

— Total running watts of all the items you'd like to power +  
— the starting watts of the item with the highest starting watts

Example		
Item	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Refrigerator/Freezer	600	2200
TV (42" Plasma)	240	0
Sump Pump	800	1300
Microwave Oven	625	0
Total Running Watts	2265	
+ Highest Starting Watts	2200	
= Total Starting Watts Needed	4465	

Your Power Requirements		
Item	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Total Running Watts		
+ Highest Starting Watts		
= Total Starting Watts Needed		

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How many watts does it take to power basic household items?

It typically requires **5000-7000 watts** to power basic household items in an average-sized home.

### How many watts does it take to power outdoor activities such as a tailgate, campsite, or small power equipment?

These lower-load activities typically require 1000-5000 watts, depending on how many items and what type of items you wish to power.

### What is the difference between running watts and starting watts?

There are two power measurements for generators: running watts (or continuous power) and starting watts (or startup power, max watts, peak power). Running watts is the wattage required for operation of your appliances under normal load. Starting watts is the extra wattage some items require at startup or when they are running at the highest levels of consumption.

### Why is only one starting watt item used to calculate your total starting watt requirement?

Starting watts are only needed at startup, and only one item will start or cycle at a time. Therefore, choosing the highest starting watts of all the items you wish to power ensures you will have enough wattage to run all the items you need.

### What if I don't know the running or starting requirements of something I'd like to power?

The owner's manual or data plate of any tool or appliance should have the running and starting wattage required for use. If only volts and amps are listed, you can calculate wattage by multiplying **VOLTS X AMPS = WATTAGE**.

# Wattage Guide

The wattage guide below provides estimated wattages for common tools and appliances.



## Recreational Use

<b>Tailgating/Camping:</b>	<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>		<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>
Electric Griddle	1200	0	RV AC (13,500 BTU)	1600	2300
Box Fan 20"	200	0	Laptop	200	0
String Lights (50 string, small)	20	0			
Inflator Pump	50	150			
TV (42" Plasma)	240	0			
Cell Phone Charger	10	0			



## Storm/Emergency Use

<b>Essentials:</b>	<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>	<b>Kitchen:</b>	<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>
Lamp (60 watt bulb)	60	0	Microwave Oven 625 Watts	625	0
Refrigerator/Freezer	600	2200	Microwave Oven 1000 Watts	1000	0
Sump Pump 1/3HP	800	1300	Coffee Machine	1000	0
Sump Pump 1/2HP	1050	2200	Electric Oven	3410	0
Water Well Pump 1/3HP	1000	2100	Dishwasher (Hot/Dry)	1500	1500
Electric Water Heater	4000	0	Blender	350	500
<b>Heating/Cooling:</b>			Toaster	850	0
Space Heater	1800	0	Electric Can Opener	168	0
Humidifier 13 Gal	175	0	<b>Family Room:</b>		
Furnace Fan Blower 1/2HP	800	2350	Videogame Console	140	0
Furnace Fan Blower 1/3 HP	700	1400	DVD Player	350	0
Window AC 10,000 BTU	1200	3600	TV (42" Plasma)	240	0
Window AC 12,000 BTU	3250	3950	TV (32" LED/LCD)	50	0
Central AC 10,000 BTU	1500	3000	<b>Other:</b>		
Central AC 24,000 BTU	3800	4950	Security System	500	0
Central AC 40,000 BTU	6000	6700	Garage Opener 1/2HP	875	2350
Heat Pump	4700	4500	Curling Iron	1500	0
<b>Laundry Room:</b>			Hair Dryer	1250	0
Iron	1200	0	Computer (Desktop)	800	0
Washing Machine	1120	2250	Electric Clock	3	0
Clothes Dryer (Electric)	5400	1350	Laser Printer	500	1200
Clothes Dryer (Gas)	700	1800			



## Jobsite

<b>Construction:</b>	<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>	<b>Lawn Care:</b>	<b>Estimated Running Watts</b>	<b>Additional Starting Watts</b>
Quartz Halogen Work Light (300)	300	0	Electric Lawn Mower	1400	4320
Circular Saw	1200	2400	Electric Pressure Washer	1200	3600
Disc Sander (9")	1200	1200	Electric Chainsaw	1200	2400
Paint Sprayer	360	1080	Electric String Trimmer	600	1500
Electric Drill (1/4")	300	300	Electric Weed Trimmer	500	500
Cordless Hand Drill Charger	70	150			