



The Energy-Use Worksheet

You can use this simple chart to calculate how much energy you plan on using. You'll need a packet calculator to complete the worksheet. Estimate your daily usage of each appliance, and multiply watts by hours to fill the Watt - Hours column on the right.

The watts shown for each appliance indicate typical power consumption. If you want to be more precise, look at the electrical specifications labels on your appliances to see how much power they use.

To calculate your light usage, check the wattage of your light bulbs and estimate roughly how many lights you have on and for how long each day.

Example: 3 bulbs x 100 watts each x 4 hours = 1200 watt-hours = 1.2 kWh

We've left some blank lines for appliances you may have that are not listed here.

Once you have your total watt-hours, divide that number by 1000. That gives you your total kilowatt hours (kWh), which is how power usage is measured.

To choose your solar power system, you can review your current energy usage and compare it with the kWh supplied by each of our solar systems. But remember – once you become a solar energy user, you will probably consume less power than you do now.

Another method is to review your current electric bill. The electric bill will tell you how many kWh you use each month. Bear in mind that in the summer months the PV array will produce more energy and less energy in the winter. You will want to review the bills in the summer and winter months. Contact your local utility company if you do not understand your electric bill or do not have them.

It is not cost effective to use large electric space heaters, electric stoves/ovens, and water heaters for homes without utility power. These appliances are best operated on propane or natural gas.

Appliance	Watts	Hours per day	Watt hours
Dishwasher	1200	X _____	= _____
Refrigerator	120	X _____	= _____
Blender	400	X _____	= _____
Coffee maker	625	X _____	= _____
Crock pot	200	X _____	= _____
Food processor	450	X _____	= _____
Garbage disposal	390	X _____	= _____
Mixer	150	X _____	= _____
Toaster	1050	X _____	= _____
Microwave	1200	X _____	= _____
Vacuum cleaner	1100	X _____	= _____
Iron	1200	X _____	= _____
Hair Dryer	1200	X _____	= _____
Ceiling fan	80	X _____	= _____
Fan-box	160	X _____	= _____
Computer	200	X _____	= _____
Printer (dot)	180	X _____	= _____
Printer (laser)	576	X _____	= _____
Fax machine	140	X _____	= _____
TV	100	X _____	= _____
Satellite dish	60	X _____	= _____
CD/tape player	120	X _____	= _____
VCR	30	X _____	= _____
Lights [Total bulbs]	_____	X _____	= _____
_____		X _____	= _____
_____		X _____	= _____
_____		X _____	= _____
_____		X _____	= _____