

# How to Understand Appliance Energy Use

This house shows the most common household appliances with their average rated watt and kilowatt per hour (kWh) usage for 1 hour. The cost of electricity is calculated, using the average kilowatt hour in America, at \$0.17<sup>1</sup>.

## What is a Watt and a Kilowatt Hour?

A 'watt', named after Scottish engineer James Watt, quantifies the rate of energy transfer where 'kilowatt' demotes larger power usage, and 'kilowatt-hour' measures the energy consumed or produced over time.

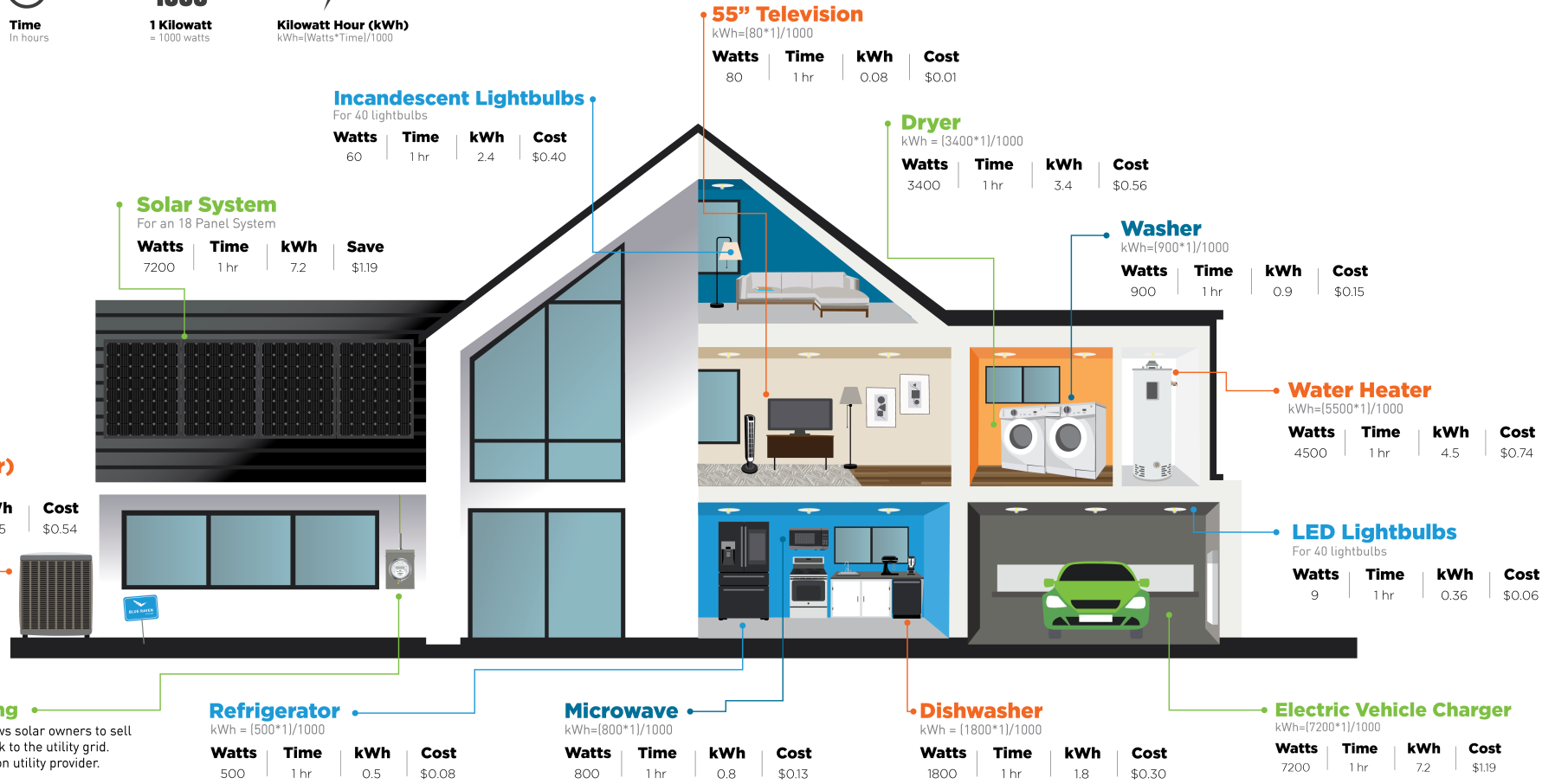
 **Watt (W)**  
Rate of energy consumption

 **Time**  
In hours

 **1 Kilowatt**  
= 1000 watts

 **Kilowatt Hour (kWh)**  
kWh=(Watts\*Time)/1000

$$\text{Watt (W)} \times \text{Time} \div 1000 = \text{Kilowatt Hour (kWh)}$$



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[1] As of May 2023, the average price per kWh in the U.S. is \$0.165 - [https://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices\\_selectedareas\\_table.htm](https://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices_selectedareas_table.htm)

\*All appliances are an average of 2023 leading appliances and their rated use of consumption.

