



# HOME SWEET HOME



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## Today's appliances boast energy efficiency

Most people don't really think a lot about their home appliances until they need one. If you find yourself in the market for a new washer, oven, refrigerator or freezer, you're in for a big surprise.

The technical innovations today have enabled a whole new generation of home appliances to operate more efficiently than ever before.

Increased efficiency of most home appliances far surpasses government regulations. Not only do they perform better than traditional models, but in some cases consumers can save hundreds or thousands of dollars in energy costs per year.

### FRONT-LOADING WASHERS

For instance, a new Frigidaire front-end loader washer uses about a quarter the amount of energy and far less water than traditional top-loader models. The new front-end loader also features an extra-large capacity stainless steel wash drum, an automatic detergent, bleach and fabric softener dispenser and eleven cycles including prewash, hand washables and extra rinse.

The Frigidaire front-load washer also uses less detergent than previous models and is available as a side-by-side model, a stacking unit or can be built into a cabinet. Prices start at about \$900.

New models of dryers are catching on as well. Inglis has introduced a new electric dryer called "Senseon" which features a series of special sensors that register the temperature, humidity and exhaust to provide a more consistent level of heat. The Senseon also features a Soundblock system, electronic moisture control, six temperature settings, and it dries clothes in far less time than traditional dryers.

A new generation of ovens is also winning rave reviews by consumers who appreciate more energy-efficient features.

The Maytag Accellis 2X Range is one such model that is proving very popular with consumers. The Accellis 2X cooks in half the amount of time than a conventional oven and uses Rapid-Air and microwave technology to produce delicious results.

The Maytag Gemini Electric Range offers something different altogether; it is actually two ovens in one. You can cook two different foods at two different temperatures at the same time. The Gemini fits into the same space as an ordinary electric range and comes with electronic keypad oven controls, and Ceran and coil cooktop surfaces for easy cleaning.

The present-day smooth-top finishes are much improved over older models in that they are more responsive, provide faster heat and don't discolour or crack.

When it comes to dish washers, technologies have become extremely efficient in recent years. Today's dishwashers have a larger capacity, they are quieter and operate more efficiently.

Traditional chest freezers are becoming a relic of the past with the introduction of a new generation of space-efficient upright units. People are installing upright freezers in their kitchens, as opposed to installing them in the basement. They are available with a frost-free feature and use much less energy than previous models.

Refrigerators are also better than traditional models. A new Maytag model offers many new features, including Dual Cool Technology with two thermostats which helps to keep food fresher, longer, special ClimateZone technology which controls the temperature control for the crispers to keep fruits and vegetables fresh, and a crushed ice and a chilled water dispenser with a PuriClean filter.

This Maytag model is much quieter and operates

much more efficiently than previous models, and uses much less energy to help save on energy costs.

For quick, easy-to-prepare meals for families on the go, there is a Meal Maker Express indoor grill by Hamilton Beach. This full contact grill offers high speed grilling, over 91 square inches of cooking space, and comes with a 15 minute timer with

automatic shut-off.

The indoor grill would make a great gift item. It's highly portable and you can cook with the lid open or closed.

Whatever appliances you're looking for, either as a gift or for yourself, there are plenty of good values at local retailers this season.

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