A GUIDE TO ENERGY GUIDES

When you shop for a new appliance, there are a lot of decissions to make – what color, what features, will it fit where the old appliance was, and of course the list goes on.

One important detail is sometimes overlooked – the **ENERGY GUIDE.** It is usually pretty easy to find, but it may not be the most exciting part of the shopping experience. However, it could be the key to lowering your electric bill.

Following are some highlights of the **ENERGY GUIDE:**

① Ensure the model on the Energy Guide matches the appliance you are considering.

② Review the **ESTIMATED YEARLY ENERGY COST.** How does it compare to models with similar features?

③ The dollar amount referred to in point ② is based on the fine print at the bottom of the Energy Guide and the value in the **ESTIMATED YEARLY ELECTRICITY USE** box. This particular Energy Guide is assuming 12¢ per kWh. Carroll Electric members should use 9.62¢ per kWh (2020) and multiply it by the **ESTIMATED YEARLY ELECTRICITY USE** for a more accurate annual cost estimate.

④ At a glance, the **ENERGY STAR** logo is a great clue as to the energy efficiency of the appliance**.**

U.S. Government

Federal law prohibits removal of this label before consumer purchase.

ENERGYGUIDE

Refrigerator-Freezer
- Automatic Defrost
- Bottom-Mounted Freezer
- Through-the-Door Ice Service

① Samsung
Model RF27T5201**
Capacity: 27.0 Cubic Feet

Compare ONLY to other labels with yellow numbers.
Labels with yellow numbers are based on the same test procedures.

Estimated Yearly Energy Cost

② **$85**

Cost Ranges		
Models with similar features	$74	$95
All models	$74	$104

③ **705 kWh**
Estimated Yearly Electricity Use

ENERGY STAR

④

- Your cost will depend on your utility rates and use.
- Both cost ranges based on models of similar size capacity.
- Models with similar features have automatic defrost, bottom-mounted freezer, and through-the-door ice.
- Estimated energy cost based on a national average electricity cost of 12 cents per kWh.

ftc.gov/energy

IS IT ALWAYS BEST TO BUY THE MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCE?

The answer to that question really depends on several factors. For example, let's assume two refrigerators are practically the same, except one is more energy efficient, yet it's also more expensive to buy.

Considerations	Refrigerator A	Refrigerator B
Features	same	same
Purchase Price	$1,000	$1,500
Monthly Cost to Operate	$10	$5

In this scenario, it would take a little over 8 years to recover the additional upfront investment to purchase the more energy efficient refrigerator (Refrigerator B) when compared to Refrigerator A.

IS THIS A GOOD INVESTMENT?   Maybe, but that's really up for each consumer or family to decide.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, refrigerators last approximately 12 years. All things considering, Refrigerator B could actually cost less to own and operate over its intended useful life.

TOTAL COSTS TO OWN AND OPERATE APPLIANCE

YEAR OF OWNERSHIP