
Green Tips

*Dishwashers
can be energy
efficient and
convenient!*

Dishwashers can be energy efficient and convenient by:

- minimizing pre-rinse
 - loading to capacity
 - using air-dry option
- Often times, being green is actually pretty convenient; using a dishwasher is one of those appliances that actually saves water and energy while making our life easier. But, that savings is only achieved if we are using our dishwashers appropriately.
 - Minimize pre-rinsing of dishes in your sink; instead, simply scrape them off without using water. If you have an older dishwasher, experiment to determine how much rinsing is needed.
 - Avoid using the heat-dry, rinse-hold and pre-rinse features. Instead use your dishwasher's air-dry option. Run your dishwasher with a full load. Most of the energy used by a dishwasher goes to heat water. Since you can't decrease the amount of water used per cycle, fill your dishwasher to get the most from the energy used to run it.
 - Load dishes according to manufacturer's instructions. Completely fill the racks to optimize water and energy use, but allow proper water circulation for adequate cleaning.
 - Finally, dishwasher detergent is one of the most common sources of accidental child poisoning. Make sure dishwasher detergent is not accessible to children.
 - Replacing a dishwasher manufactured before 1994 with an ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher can save you more than \$30 a year in utility costs. Because they use less hot water compared to new conventional models, an ENERGY STAR qualified dishwasher saves about \$90 over its lifetime.

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dishwash.pr_dishwashers