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New online tool tells you true cost of appliances

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Hundreds of pounds could be added to your electricity bills by running inefficient household appliances.

If you're planning on buying a new appliance, it's not just the upfront price you should consider.

You should take into account the running costs too as differences can be significant.

In some cases a more expensive model - which is more energy efficient - works out cheaper to own in the long run than a less expensive energy guzzler.

This is why Which? has created an online tool that reveals the running costs of all TVs, fridges, washing machines, tumble dryers and dishwashers that Which? has tested.



Using the Which? calculators

The new energy cost calculators show you at a glance how much different models cost to run.

The calculators show you the cost over a year and over the lifetime of the product based on current energy costs. They also allow you to compare different models or search for a specific model you have your eye on.

Which? executive director, Richard Lloyd, said: 'People tell us they're really worried about paying their energy bills and are looking for ways to cut them down.

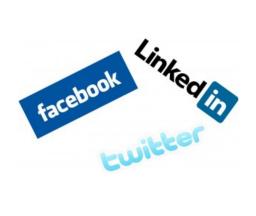
And with tight household budgets, many of us choose cheaper household appliances without knowing the long-term impact on our wallets.

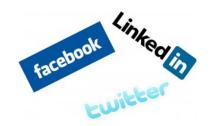
Which? is constantly looking for ways to help people cut their bills, and we think our energy costs calculator will help people to make informed decisions and save money on their electricity bills.

Fridges compared

The annual running costs of tall freestanding fridge freezers tested by Which? vary from between £14 and £53 a year.

So, a fridge freezer priced at £250 but costing £53 each year to run will end up costing £200 more over its lifetime than a £300 fridge freezer with a running cost of £18 per year.







Dishwashers compared

Similarly, the £330 Bosch SMS40A02GB full-sized freestanding dishwasher costs £35 a year to run whereas the £250 Zanussi-Electrolux ZDF231S is nearly double that amount at £68 a year.

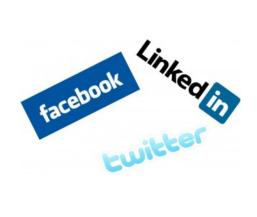
So you'd recoup the difference in price in under three years.



More on this...

- Start using the energy costs calculators
- Check which fridges are Best-Buys
- Cut your energy bills by joining The Big Switch







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