

# Aging Appliances

Though the mantra “**reduce, reuse, recycle**” is a foundation of the sustainability movement, in some cases, reusing isn’t best. Replacing old appliances with new, efficient models is the surest way to **cut long-term energy costs**.

When it’s time to replace your household appliances, look for those that operate efficiently and reduce your energy consumption and costs. ENERGY STAR®, an Environmental Protection Agency program, makes shopping a cinch.

Appliances with the ENERGY STAR® label have been vetted and use less energy and natural resources and help you save money.

Here are some of the savings you can anticipate when buying appliances that carry the ENERGY STAR® label.

## Clothes washers and dryers

Washers with the ENERGY STAR® label use 25% less energy and 33% less water than regular models and can save you \$370 in energy costs over the lifetime of the product. Both front-load and top-load models are available, and they come from familiar brands like GE, LG, Samsung, and Whirlpool. Dryers with the ENERGY STAR® label use about 20 percent less energy than conventional ones and can save \$215 in energy costs over their lifetime. Find ENERGY STAR® laundry best practices at [bit.ly/ES-laundry](http://bit.ly/ES-laundry).

## Dishwashers

Soil sensors, more efficient jets, better water filtration, and redesigned dish racks all improve performance and create greater efficiency. Such dishwashers cost approximately \$35 per year to run and save 3,870 gallons of water across their lifetime.

## Refrigerators

Since refrigerators that have earned the ENERGY STAR® label are 9% more efficient than non-certified models, you could see savings of more than \$200 over a new fridge’s 12-year lifespan.

You also don’t have to sacrifice features to get efficiency, and such models are available in familiar brands, including GE, LG, Samsung, and Viking.

Calculate your potential savings through ENERGY STAR® at [bit.ly/ES-fridge](http://bit.ly/ES-fridge).

**Tip:** Many utility providers offer financial incentives to replace old fridges with energy efficient models.

## Operate appliances efficiently by:

- Running full loads of laundry or dishes.
- Turning off the drying feature on your dishwasher.
- Washing clothes in cold water and hanging clothes out to dry in the sun.
- Keeping the refrigerator away from direct sunlight, and setting the temperature between 36°F and 38°F.
- Setting the freezer temperature between 0°F and 5°F.



REALTORS® who have earned NAR’s Green Designation can refer you to local experts who can assess your home’s performance. Learn more at [www.green.realtor](http://www.green.realtor).

