

Computer monitors

Save up to 20% on the running costs
of your computer monitor
with every star



Save energy, water
and money



Things to consider to reduce your computer monitors running costs.

There are minimum energy performance standards for computer monitors and computers and are linked to an internationally recognised test and performance specification.

Computer monitors and computers account for up to 5% of home electricity use. Computer monitors represent around 25% of the energy of a computer. If you use multiple, larger monitors, this has the potential to increase your household electricity consumption.

When making your computer monitor purchase, use the energy rating label to find the most efficient model — every extra star can save you money.

An energy rating scheme was not introduced for laptops and tablets as these are available in a wide range of configurations which makes comparing their energy efficiency difficult.

Compare star ratings

Use the energy rating label to find the most efficient computer monitor and system to suit your needs.

The more stars the better. Every extra star will save you money. To further compare models with the same screen size, refer to the energy consumption numbers on the label.

Buy to save in the long run

- ▶ Choose a computer monitor that suits your needs — generally, the smaller the computer monitor, the less electricity it will use.
- ▶ Buy a computer monitor with at least 4 stars.
- ▶ Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) and Light Emitting Diode (LED) monitor technology is replacing Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) technology in virtually all but a few specialised applications. In general LCD and LED technologies are more energy efficient than CRT technology.

Maximise efficiency

- ▶ Activate your monitor's power management features, such as power-down/sleep mode to help you save energy.
- ▶ Turn off your monitor when you won't be using it for at least 20 minutes.
- ▶ Turn off your computer when you won't be using it for at least 2 hours.
- ▶ Make sure your monitor has a power strip/surge protector. When the monitor is not in use for an extended period, turn off the switch on the power strip to prevent using power even when the monitor is shut off.
- ▶ Screen savers are not energy savers and may actually use more energy than if you don't have one. LCD monitors do not require screen savers.

Running costs

Screen Size	Energy Rating	Annual Cost*		
		1 hr/day	3 hrs/day	8 hrs/day
15 inch (38 cm)	★★	\$2.71	\$8.14	\$21.71
	★★★★	\$1.74	\$5.21	\$5.21
	★★★★★	\$1.11	\$3.33	\$8.89
21 inch (53 cm)	★★	\$3.89	\$11.68	\$31.16
	★★★★	\$2.49	\$7.48	\$19.94
	★★★★★	\$1.60	\$4.79	\$12.76
7 inch (68 cm)	★★	\$5.46	\$16.39	\$43.71
	★★★★	\$3.50	\$10.49	\$27.98
	★★★★★	\$2.24	\$6.71	\$17.90

*Approximate cost per annum.
Based on an electricity tariff of 28c/kWh.

More information

Ask your retailer, phone 1300 363 744 or visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/smarterchoice