

Dishwashers

Washing dishes in an automatic dishwashing machine is a relatively small use of water in the average home; accounting for 1% and 2% of the overall water consumption inside the typical household of four persons. The average American family washes approximately 110 loads of dishes each year.



An older model dishwasher will use approximately 10 to 15 gallons (37.8 L to 56.7 L) of water per load. A family of four using a standard dishwasher will generate about 150 loads per year, consuming 1,800 gallons (6,800 liters) of water annually.

New, ENERGY STAR® dishwasher will use less than 5.5 gallons (20.8 L) of water per load. Replacing an old and inefficient dishwasher can reduce this water use by nearly 1,000 gallons per year (3,790 L), and save energy through the efficient operation of the machine and by using less hot water.

Energy Savings from Dishwashers

Was your dishwasher made before 1994? If so, you're paying an extra \$40 a year on your utility bills compared to owning a new ENERGY STAR qualified model.

Dishwashers use energy for heating water and for circulating the water through the machine. If the amount of water used by the machine can be reduced, the energy consumption will also be reduced. New high efficiency dishwashers' effective washing action, energy efficient motors and other advanced technology such as sensors that determine the length of the wash cycle and the temperature of the water necessary to clean the dishes.

Dishwasher Water Saving Tips

1. Run full loads of dishes only.
2. Install a new ENERGY STAR high-efficiency model to save water and energy.
3. Don't rinse the dishes. Pre-rinsing is not required with many new dishwashers. Read the instruction manual for your machine to determine if you can minimize rinse water usage.