

Laundry

Cycles

What Should You Look For?

Gas and Electric

Let's Talk About The Facts

TOP-LOADING
VS.
FRONT-LOADING

Capacity

How Much Do You Actually Need?

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Kieffer's Buying Guide: Laundry

There are important decisions to make before buying new laundry appliances and several factors to take into account. This guide will walk you through the different types and applications of washers and dryers.



Top-Loading or Front-Loading Washer?

Top-Loading Washers

There are two types of top-loading washers. Regular top-loaders use about 40 gallons of water and an agitator to wash the clothes.

The second type of top-loaders are referred to as HE (High-Efficiency) Top Loads. They are similar, but do not have an agitator. Therefore, they are able to wash more clothes and only use approximately 25-35 gallons of water.



Impeller vs. Agitator

The shape of the impeller creates currents in the water as it rotates. These currents move the clothes through the water and clean them without the impeller making contact with the clothes. This takes up less space in the center of the drum, making the machine easier to load than traditional machines.

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What Is The Difference Between Top-Loading And Front-Loading Washers?

Front-Loading Washers

Front-loaders are the current favorite. These machines only use approximately 15-20 gallons of water. Their design allows them to have faster spin cycles that remove more moisture, resulting in faster drying times.

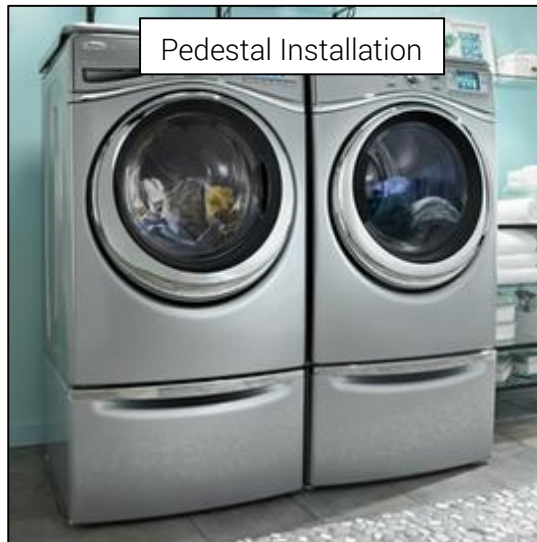


Advantages of Front-Load Washers

1. Ability to Stack (stacking kit sold separately)
Stacking the laundry appliances takes advantage of limited space.
2. Ability to install pedestals below each unit for easier loading/unloading. Most pedestals have built-in storage drawers.
3. Storage Above (Side-by-side installation)
Set your baskets, organizers, and hangers above your washer and dryer.
4. Water Efficiency
Of all the different types of washers, front-loaders use the least water per wash.
5. Energy Efficiency
Washer/Dryer sets that are Energy Star qualified can save you anywhere from \$45 to \$125 per year on power costs, depending on the model and how often you use it.
6. Gentler Tumbling
Without an impeller or agitator inside the unit, your clothes gently tumble, and are cleaned thoroughly.

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Which Is The Best Application For You?



Designer Tip:

The installation of your laundry depends on several factors such as your desired setup, available space, and appliance type. No matter your final selection, always leave at least **4 inches** behind the appliances for the hoses and wires.

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Capacity: How Much Do You Actually Need?

When it comes to capacity, the immediate assumption is to go for the largest available washer, but before doing that, consider the following:

- Washers are available in capacities ranging between 2 cubic feet all the way up to 6 cubic feet.
- A household with only two adults would not require a washer larger than 3.5 cubic feet.
- The average family of 4 uses a washer with a capacity of 4.2 cubic feet.

Talk to your Kieffer's Appliances salesperson about your washing habits, and they will direct you toward your best options.



Designer Tip:

Bigger is not always better. In the photo above, you see a washer with a 5.6 cubic foot capacity. While that's impressive, it may be excessive for some households. Look how far it sticks out!



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Gas vs. Electric Dryer: What's The Difference?

It is very important to know the fuel type of the dryer you need. They're available in electric, natural gas and liquid propane models. Electric dryers use three- and four-pronged cords. Check your current dryer's plug to determine if you need a 3- or 4-prong plug, but keep in mind that electric dryers do not ship with a cord as they are sold separately. Kieffers supplies both 3- and 4-prong cords.

Gas dryers always accept natural gas, but can convert to liquid propane with a conversion kit that is sold separately. Be sure to speak to your Kieffer's Appliances salesperson regarding a conversion kit for your dryer.

When planning, DO	When planning, DO NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure the power outlet is the correct type for your dryer cord (3- or 4-prong) • To do this, simply check the cord of your existing dryer to see if it has 3 or 4 prongs. • Refer to a professional when converting or installing a dryer • Choose a Kieffer certified installer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not use the power cord from your old dryer. • Kieffer's Appliances supplies both 3- and 4-pronged cords. • Do not assume what kind of gas your new dryer accepts, as that could cause serious damage to your new appliance.



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What Cycles Should You Look For?

Laundry appliances have come a long way and here are some features found on certain washers. Keep in mind that these features affect the price of the washer.

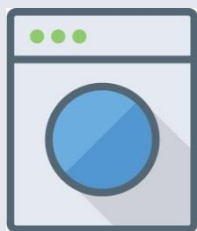
- Cycles (Gentle, heavy, pre-soak, hand-wash, active wear)
- Allergen Removal
- Steam Cycles
- Variable spin speeds (for delicate clothes)
- Heat Boost
- Towels
- Sanitize

Features like "Heavy Soil Cycle" are great for gardeners and outdoorsy people, while steam cycles are perfect for de-wrinkling clothes.



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BONUS SECTION: What Is Compact (European) Laundry?

Compact laundry refers to washers and dryers that are **24-inches wide**. Because of their size, stacking in closets or placing side by side in a standard 24-inch kitchen cabinet is made easy with models from brands like Bosch, Miele, Asko, and others. American companies such as Whirlpool, GE, and Maytag have designed their own compact laundry appliances.

Almost all compact laundry is offered by European brands. In Europe, households typically have smaller kitchens and living spaces, so compact laundry is a very useful. Since these machines are only available in electric models, gas hook-up is not an option. Smaller washers and dryers, however, have become more popular in the US over the last 20 years especially in city apartments or as extra laundry on a second floor.



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