



Need to update your appliances?

Explore and learn more about the latest design styles, technologies and features to help you shop for the ideal refrigerator, range, dishwasher and laundry appliances to fit your needs.

In this buying guide:

<u>Appliances</u>	<u>Page</u>
Kitchen	
»Refrigerators	1-2
»Ranges	2-4
»Dishwashers	4-5
• Laundry	
»Washers & Dryers	6-7
»Washers Features & Technologies	7
»Dryers Features & Technologies	8
 Frequently asked questions 	9

Your guide to

Kitchen

REFRIGERATORS

Measuring Guidelines

When replacing a refrigerator, it is important to accurately measure your space to ensure the new one fits between counters or under overhead cabinets.

- Include the baseboard in your measurements as well as space for the condenser coils to allow air to circulate.
- Make sure there is sufficient room to open refrigerator doors to remove pans and shelves.
- Determine if you will be able to open in the right direction or if the direction can be reversed.
- Also measure the doorways and hallways to your kitchen to safely move the new appliance inside.

Capacity

As a general guideline, two people need between 16-20 cubic feet of fresh food storage, and then add an extra cubic foot for each additional person in your family. Be sure to consider both frozen and fresh food needs before making your final selection.



Refrigerator Style	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
Top-Freezer Refrigerator	 Freezer is positioned above the fresh food compartment and offers about a third of the refrigerator's total capacity. 	 Refrigerator section can accommodate large platters, birthday cakes, or pizza boxes. Offers easy access to frozen foods. 	 Among the least flexible configurations. Items in back of freezer may be difficult to reach. Requires wide, deep space to allow doors to swing fully open.
Bottom-Freezer Refrigerator	 Freezer is located below fresh food department in a pull out drawer. Keeps fresh foods at eye level. Most frequently used sections are located in the top compartment for easy access. 	 Refrigerator section is perfect for oversized items such as trays. Eliminates bending to remove fresh foods from produce drawers. 	 Access to frozen foods may be less convenient. Requires wide, deep space to allow doors to swing fully open.
Side-By-Side Refrigerator	Freezer and refrigerator compartments are adjacent to one another with narrow shelving.	 Provides easy access to fresh and frozen foods. Large freezer capacity. Ideal for narrow or galley-style kitchens because less space is required for door swing than full-width door models. 	 Narrower refrigerator compartment may not easily hold large platters. Less overall fresh food space than comparable top- and bottom- freezer designs.
French Door Refrigerator	 Refrigerator with double doors on top with freezer on the bottom. French Doors at the top reveal a full-width fresh foods compartment. Elegant and functional design. 	 Offers equal capacities of fresh and frozen foods with easy access. Highly versatile, full-width shelves to accommodate oversized platters. Door design minimizes the amount of cold air that can escape. 	 The double door on some models may be troublesome to prop open when stowing food and groceries. May be more expensive.

Features & Technologies

Prior to purchasing your refrigerator, take into consideration the amount of shelf space you typically use, plus the sizes and shapes of items you regularly store. Sliding shelves, gallon door bins, and built-in beverage holders provide flexible ways to your organize foods.

Look for these popular convenience features and energy-saving technologies:

Options	Benefits
Door-Mounted Ice Makers & Water Dispensers	 Provides filtered water and ice on demand without opening the freezer door. Saves energy and preserves more space in the freezer for food storage.
Multizone Cooling Systems	 Offers control over temperature and humidity to keep particular foods (such as vegetables, fruits, dairy and meats) as fresh as possible.
Sensor-Based Temperature & Humidity Controls	 Keeps a refrigerator running efficiently at optimal temperatures to retain food freshness while limiting energy consumption.
LED Lighting	Improves overall visibility and is more energy-efficient than traditional lighting.
Temperature/Door Alarms	 Alerts you when the door has been left open for more than a few minutes to avoid temperature drops and accidental openings.
Quick Cooling Compartments	 Dedicated area that's colder than the rest of the fridge or freezer. Provides a way to quickly chill or freeze foods as needed.
Filter Change Indicators	 Indicates when it's time to replace the water filter to keep the water and ice from getting stale.
Child Lock	 Prevents kids from accessing the refrigerator and provides an extra safety measure.

RANGES

Measuring Guidelines

Be sure to measure the height from bottom of the unit to the top of the cook surface. For the depth, measure from the front on widest part of the unit to the back without handle or control knobs. The range should fit flush to the cabinets and the cook surface should be level with countertops. Most ranges feature a 30" width so if you have a narrow space you will need to seek out a smaller range. Also, the door opens 90 degrees so make sure there is plenty of space when it is fully open.

• For both gas and electrical ranges, you will need an electrical hookup. For gas, you will need a gas hookup to a natural gas source or to a liquid propane supply tank.

Shop by Type

Your choice in ranges boils down to your choice of fuel type – gas (natural gas or liquid propane) or electric (including electric induction). You will need an electrical hook up for both gas and electric ranges so make sure the electrical outlet can handle the wattage of the appliance you're considering. For gas appliances, certain states and local codes require a licensed plumber or gas technician to meet installation requirements.



Туре	Description	Benefits
Gas Ranges	 Stove top features a visible cooking flame and offers a wide range of temperature settings. Ideal for high-temperature cooking such as searing or stir-frying. 	 Offers an instant range of heat zones with better control – from very high to very low – with the turn of a knob. Allows you to stop cooking almost immediately to prevent overcooking or burning. Gas ovens offer faster preheating times.
Electric Ranges	 Available in Coil Element and Smooth-Top Designs. Coil Element stove tops have an element that plugs in and may be easily removed for cleaning. It sits above the range top surface or into a recessed cavity. Smooth Tops have the radiant elements beneath the glass surface and may be adjustable in size. 	 Controls allow you to maintain very low heat for gentle simmering. Coil elements generally heat faster. Smooth top design make it easier to clean up spills. Electric ovens provide more even temperatures for consistent baking results.
Dual-Fuel Gas & Electric Ranges	 Features gas burners on the cooktop and an electric oven. Most dual-fuel ranges require a 240-volt outlet in addition to a gas hookup. 	Offers the flexibility and controls of a gas cooktop with accuracy and precision of an electric oven.

Features & Technologies

The capacity of a gas burner is measured in BTUs (British Thermal Units). The higher the BTU rating, the greater the heat output and it will generally cook foods faster. Standard 30" wide ranges offer four to six burners. Most ranges are configured with a small burner (with 5,000 BTUs output), one or two medium-power burners (with approximately 9,000 BTUs), and one or two large ones (about 12,500 or more BTUs output). Low-powered simmer burners deliver even heat distribution that's perfect for gentle warming and can be found on many ranges. Higher end models offer power burners with 19,000 BTU rating or greater to quickly deliver intense heat for boiling water.

Electric ranges measure the burner output in watts. Most smoothtop ranges are configured with four surface elements in three sizes: one small element (about 1,200 watts), one or two medium elements (1,500 to 1,800 watts), and one or two large elements (about 2,500 watts or more). Deluxe electric ranges models may offer more burners in assorted sizes and power. The more wattage a burner has, the faster it will heat up.

Cooktop Options	Benefits
Bridge Element	 Extra element between two main elements on a smooth-top cooktop. Can be turned on to create a larger surface that's suitable for large pans such as griddles.
Dual-Element Burners	 Features an inner ring for smaller cookware and a larger outer ring for larger pots and pans. Easily sets preferred burner size for efficient heating.
Electronic Temperature Controls	 Push-button or touch-panel controls with digital displays for more precise control versus traditional dial controls.
High-Heat (Power) Burners	Delivers intensified cooking heat to quickly boil or sear foods.
Simmer Burner	• Low-powered burner for gentle, gradual heat – ideal for preparing soups and sauces.
Induction Burners	 Directly heats your cookware, not the cooktop surface so there's no wasted radiant heat. Heat can be precisely and instantly adjusted so it is more energy efficient.
Electronic Ignition (Gas Ranges)	Eliminates a constantly burning pilot flame to light the burners.Offers considerable energy savings and minimizes fire risks.
Seamless/Continuous Grates	 Allows you to easily slide heavy pots between burners without lifting.

Oven Options	Benefits
Gas	Tends to produce a more humid heat which keeps foods moist.
Electric	 Delivers even cooking temperatures to help eliminate cold spots or hot spots in foods.
Convection	 Uses one or more internal fans to circulate heat more evenly. Enables faster cooking at lower temperatures so foods stay moist and retain more nutrients.
Smart Controls	 Allows you to pre-program start and end times so you can cook while you're not at home.
Self-Cleaning Cycle	 Extended high heat mode that burns off baked-on spills and other messes in the oven. Oven insulation keeps the kitchen comfortable during oven cleaning and significantly improves overall energy efficiency.
Warming Drawer	Bottom compartment features a low-powered oven to keep cooked foods and baked desserts warm and moist until ready to serve.

DISHWASHERS

Measuring Guidelines

For the height, measure from the bottom of the appliance (including feet/wheels) to top of unit to make sure it will align with the countertop. For the depth, you'll need to measure from the front door to the back of the dishwasher (including heating components when present). Built-in dishwashers should be flush to the cabinet front. Make sure there is enough space for the door to be fully opened. Installing a dishwasher requires plumbing and electrical skills. We recommend hiring a professional to assist with the installation.

Capacity

Built-in dishwashers offer standard and tall tub designs with widths from 24" to 30". Standard dishwashers can hold up to 12 five-piece place settings and tall tub models hold up to 14 five-piece place settings. The standard width of most portable dishwashers is 24" wide and may hold up to 8 five-piece place settings. Shop by Type



Туре	Design Features	Benefits
Built-in Dishwasher	 Standard tub designs have a service kickplate beneath the door. Tall Tub has a continuous front door. 	 Standard tub allows for easier maintenance and installation. Tall tub offers 20% more capacity and better sound dampening.
Portable Dishwasher	 Hooks up to a faucet. Casters allow easy placement. Most models include an attached countertop for a durable surface. 	Compact size is perfect for renters or homeowners with limited kitchen space.

Features & Technologies

Dishwasher Options	Benefits
ENERGY STAR Qualified	 Qualified dishwashers use less energy for lower operating costs. Cycles save water for less water consumption.
Wash & Rinse Cycles	 Basic cycles include Light, Normal for everyday use and Heavy for cleaning pots and pans. Advanced cycle options to remove tough food stains include High-Pressure Washing, Pot Scrubber, Soak/Scrub, and Steam Clean. High-Temperature Sanitizing Rinse boosts water temperature to 160 degrees Fahrenheit or higher to eliminate 99.9% of bacteria. China/Crystal setting gently washes items you would typically wash by hand. Quick Clean washes dishes in a hurry and Half Load options can save on water and energy consumption. Rinse & Hold cycle rinses dirty dishes before you're ready to start a full cycle to reduce odors and prevent soils from setting.
Filters & Food Disposal	 Allows you to put dishes in the dishwasher without rinsing them first. Removes food particles and disposes them without clogging your dishwasher's drain system.
Delay Start	 Presets your dishwasher to run at your convenience. Use it late at night when electricity rates may be lower or in the middle of the day when there are no other demands on your household water supply.
Digital Displays	Conveniently tells you how long it takes a cycle to complete.
Noise Insulation	Heavy insulation will minimize noise - look for models that offer 47 to 57 decibels for quiet operation.
Soil Sensor	 Adjusts the cycle's time and water use to the load's soil. Delivers precise automatic control for maximum efficiency and sparkling results.
Split/Foldable/ Removable Racks	 Allows reconfiguration of the interior space to optimize capacity. Increases flexibility for different dish sizes or large pots.
Stainless Steel Tubs	 Resists staining better than plastic tubs and offers better noise insulation. Superior heat retention speeds drying performance.
Rinse Aid Dispenser	Allows you to fill the receptacle with rinse aid solution and dispense the correct amount automatically over multiple wash cycles for sparkling clean dishes with every wash.

Laundry

WASHERS & DRYERS

If it's time to replace your washer, dryer or both, the newest clothing care appliances can offer time-saving features help you tackle laundry chores with improved results.

Measuring Guidelines

Measure the height, width and depth of the laundry area where you'll install the new appliance. You will also have to factor in the space required if you are also purchasing both washer and dryer. Whether you choose a top load or front load machine, make sure you will have enough room to open doors. Appliances with full-size width ranges from 27" to 29" and compact sizes have a 24" to

• Remember that gas dryers will require a gas line hookup and electrical dryers require a 240-volt outlet.

Capacity

Washers and dryers with larger capacities will save time and energy, plus it reduces the amount of wear and tear to clothing. Each manufacturer provides cubic foot measurements so you can compare tub capacities. These measurements have recently been standardized for easy comparison.

- Washer capacities range from 3 CF to 5 CF (approximately).
- Dryer capacities range from 4 CF to 8 CF (approximately).
- Larger Capacity: Ideal for a large family or washing comforters or sleeping bags.
- Smaller Capacity: Best for smaller families, for limited spaces, or if you rack-dry some of your clothes.

Shop by type		
Washer Type	Description	Benefits
Traditional Top-Load Washers	 Top-mounted door provides access to the drum. Central agitator spins back and forth to remove dirt from soiled clothes. 	 Easily load and unload clothing from a standing position. Can extend soaking for tough stains. Easy to add extra items in mid-cycle.
High-Efficiency Top-Load Washers	 Top-mounted door with advanced technologies to clean gently and effectively. No agitator allows for more space in the drum. Uses specially-formulated detergents requiring less water to clean clothes. 	 Gentler agitation and better washing performance. Bigger load capacity. High-speed spin cycle gets more moisture out of wet clothes to reduce drying time and saves energy.
High-Efficiency Front-Load Washers	Door mounted on front with horizontally mounted drum and no agitator.	 Offers best performance and highest energy- and water-efficiency. Largest load capacity. High-speed spin cycle gets more moisture out of wet clothes to reduce drying time and saves energy.

Laundry continued

Since dryers perform in a similar manner, the main choice is whether to purchase a gas or electric dryer. Regardless of fuel source, dryers come in one configuration - front-loading with a hinged door on the front panel of the unit. Some models offer left or right-side mounting options to fit your laundry room configuration. A drop-down door design can also serve as a shelf for folding clothing. Advanced models feature a glass door to view the progress of your clothes drying. Both gas and electric dryers may be available in a stackable design to conserve laundry room space.

Dryer Type	Description	Benefits
Gas Dryers	 Drum tumbles clothes through heated air. Electric motor turns drum and distributes air. Gas burner supplies heat. Requires a natural gas line hookup and a 120- volt outlet. 	 Available in wide range of models, prices, styles and may be more expensive. More energy-efficient to lower utility bills.
Electric Dryer	 Drum tumbles clothes through heated air. Electric motor turns drum and distributes air. Heating coils supplies heat. Requires a 240-volt outlet. 	Available in wide range of models, prices, styles and less expensive, but they use slightly more energy.

WASHER FEATURES & TECHNOLOGIES

Most standard washers feature four basic cycles – Normal, Permanent Press, Delicates, and Heavy Duty. The new high-efficiency washers offer impressive energy savings and technologies that provide more effective cleaning overall and greater versatility.

Options	Benefits
ENERGY STAR Qualified	 ENERGY STAR qualified washers use less energy and water than non-qualified models. Appliances must meet energy efficiency requirements set by the EPA to qualify. Save energy and water costs and preserves natural resources.
Specialty Cycles	• Includes Prewash, Rinse & Spin, Stains, Steam, Towels, Bedding, Baby Care, Bulky/Large, Cotton/Normal, Express Wash, and Hand Wash/Wool for special fabrics needs.
Custom Temperature Settings	 Offers more temperature combinations for different types of fabrics. Automatic Temperature Controls adjusts water temperature for the cycle you choose.
Water Level Sensors	 Detects the load size to control the amount of water needed and reduces water consumption.
Anti-allergy & Sanitation Cycles	 Designed for asthma and allergy suffers, it targets dust mites, pet dander and other common household allergens. Sanitation cycles boost hot water and steam temperatures to kill germs and sanitize fabrics. Advanced antimicrobial technologies can sanitize fabrics without hot water or bleach.
Steam Settings	 Steam washers can remove tough soils and stains by infusing clothes with heater water vapor. Can virtually eliminate common household bacteria from clothing and household fabrics such as curtains, slipcovers and table linens.
Noise Reduction	Special technology can dampen vibration and significantly reduces noise.
Stainless Steel Tubs	 Rust-resistant and can withstand higher spin speeds to extract more water and speed up drying.

Laundry continued

DRYER FEATURES & TECHNOLOGIES

Most standard dryers offer at least three temperature settings – delicate, regular, and permanent press. Each setting is a predetermined combination of dry time and air temperature. More advanced models have separate controls for the time and the temperature. This allows for greater range of time/temperature combinations for different types of clothing.

ENERGY STAR does not label clothes dryers because most dryers use similar amounts of energy, which means there is little difference in energy use between models. You can reduce the amount of energy a dyer uses by looking for models with features such as Auto Dry and Moisture Sensor.

Options	Benefit
Auto Dry	 Dries your clothing at the perfect temperature and time length. Automatically shuts off the dryer when clothes reach desired dryness. Prevents over drying and conserves amount of energy is used.
Moisture Sensor	 Adjusts the drying cycle length based on the amount of moisture in the dryer's contents. Does not subject fabrics to unnecessary heat which can shrinkage or damage. Saves energy and utility costs.
Temperature & Time-Dry Settings	 Advanced models come with custom settings for Bulky items, Quick Dry, Wrinkle-Free, Towels, Wool Care, and a personal cycle that can be customized by temperature and time. Offers greater flexibility for different fabric types.
Steam Technology	Allows you to steam away wrinkles and odors in less than 15 minutes.
Extended Tumble	 Keeps clothes tumbling after they are dry – with or without intermittent heat. Prevents wrinkling if you don't empty the dryer contents right away.
Lint Filter & Warning Light	 Large filters will capture more lint and extend the life of your dryer. Top-mounted filters are easier to access and keep clean. Clean filters will improve drying performance and reduce energy costs. Vent-blockage warning light indicates when the dryer duct may become blocked by lint and debris. Trapped lint can be present a fire hazard - this safety feature alerts you when there may be a blockage.
Drum Rack	 Optional sturdy rack that attaches to the inside the drum to hold solid objects such as sneakers, pillows, sweaters or small rugs. Prevent items from tumbling and reduces noise.
Noise Reduction	 Quieting technology that dampens vibration and reduces noise. Look for models with extra insulation and sound-dampening pads for quiet operation.
Touchpad Controls	 Electronic controls allow more precise adjustments such as drying temperature or length. Select cycle variables and track its progress. Custom settings can be conveniently saved for repeated use.

Frequently asked questions

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the warranty policy?

• Purchasing Power includes a SquareTrade 3-Year Appliance Warranty with each purchase. This warranty covers all mechanical and electrical failures that may occur during normal use. It provides 100% parts and labor coverage with no deductible recovered. Purchasing Power also offers the option of extending the SquareTrade 3-year warranty to 5 years for an additional fee.

2. What is included with my appliance purchase?

• Appliance will be delivered, unpacked and placed where requested. Installation is limited to plugging into an electrical outlet. Gas, water, and venting hookup is not provided.

3. How can I tell which models conserve energy best?

- Refrigerators, dishwashers and washers will receive an ENERGY STAR qualified rating if the appliance is significantly more efficient than minimum government standards. ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy. ENERGY STAR designation helps you make the energy efficient choice to save money and protect the environment. Please look for appliances which indicate "ENERGY STAR" qualified in the product description.
- EPA guidelines are subject to frequent change. For complete information about the latest product qualifications, please visit the ENERGY STAR website: http://www.energystar.gov.