



WATTAGE WORKSHEET

When selecting a generator, there are several important features to consider:

This worksheet will focus on determining your running and starting watt needs.

The size of generator you need depends on your power requirements. Generally, a higher-wattage generator lets you power more items at once.

1

Select the items you wish to power at the same time. Using the chart on the opposite page, fill in the running watts and additional starting watt requirements on the "Your Power Needs" worksheet

2

Add the RUNNING WATTS of the items you wish to power. Enter this number in the TOTAL RUNNING WATTS column.

3

Select the ONE INDIVIDUAL ITEM with the highest number of additional starting watts. Take this ONE NUMBER, add it to your TOTAL RUNNING WATTS, and enter it in the TOTAL STARTING WATTS box.

EXAMPLE

TOOL OR APPLIANCE	RUNNING (RATED) WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS
1. Refrigerator/Freezer	550	1350
2. 1/2 HP Furnace Fan	800	2350
3. Deep Freezer	500	500
4. Television	75	-
5. Lights (6 x 75 watts)	450	-
6.		
7.		

HIGHEST
ADDITIONAL
STARTING
WATTS

TOTAL RUNNING WATTS = 2375

2350

+

2375

TOTAL RUNNING WATTS

=

4725

TOTAL STARTING WATTS

With this example you need a generator that produces at least 2375 total running watts and 4725 total starting watts.

YOUR POWER NEEDS

TOOL OR APPLIANCE	RUNNING (RATED) WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

TOTAL RUNNING WATTS =

HIGHEST
ADDITIONAL
STARTING WATTS
+
TOTAL
RUNNING WATTS
=
TOTAL STARTING WATTS

I need a generator that produces at least _____ total running watts and _____ total starting watts.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many watts does it take to power basic items in an average size house?

In a typical home, essential items will average 5000 - 7000 watts of power to run.

What is the difference between running watts and starting watts?

Running, or rated watts, are the continuous watts needed to keep items running. Starting watts are extra watts needed for two to three seconds to start motor-driven products like a refrigerator or circular saw, this is the maximum wattage the generator can produce.

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

Unlike running watts, starting watts are only needed during the first few seconds of operation. In most cases, only one item will start or cycle at the same time, therefore this is the most accurate estimate.

What if I can't determine the running or the starting watt requirement for a tool or appliance?

If the running watts are not on the tool or appliance, you may estimate using the following equation: **WATTS = VOLTS x AMPS.**

Only motor-driven items will require additional starting watts. The additional starting watts required may be estimated at 1 - 2x the running/rated watts.



WATTAGE WORKSHEET

WATTAGE REFERENCE GUIDE

TOOL OR APPLIANCE	RUNNING (RATED) WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS	TOOL OR APPLIANCE	RUNNING (RATED) WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS
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HOME

Essentials:

Light Bulb - 60 Watt	60	0
Light Bulb - 75 Watt	75	0
Refrigerator/Freezer	550	1350
Sump Pump - 1/3 HP	1140	2850
Sump Pump - 1/2 HP	1200	3000
Water Well Pump - 1/3 HP	575	1440
Electric Water Heater	3800	0

Heating/Cooling:

Space Heater	1500	0
Humidifier - 13 Gal	175	0
Furnace Fan Blower - 1/3 HP	700	1400
Furnace Fan Blower - 1/2 HP	800	2350
Window AC - 10,000 BTU	1000	2100
Window AC - 12,000 BTU	3250	3950
Central AC - 10,000 BTU	1500	3000
Central AC - 24,000 BTU	3800	4950
Central AC - 40,000 BTU	6000	6700
Heat Pump	4700	4500

Laundry Room:

Iron	1200	0
Washing Machine	950	2400

Clothes Dryer - Electric	3600	9000
Clothes Dryer - Gas	1800	4500

Kitchen:

Microwave Oven - 625 Watts	625	0
Microwave Oven - 1000 Watts	1000	0
Coffee Maker	1300	0
Electric Stove - 8" Element	2100	0
Dishwasher - Hot Dry	1200	3000
Food Processor	500	0
Toaster Oven	1500	0
Toaster	850	0
Electric Can Opener	70	0

Family Room:

DVD Player	20	0
Stereo Receiver	450	0
LCD TV - 32"	75	0
X-Box, Game Cube, Playstation	40	0

Other:

Security System	500	0
1/2 HP Garage Door Opener	550	1375
Curling Iron	1500	0
Hair Dryer - 1250 Watt	1250	0

WORK

DIY/Jobsite:

Quartz Halogen Work Light, 300	300	0
Quartz Halogen Work Light, 500	500	0
Quartz Halogen Work Light, 1,000	1000	0
Airless Sprayer - 1/3 HP	600	1200
Reciprocating Saw	1080	2700
Electric Drill - 3/8", 4 Amps	480	1200
Electric Drill - 1/2", 5.4 Amps	1100	1250
Hammer Drill	1600	1400
Circular Saw - 7-1/4"	2100	5250
Miter Saw - 10"	1800	4500

Planer/Joiner - 6"	1800	4500
Table Saw/Radial Arm Saw - 10"	1800	4500
Belt Sander	950	2400
Air Compressor - 1/3 HP	300	780
Air Compressor - 1 HP	1400	3600

Office Equipment:

Desktop Computer w/ 18" LCD Monitor	300	0
Fax Machine	150	0
Laser Printer	400	0
Inkjet Printer	10	0
Copy Machine	1300	0

PLAY

Tailgating/Camping

Electric Griddle	1500	0
AM/FM Radio	10	0
CD/DVD Player	100	0
Box Fan - 20"	100	0

Color TV - 13"	50	0
Outdoor Light String	250	0
Cell Phone Battery Charger	25	0
Inflator Pump	175	0
Crock Pot	240	0

The above are estimates only. Check your tool or appliance for exact wattage requirements. The wattages listed in our reference guide are based on estimated wattage requirements. For exact wattages, check the data plate or owner's manual on the item you wish to power.