



How to use your *Kill A Watt*™ Power Meter

The *Kill A Watt*™ Power Meter can tell you the actual electrical consumption of small to medium electrical devices in your home. It will also help you discover the hidden or “phantom” loads that are surprisingly common when electrical devices are turned off.

You may discover that it’s time for a new refrigerator or that you really should unplug that old television.

To operate the *Kill A Watt*™ meter, simply plug it into an electrical socket and plug the electrical device that you want to measure into the *Kill A Watt*™ meter. You might want to use an extension cord so the meter is in a place where it’s easy to read.

The voltage will appear on the display first, and should be between 110V and 120V. (The *Kill A Watt* cannot be used to measure the electrical consumption of 220V appliances, such as many ovens or clothes dryers.)

Push the “Watt/VA” button for an instant reading of the number of watts the device is drawing. For example, you can check that a lamp with a 60W bulb draws around 60 watts.

Try turning the electrical device off to see if any electricity is being consumed when the device is not in use. Typically, you’ll find that this happens with devices that have built-in clocks, instant-on capabilities (such as a TV with remote control), and computer equipment. To save electricity, you may find it worthwhile to unplug these devices or put groups of them together (e.g. computer and peripherals) on a single power strip that is switched off when they are not in use.

For appliances that cycle on and off, such as refrigerators or coffee makers, you will need to leave the meter on for a period of time (e.g. an hour or even overnight) to get a more accurate idea of overall energy used.

To see the total number of kilowatt-hours used since the device was plugged into the *Kill A Watt*, push the “KWH/Hour” button once. Push it again and you will see the time in hours since the appliance was plugged into the *Kill A Watt*.

Caution: The maximum wattage that the *Kill A Watt* can handle is 1,875 Watts (also written as 1,875 VA) – larger than most household electrical devices. Please confirm the wattage for the appliance you are about to plug into the *Kill A Watt* does not exceed 1,875 Watts!

For more information about the *Kill A Watt*, visit www.p3international.com/products

To learn more about how you can save energy, contact Seattle City Light’s Conservation Help Line at **(206) 684-3800** or visit www.seattle.gov/light/conserv

Seattle City Light: bringing you clean and low-cost electricity

Seattle City Light is dedicated to delivering environmentally responsible, safe, low-cost and reliable power. We are proud that:

- 90% of our energy is generated through clean and renewable hydroelectric sources.
- Seattle has the lowest commercial and residential rates of any comparable sized US city.
- We became the first electric utility in the country to achieve greenhouse-gas neutrality.
- Our 30+ year history of conservation has saved our customers more than \$680 million.

Conservation is our energy resource of choice

When our customers conserve, we reduce the need to build new power plants or buy power generated using fossil fuels, which helps us reduce carbon emissions and keep your rates down.

Visit www.seattle.gov/light/conserv/resident to find useful publications and conservation tips that can help you save money and energy. Or talk to our energy experts at **206-684-3800**.