

What appliances cost to run

Great Britain, at the Ofgem price cap for 1 October to 31 December 2026. Electricity only.

Unit rate 26.32p per kWh	Standing charge 54.83p a day	Standing charge alone £200.13 a year
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APPLIANCE	POWER	PER HOUR	TYPICAL USE	PER USE
Electric shower	9,000W	£2.37	10 minutes	39p
Immersion heater	3,000W	79p	1 hour	79p
Kettle	3,000W	79p	3 minute boil	4p
Tumble dryer	2,500W	66p	90 minute cycle	99p
Portable electric heater	2,500W	66p	1 hour	66p
Electric oven	2,100W	55p	1 hour	55p
Washing machine	2,100W	55p	1 hour cycle	55p
Oil filled radiator	2,000W	53p	1 hour	53p
Hairdryer	2,000W	53p	10 minutes	9p
Electric hob ring	2,000W	53p	30 minutes	26p
Grill	1,500W	39p	15 minutes	10p
Iron	1,500W	39p	30 minutes	20p
Toaster	1,000W	26p	4 minutes	2p
Microwave	1,000W	26p	10 minutes	4p
Electric lawnmower	1,000W	26p	30 minutes	13p
Vacuum cleaner	900W	24p	20 minutes	8p
Dehumidifier	500W	13p	8 hours	£1.05
Heated towel rail	450W	12p	4 hours	47p
Electric blanket	150W	4p	1 hour	4p
Desktop computer	140W	4p	8 hours	29p
Games console	120W	3p	3 hours	9p
Television, LCD or LED	120W	3p	4 hours	13p
Laptop	50W	1p	8 hours	11p
TV box or set top box	40W	1p	24 hours	25p
Extractor fan	20W	under 1p	1 hour	under 1p
Broadband router	10W	under 1p	24 hours	6p

Work out your own: watts divided by 1,000, multiplied by hours of use, multiplied by your unit rate. A 2,000W heater for 3 hours at 26.32p is $2 \times 3 \times 26.32p = £1.58$. Your bill shows your own unit rate if you are not on the capped tariff.

Sources. Unit rate and standing charge: Ofgem energy price cap, GB average for direct debit, 1 October to 31 December 2026. Your region's capped rate differs slightly from the average. Power ratings: Centre for Sustainable Energy, "How much electricity am I using?" (July 2026). Real appliances vary, so check the rating plate on yours. Typical use times are assumptions, printed so you can swap in your own. Every cost is arithmetic on those inputs, not a measurement. Northern Ireland is not covered by the Ofgem cap.

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Kept current. Look Into reissues this table within 72 hours of each price cap change. Next change: 1 January 2027. Latest version and the full index: lookinto.co.uk/energy/uk-running-cost-index/