

Generator Reference Guide

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between an inverter generator and a conventional generator?

Inverter Generator:

- Best suited for sensitive electronics
- Generally quieter than conventional generators
- More fuel efficient than conventional generators

Conventional Generator:

- More power for high amp draw applications
- Ideal for large appliances or power tools
- Storm backup/job site applications

What is the difference between running watts and starting watts?

Running, or rated watts are the continuous watts needed to keep items running. Starting, or surge watts are the additional watts needed for 2-3 seconds to start motor-driven products like a refrigerator or circular saw. This is the maximum wattage a generator can produce for a short period of time. Only motor-driven items require starting watts. The starting watts required are estimated at 1-4x the running watts.

What if I can't determine the running or the starting watt requirement for a tool or appliance?

If the running watts are not on the tool or appliance, you may estimate using the following equation: WATTS = VOLTS x AMPS

What is a Transfer Switch?

Instead of running extension cords from your generator to your lights and appliances, a transfer switch enables you to power all or select circuits in your home. **Transfer Switches must be installed by a certified electrician.**

Carbon Monoxide Safety & Generator Operation

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and extremely dangerous gas that can cause unconsciousness or death. Follow these instructions for safe generator operation.

- Read Operator's Manual First
- Stay Alert with Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Know the Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Headaches, Dizziness, Nausea, Shortness of Breath, and Fatigue
- Keep Generator At Least 20 ft. Away from Doors and Windows Your Specific Home and/or Wind Conditions May Require Additional Distance
- Point Exhaust Away From Any Occupied Spaces
- If You Feel Symptoms, Leave Right Away and Seek Fresh Air





Ready How to Choose a Generator

How to Determine Your Power Needs

RUNNING ADDITIONAL Using the wattage estimates below, fill in the TOOL OR APPLIANCE WATTS STARTING WATTS running and starting watt requirements of the 1. items you wish to power at the same time. 2. 3. Add all **Running Watts** for the items you 2 wish to use. Enter this number in the Total 4. Running Watts box. 5. 6. Enter single highest starting watts out of 3 the items you wish to use into the Highest 2 Total Running Watts Starting Watts box. HIGHEST + Sum the Total Running Watts and Highest I need a generator that produces STARTING WATTS 4, Starting Watts to calculate Total Starting at least _ total running watts Watts Needed. TOTAL STARTING total starting watts. and _ Λ =

	TOOL OR APPLIANCE	ESTIMATED RUNNING WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS	TOOL OR APPLIANCE	ESTIMATED RUNNING WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS
Recreatio	onal Use					
	Electric Grill	1650	0	Inflator Pump	50	150
	Radio*	100	0	20" Flat Screen TV*	120	120
	20" Box Fan	200	0	Blender	400	850
	Outdoor Light String	250	0	Tablet*	25	0
	Smart Phone Charger*	25	0	11,000 BTU RV AC	1010	1600

Storm / Emergency Use

Essentials:		
Light Bulb	60	0
LED light bulb	10	0
Refrigerator/ Freezer	700	2200
1/3 HP Sump Pump	1000	2200
Electric Water Heater	4000	2200
Heating/Cooling:		
Space Heater	1300	0
1/2 HP Furnace Fan Blower	800	2350
1/3 HP Furnace Fan Blower	700	1400
10,000 BTU Window AC	1200	1800
10,000 BTU Central AC	1500	3000
24,000 BTU Central AC	3800	4950
Heat Pump	4700	4500

1150	2250
5400	1350
700	1800
1000	0
1000	0
2100	0
1500	1500
850	0
150	0
875	0
100	0
	1150 5400 700 1000 2100 1500 850 1500 850 150 875 100

WATTS NEEDED

Jobsite

	Quartz Halogen Work Light	1000	0	10" Miter Saw	1800	1800
	Reciprocating Saw	960	960	10" Table Saw	2000	2000
	1/2" 5.4 Amp Electric Drill	600	900	Belt Sander	1200	2400
	Hammer Drill	1000	3000	1 HP Air Compressor	1600	4500
	7 1/4" Circular Saw	1400	2300	18V Battery Charger*	85	0

*Recommended for use with inverter generators

The above are estimates only. Check your tool or appliance for exact wattage requirements. The wattages listed in our reference guide are based on estimated wattage requirements. For exact wattages, check the data plate or owner's manual on the item you wish to power.