

- Twice a year, disconnect the exhaust hose and clear the lint.
- Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load to improve air circulation. Regularly clean the lint from the vent hoods.
- Dry only full loads, as small loads are less economical; but do not overload the dryer.
- When drying, separate your clothes and dry similar types of clothes together. Lightweight synthetics, for example, dry much more quickly than bath towels and natural fiber clothes.
- Dry two or more loads in a row, taking advantage of the dryer's retained heat.
- Use the cool-down cycle (perma-press cycle) to allow the clothes to finish drying with the residual heat in the dryer.
- Try drying your clothes without setting the timer. Use the dryer's sensors to automatically turn itself off.



Here's more info from the internet

Energy Star website:
www.energystar.gov

Energy savers, Department of Energy, purchasing energy-efficient appliances:
www.eere.energy.gov

Rocky Mountain Institute, Home Energy Brief :
www.rmi.org

Energy solution publications:
www.energyideas.org/Pubs.aspx

Buyers guide to the best appliances:
www.appliance.com

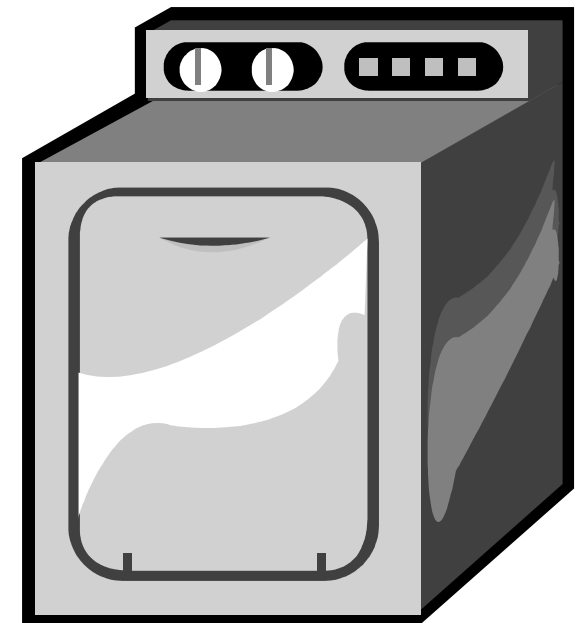
Appliance ratings and repair history for a small fee and other free consumer advice:
www.consumerreports.org

Top rated energy efficient appliances:
www.aceee.org/consumerguide

Most major brands have websites. Try any of the popular search engines.



Shopper's Guide to Clothes Dryers



The clothes dryer is typically the second biggest electricity-using appliance in your home, following the refrigerator.

Dryers have an average life of 13 years and looking for and using the energy efficient features found on newer models will save you money in the long run.

A dryer is a dryer... or is it?

Compared with other large appliances, dryers vary less and energy savings is mainly associated with how well your washer eliminates moisture and by reducing drying time at the end of the cycle.

Some newer dryers remove moisture more efficiently, using sensors and automatic shut-off controls to avoid overdrying while reducing wear and tear on your clothes.

EnergyGuide labels are not required for dryers as energy consumption does not vary significantly among comparable models.

The required minimum energy factor for a standard capacity electric dryer is 3.01. This is a measure of pounds of clothing dried per kilowatt-hour. Microwave dryer units are



being developed and may reduce energy costs by 15%, though clothes with metal zippers and buttons, etc. will still require a standard dryer.

Regardless of the types of fabric settings, dryers have only two or three heat settings. Look for sensors that automatically turn the dryer off as soon as the clothes are dry.

Temperature or thermostat sensors indirectly estimate dryness using the temperature of the exhaust air and will achieve about a 10% energy savings. **Moisture sensors** in the drum directly measure dryness and will offer about a 15% reduction in energy use.

Other things to think about before you shop

When you look at dryers, look for durable materials, sound dampening, ease of use, and a capacity match between your washer and dryer. Some washer and dryer pairs have been engineered so that the wash cycle and typical drying time are similar, which can be a consideration for those doing lots of laundry.

What capacity will you need during the life of your dryer? Partial loading is not an efficient way to use a dryer, so bigger is not necessarily better... unless it's what you need. One large load takes less energy than two small loads. However, overloading the dryer will cause uneven drying and wrinkles.

How much space do you have? Think about clearance for venting and the door.

Write your measurements here: _____
_____**. For small spaces, stacking

models and models that both wash and dry in the same machine are available. ****Take a tape measure shopping with you!**

What features do you really need? For instance, some dryers have temperature boosters. How important is it to kill "99.9%" of the types of bacteria that may be present in laundry? If it is – check out those models with sanitizing features. Look for the best combination of performance, efficiency, convenience and price that you can afford.

Tips for lowering clothes dryer energy use

You, more than the machine, are in control of the energy efficiency you gain through the choices you make as you operate your dryer.

- Locate the dryer in a heated space. Putting it in a cold or damp basement will make the dryer work harder and less efficiently.
- Make sure your dryer is vented properly. If you vent the exhaust outside, use the straightest and shortest metal duct available. Do not use flexible vinyl duct because it restricts the air flow, traps lint and increases operating time. It can be crushed, and may not withstand high temperatures from the dryer. Tape all seams from dryer to exhaust.
- Check the outside dryer exhaust vent periodically. If it doesn't close tightly, replace it with one that does to keep the outside air from leaking in. This will reduce heating and cooling costs.