

# Energy efficient washing machines

## Energy star rating labels

The washing machines from various manufacturers have different energy consumptions for similar washing loads. So, look for the red and yellow energy rating label.

These labels carry an energy consumption figure and a star rating from one to six stars and tell you how much energy they use annually in kilowatt-hours according to Australian test standards.

The energy rating label on the clothes washer shows an average energy consumption figure in a red box. This indicates how much electricity the clothes washer will use over 12 months. It is based on the assumption that the clothes washer will be used, fully loaded, 150 times a year.

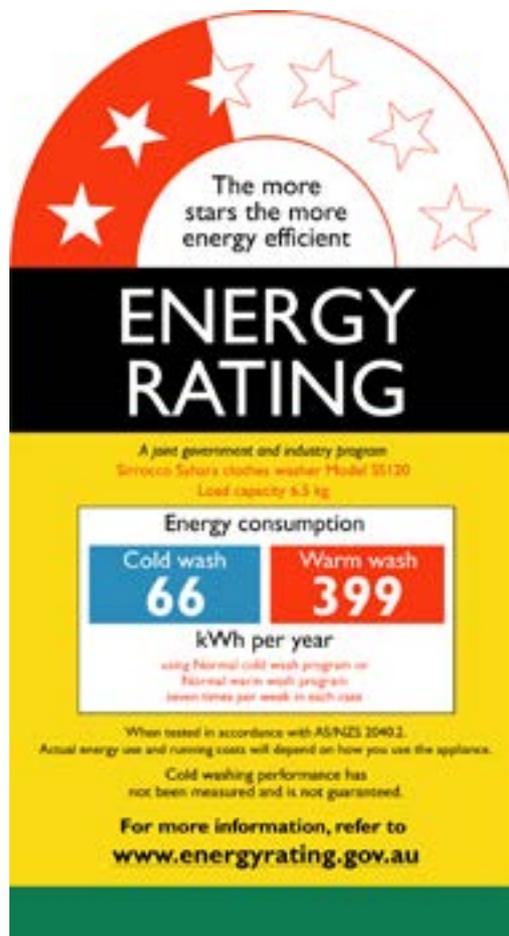
To calculate the energy cost simply multiply the energy consumption figure (kWh) by the current domestic electricity tariff.

## Handy hints

- A front loading machine is more efficient than a top loading washer, as they use about 50 percent less water. They also offer more features including a choice of water levels for large and small loads, variable wash and rinse temperatures, variable washing and spinning speeds and even automatic dispensing of bleach and fabric softeners.
- Washing your clothes in cold water will save considerably on water heating costs. Cold water can be used for the complete cycle with detergents specially recommended for this purpose.
- Wash full loads rather than lots of smaller loads. Better results will be achieved if you group clothes by colour and fabric and by how dirty they are. Wash a group of lightly soiled items on a shorter cycle rather than adding something more soiled and using a heavier cycle.
- Use the economy cycle as often as possible and the clothesline to dry your laundry.

## Virtual Energy Audit

Our [Virtual Energy Audit](#) is an easy way to see how much you can cut down your usage and pay less. Customise your virtual home to see how much electricity you are using in each room of your house, then look at your usage summary to see approximately how much electricity your household uses.



**Be sure to choose a washing machine size that suits your family needs. Buying a washing machine larger than you need because it has more stars on the rating label will not save energy.**

