

Wattage Worksheet

The more watts your portable generator produces, the more items you can power at the same time. The wattage reference chart below contains examples of what you can power with a portable generator. Use the chart and the following steps to help you determine how powerful your portable generator should be.

HOW MUCH POWER DO YOU NEED?

Sizing a portable generator is easy. Check out this sample:

1 CHOOSE WHICH DEVICES YOU WANT TO POWER AT THE SAME TIME.

2 RECORD AND ADD THE RUNNING WATTS LISTED FOR EACH DEVICE THAT YOU NEED TO POWER.

3 RECORD THE STARTING WATTS LISTED FOR EACH DEVICE.

4 SELECT THE ONE DEVICE WITH THE HIGHEST STARTING WATTS. ADD THAT NUMBER TO THE TOTAL RUNNING WATTS TO DETERMINE THE TOTAL WATTAGE REQUIREMENT.

Example

DEVICE	RUNNING WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS	GENERATOR SIZE
Refrigerator	700	2200	Minimum starting watts for your needs ↓ 6350 Starting watts
Sump Pump	1050	2150	
Belt Sander	1200	2400	
Air Compressor - ½ HP	1000	2000	
Total	3950 +	2400 =	

With this example you need a generator that produces at least 3950 Running Watts and 6350 Starting Watts.

Your Power Needs

TOOL OR APPLIANCE	RUNNING WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

Total Running Watts
 + Highest Starting Watts
 = Total Wattage Requirement

	ESTIMATED RUNNING WATTS	ADDITIONAL STARTING WATTS	
RECREATION & CAMPING	AM/FM Radio	100	-
	Box Fan	100	-
	Cell Phone Battery Charger	25	-
	Inflator Pump	50	150
	RV Air Conditioner (13,500 BTU)	700	1500
GENERAL PURPOSE & EMERGENCY BACKUP	Coffee Maker	1000	-
	Computer with a 17" Monitor	800	-
	Microwave - 1000 Watts	1000	-
	Refrigerator/Freezer	700	2200
	Sump Pump ½ HP	1050	2150
	Television - 27"	500	-
	Space Heater	1800	-
	Window AC - 12,000 BTU	3250	3950
	Humidifier	175	-
	JOBSITE & CONSTRUCTION	Air Compressor - 1 HP	1400
Airless Paint Sprayer - ½ HP		600	1200
Belt Sander - 3"		1200	2400
Bench Grinder - 8"		1400	1100
Circular Saw - 7-¼"		1400	2300
Hand Drill - ½"		600	900
Miter Saw - 10"		1800	3300
Quartz Halogen Work Light		1000	-
Reciprocating Saw		960	-
Table Saw, 10"		2000	2000

**Watts listed are approximate. Check your appliance for actual requirements. Total wattage requirements assumes intermittent starting of devices.*

Reorder #
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