

How much electricity use can you get for \$1?



EnergyAustralia
LIGHT THE WAY

Ever wondered how your electricity use relates to how much you pay? We've done some research using common household examples to show what \$1 of electricity* can get you.



See over for how we got to these figures.

We're here for you



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*These examples assume a usage charge of 28c/kWh (incl. GST), which is based on a simple average of EnergyAustralia's peak anytime (flat rate) residential usage tariffs for Total Plan in the areas we supply electricity (VIC, NSW, SA, QLD and ACT). Excludes discounts and supply to property charges. Rate is current as of Sept 2021. Our figures are based on typical new appliances with energy consumption values sourced from energyrating.gov.au/calculator unless otherwise stated. Figures are indicative only and have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Actual running costs of your appliances may vary due to factors including age, size and model of the appliance, how it is used, where you live and the tariff(s) you pay for electricity usage. Customers with time-of-use or demand tariffs may be able to take advantage of cheaper rates by using appliances in off-peak periods.

Calculations



Kettle

Boiling 1.5L of water from temperature of 20°C to 100°C with a 2.2kW electric kettle would require 0.14 kWh or 3.9 cents per boil cycle (www.canstarblue.com.au/electricity/boiling-kettle-costs-think). This equates to 25 boil cycles or about 150 cups of tea (assuming 250ml of water per cup of tea).



Fridge

A 500L fridge (350L fresh food, 150L freezer compartment) with a 3 star energy rating would use 464 kWh per year. This equates to 36 cents a day or 67 hours of fridge use.



Dishwasher

A dishwasher with a 14 place setting capacity and a 3 star energy rating would require about 0.9 kWh per cycle, equates to \$0.252 per cycle or around 4 dishwasher cycles.



TV

A typical 50 inch screen TV with a 3 star energy rating would require 147 Watts to run per hour or about 4.1 cents per hour. This equates to 24 hours of tv time.



Laptop

A typical laptop would require about 15 to 60 watts to run (michaelbluejay.com/electricity/computers.html). We've assumed 40 watts (mid-point value of the range) in our calculation, this equates to 89 hours of laptop usage.



Desktop

A typical desktop PC would require about 95 to 280 watts to run, this includes an assumption of 30 watts for an external monitor (a 3 star rating 23") (michaelbluejay.com/electricity/computers.html). We've assumed 190 watts (mid-point value of the range) in our calculation, this equates to 18 hours of desktop PC usage.



Smart phone

To fully charge a typical smart phone with battery capacity of 3000mAh from 0% - 100% would require 11.4 Wh or 0.3 cents (canstarblue.com.au/electricity/surprising-cost-charging-phone). This equates to 313 charging cycles or 10 months of phone charging (assuming 1 charge per day).



Incandescent lighting

An old-style incandescent light globe that produces 800 lumens would require 60 Watts per hour (energyrating.gov.au/document/factsheet-light-bulb-buyers-guide). This equates to 59 hours of light time.



LED lighting

The equivalent LED light to produce similar lumens would require 8-12 Watts an hour (energyrating.gov.au/document/factsheet-light-bulb-buyers-guide). Using the upper value of the range, this equates to 297 hours of light time.



Fan

A ceiling fan with a standard 48-52 inch blade and DC motor running on medium speed of 130-164RPM would require 15.4 Wh per hour to run or 0.43 cents per hour (canstarblue.com.au/electricity/running-cost-ceiling-fans). This equates to 231 hours of fan usage.



Split heating and cooling system

A typical 3 star energy rating split system with 4.2kW cooling capacity and 5.1kW heating capacity would cost \$0.3 an hour for cooling and \$0.375 an hour for heating. This equates to just over 3 hours of cooling or just under 3 hours of heating. Calculation assumes 4.2kW split system is enough to cool or heat a medium sized room of 20-40 square metres (appliancesonline.com.au/article/heating-and-cooling/air-conditioners/what-size-air-conditioner-do-you-need)



Washing machine

A 5kg capacity washing machine with a 3 star energy rating would require about 0.91 kWh per warm wash cycle, equating to \$0.255 per warm wash cycle or around 4 warm wash cycles.



Clothes dryer

A 4kg capacity clothes dryer with a 3 star energy rating would consume about 2.94 kWh per cycle, equating to \$0.822 per cycle or just over 1 dry cycle.