

Clothes washers and clothes dryers sold or supplied in Australia must display the Energy Rating Label. These labels are similar to those on other products such as TVs and domestic fridges.

Energy consumption

Some washers will have **two** energy consumption figures, instead of one.

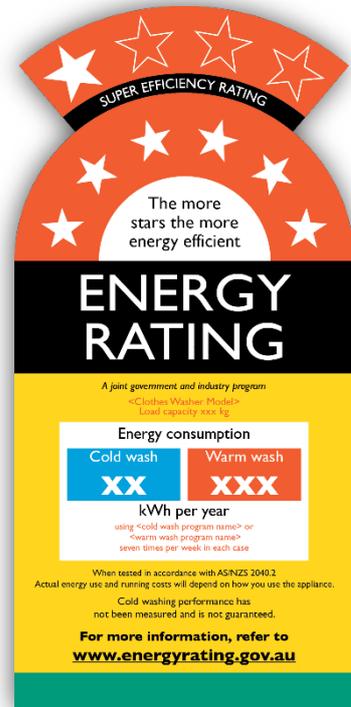
This is because manufacturers can voluntarily display the cold wash energy consumption next to the mandatory warm wash figure.

Star Rating

Most washers and dryers have between 1 and 6 stars on the label.

However, significant advances in energy efficiency in dryers – especially with heat-pump technology – has meant some dryers now have an extra row on the label to display more stars. These dryers – with 7 to 10 stars – are classed as *super-efficient*.

It is important to note the washing machine star rating relates only to the warm-wash energy consumption – not to cold wash figures.



Washers, dryers and energy efficiency – what you need to know

The more stars on the label, the more efficient

More efficient means it will cost less to run.

Even one star difference can cost – or save – hundreds of dollars. For example, choosing a 1.5 star, 7-7.5 kg top-loader washing machine instead of a 2 star equivalent can cost your customer an extra \$220 over the next 10 years if they use the warm-wash cycle. Even half a star makes a difference.

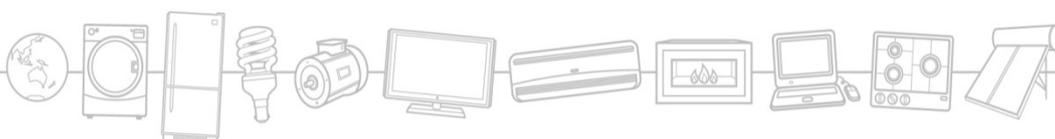
Choose a model with load sensing technology

Unfortunately, some washing machines and dryers don't automatically adjust their program to suit the size of the load. This means if your customer does small loads, the machine may consume more energy – and water in the case of washers – than needed. Using more energy means bigger bills.

Wash in cold water

Most of the energy used by a washing machine is to heat the water. As such, washing exclusively in cold water is the best way to experience the most savings – no matter which machine is chosen.

On machines displaying the voluntary cold wash consumption figure, you'll quickly notice how much *less* energy they use on a cold wash compared to warm. In fact, a typical top-loader uses over 80% *less* energy on a cold wash compared to the warm wash cycle. That works out about \$126 a year – or \$1260 over the life of the product!



Quick facts

\$56

This is how much can be saved each year by replacing an old washer with a new one. The average 15 year-old washer used exclusively on warm washes uses almost 200 kWh more energy each year than a modern one. This works out to about \$56 per year.

\$140

The average top loader costs \$140 more per year to wash exclusively in warm water compared to cold.

That's an extra \$1400 on your energy bills over the life of the product (ten years) – money you'd probably rather spend on something else.

\$83

The average top loader costs \$83 more to run each year on the warm cycle than the average front loader.

However, top loaders are generally a little more energy efficient if you exclusively wash in cold water.

\$60

The average 2 star top loader used for warm washes costs \$60 more to run each year than the average 3 star model.

To work out the most cost-effective model for your circumstances, use the Energy Rating Calculator or download the free app from iTunes or Google Play.

Visit our website for more information

Calculating the total cost of ownership

Purchase price is only part of the picture.

By estimating the running costs – and the total cost of ownership – of similar-sized washers or dryers, your customers can make an informed purchase decision.



Running costs for washers and dryers will vary for each customer, based on which models they are considering, their local energy tariffs – and importantly how often they use it.

Use the online Energy Rating Calculator or download the free app to help you customer estimate running costs – and the total cost of ownership – of the models they are considering.

The calculator provides estimates based on:

- the specific models they are considering
- their region's average energy tariff; and
- how often they plan to use it.

The calculator also provides an estimate for the total cost of ownership.

This is ten years' worth of running costs, plus the initial purchase price. Sometimes spending a bit more upfront for a unit with a higher star rating can be cost-effective in the long run.

Want more information?

For more information about energy efficiency or to use the online calculator, visit our website – or download the free Energy Rating Calculator app from iTunes or Google Play.

www.energyrating.gov.au

