

Appliance Buying Guide

Washer/Dryer

Drum size (Washers) – As of April 30, 2011, all washers are to comply with the Department of Energy (DOE) standards regarding cubic feet measurements. The previous method used international and domestic numbers for drum sizes, which created discrepancies between same-sized appliances where one was given standard cubic measurements and another used international measurements. All appliances will now have domestic numbers to avoid confusion.

End-of-cycle signal – an audible or visible indication of the end of a cycle

Front-load – washer/dryer with drum that is tilted on its side so that the contents of the drum are lifted in and out of the water throughout the cycle

LCD – liquid crystal display that electronically displays information such as text, temperature and more

Reversible doors – doors that can be configured to open on the right- or left-hand side

Sensor wash – detects water temperature, soil and detergent amount and automatically adjusts cycle to optimally clean the load

Sound reduction package – technology designed to remove or reduce sound when appliance is in use

Stackable – two separate machines, a washer and dryer that are stacked on top of one another

Top-load – clothes and linens are placed in a vertically-mounted drum and operates on a propeller-like agitator in the center of the cylinder