ALIENERGY
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

Energy Ratings Factsheet

Power your home wisely

What do these ratings mean?

5W 40W 100W 1kW 3kW 10kW

These ratings tell you how much energy is used by an appliance per hour when it is switched on. **1 kilowatt (kW) = 1000 watts (W)**, and the higher the rating, the more energy is used per hour.

Knowing the ratings of your electrical items will help you to save energy by understanding which items are the most important to monitor when it comes to minimising use.

Your home appliances

One unit of electricity (1kWh) is used when one kW is used for one hour. Not all appliances are the same – you might be surprised to discover how much energy is used to power the most common household appliances! Generally speaking, high amounts of energy is required in appliances which generate heat, for example:

- cookers
- heaters
- electric showers
- hair straighteners

Buy energy efficient products

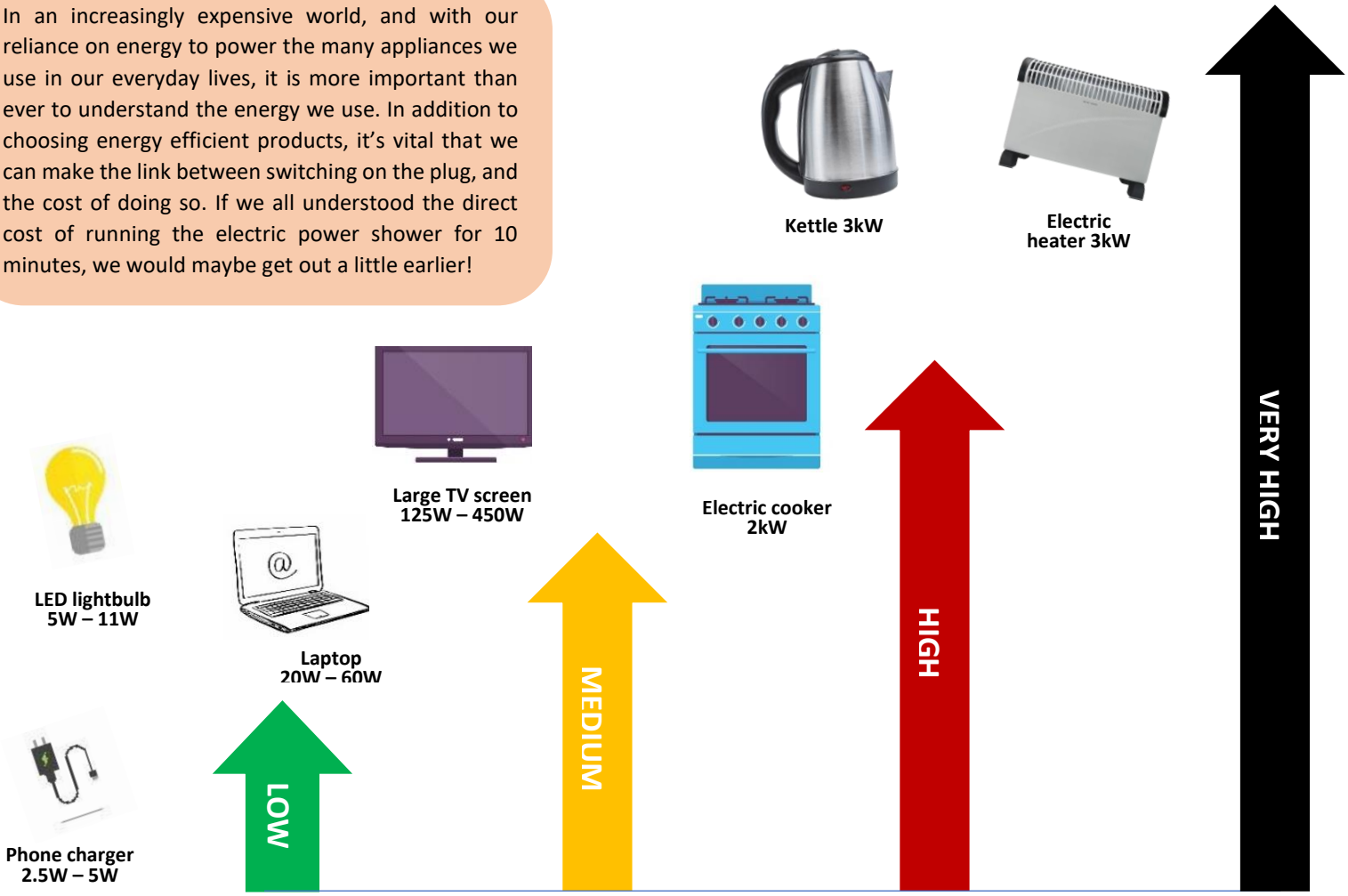
When buying a new appliance for your home, look out for its energy label. The energy label tells you how much energy that appliance uses, comparing it to similar appliances. This can help you find appliances that use the least amount of energy. There are many benefits to buying energy efficient products including:

- reduce energy consumption
- lower your energy bills
- manage your electric appliances

How much energy do your most common household appliances consume?

Electric shower 10kW

In an increasingly expensive world, and with our reliance on energy to power the many appliances we use in our everyday lives, it is more important than ever to understand the energy we use. In addition to choosing energy efficient products, it's vital that we can make the link between switching on the plug, and the cost of doing so. If we all understood the direct cost of running the electric power shower for 10 minutes, we would maybe get out a little earlier!



From these typical values, you can see for example that leaving an electric power shower running for one hour could use **2,000 times** as much electricity as leaving an LED light switched on for the same period of one hour. You can calculate the cost of running an electrical appliance using the formula:

(Energy rating in kWh) x (cost of unit of electricity) x (number of hours the appliance is running).

The greatest energy savings can be made by:

a) reducing the use of items with the highest power ratings

b) choosing efficient items with lower power ratings wherever possible - especially for items which are in use for the greatest amount of time.

This project is funded by the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme www.energyredress.org.uk.

ALIenergy @ALIenergy13