

Is Obtaining a Portable Emergency Power Generator Right for You?

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Our Story...



Types of Power Generators

- **Stand-by:** Permanent outside the home, start when power goes out. They run on an existing fuel source, either liquid propane or natural gas.
- **Portable:** Affordable option (\$220 - \$1500), when only a few vital electrical items are needed during a power outage. Are smaller and can be wheeled out of the garage.
 - Gas, Propane, Diesel, Dual Fuel: Never be run inside the home or enclosed areas
 - Battery: Universal Power Supply – provides 15 – 20 mins back-up for computers, medical
 - Solar

NOTE: Connecting a portable generator **directly to your household wiring** can be deadly to you and others. It can "back feed" onto the power lines connected to your home and injure neighbors or utility workers.

Work with a qualified electrician to install a manual transfer switch to safely tie into selected circuits of your main electrical panel. This will protect everyone when the power is restored.

Portable Emergency Generators



What to Consider Before Buying...

- Determine which electrical items are needed in an emergency
- Calculate the total watts needed to determine what size generator is required
 - An electrician can help make this determination, or you can check the manufacturer information for each appliance
- Determine fuel type
- Look for low noise generation (consider personal and neighbor tolerances)
- Establish your budget, storage location
- Research ratings and feedback through Internet and YouTube

Is a Power Generator Right for You?

Reasons to say YES

- You have frequent power outages (planned or unplanned)
- A power outage affect your work or schooling
- A power outage affect health issues or medical equipment
- You have resources that must have continual power

Reasons to say NO

- Not willing or able to do the monthly maintenance required
- Don't have the physical strength to pull the ripcord on a gas generator
- You are not able to hook up the needed appliances/items to the generator
- You are not able to move the generator to its "emergency" location

Next Steps & Resources

<https://www.pvenw.org/emergency-prep-tips.html>