

For devices with constant power demand

(lamps, computers, computer accessories, TV's, TV accessories, game stations, space heaters without thermostats, heat tape on pipes & gutters, holiday lights, chargers, fans, etc)

1. Plug the meter into an outlet.
2. Plug your device into the meter.
3. Press the "Watt / VA" button until the "Watt" icon appears and record the wattage displayed.
4. Use the following formula to calculate the annual cost to run this device:

$$\text{___ Watts} \times \text{___ hrs/day} \times .06 = \$\text{___/yr}^*$$

For devices that cycle

(refrigerators, freezers, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, fish tank heaters, space heaters with thermostats, clothes washers, sump pumps, etc)

1. Plug the meter into an outlet.
2. Plug your device into the meter.
3. Let the device cycle for a representative amount of time, the longer the better (e.g. a day for a fridge or dehumidifier)
4. Press the "KWH / Hour" button until the "kWh" icon shows and note the KWH number.
5. Press the "KWH / Hour" button again until "clock" is displayed and record this number. This is the time monitored in hours and minutes (HH:MM).
6. Convert the time to hours (e.g. 2 hours and 30 minutes = 2.5 hours).
7. Calculate annual cost using this formula:

$$\text{___ KWH} \div \text{___ hours tested} \times 1,400 = \$\text{___/yr}^*$$

* These calculations assume \$.16/kWh.



Tip: You may want to use an extension cord to make it easier to see the meter.

Tip: Try testing devices both when they're turned on and when they're turned off. This will show you which have a "phantom load" that consume power all year long. (Note: It costs \$1.40/yr for every continuous watt so an HD-DVR with a 30-watt phantom load costs \$42/yr – even if it's never turned on.)

For tips on saving energy, visit efficiencymaine.com.