

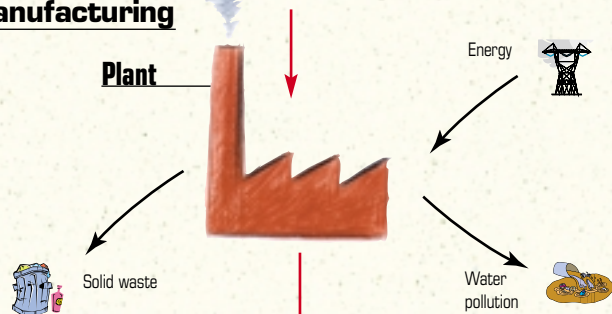
From materials of manufacturing to landfill : the life cycle of household appliances

Materials

Aluminium, steel
Plastics
Electronics
Refrigerants and foaming agents
Others
Packaging

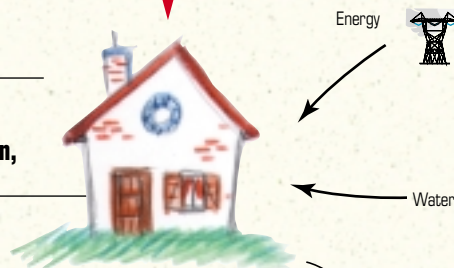
Manufacturing

Plant



Use

Your kitchen, bathroom



End of life

Recycling
Solid waste
Dangerous substances

Did you know

Cold eats up energy:

refrigerators and freezers represent **about one third of the household electricity bill** (electric heating excluded). Similarly, washing machines and dishwashers are big consumers of energy because a lot of energy is needed to heat the water and run the engine.

✓ Why an ecological label?

4 European consumers out of 5 would be willing to buy more environmentally friendly products, providing they are controlled by an independent organism.

✓ What is the European eco-label ?

In order to help consumers buy green products, the European Commission has defined a labelling scheme to distinguish the most environmentally friendly everyday consumer goods (with the exception of food products and medicines).

✓ What does it mean if I see a label on a product?

It means that an independent public organism has checked that the product complies with strict ecological and performance criteria defined at European level. The criteria are revised on a regular basis in order to take into account technological changes.

✓ What can I do to shop "smart" and more ecologically?

The future of the European eco-label relies on you.

- Favour products with the eco-label
- When you buy a product that does not have the label, contact the manufacturer or the retailer and ask them why.
- Tell everyone you know to buy products with the European eco-label.
- To know more about the other products and whom to contact, visit our web site address:

<http://europa.eu.int/ecolabel>



European Commission

T H E E U R O P E A N E C O - L A B E L

Household Appliances

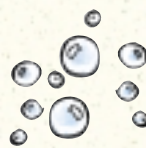


Do not drop on the public highway. Design CONCERTO - Illustrated by Marc Heru - Printed on 100% recycled paper bleached without chlorine.

A FLOWER
FOR A
BETTER ENVIRONMENT



They started to invade our kitchens and bathrooms about 50 years' ago... What are they?



Mechanical wonders, relentlessly put on a job day and night, to make our lives so much easier...

But are they environmentally friendly?

Not so sure. Household appliances represent about 40% of a household's electricity consumption, a substantial part of it's water bill and of the bulky waste produced, not to mention the gas emissions which deplete the ozone layer.

To help you **reconcile modernity and ecology**, we have designed household appliances that perform well and are also ecological
Let yourself be guided by the flower



TRUE or FALSE?

“ECOLOGICAL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES? THEY DON'T WORK AS WELL...”

FALSE!

To be awarded the European eco-label, washing machine and dishwasher manufacturers have to prove that their products are classified among the best (A or B for washing machines and A, B or C for dishwashers) according to a European performance standard.

Washing machines with the European eco-label,



- Use less energy (electricity consumption reduced by about 50%*)
- Offer you the guarantee of a high level performance (class A or B) for washing and spin drying
- Can substantially reduce your water bill (about 40%*).
- Are less noisy when washing and spin drying
- Avoid wasting detergent by making dosage easy
- Contain less substances dangerous for the environment and health
- Are taken back for free by the manufacturer after use
- Can easily be dismantled and recycled
- Teach you how to optimise their use
- Inform you on their water and electricity consumption
- Guarantee the availability of spare parts during a period of at least 12 years.

* by comparison to the less efficient appliances available on the market

Dishwashers with the European eco-label,



- Use less energy (electricity consumption reduced by about 30 to 40%*)
- Can substantially reduce your water bill
- Avoid wasting detergent by making dosage easy
- Offer you energy saving washing cycles
- Can be easily dismantled and recycled
- Teach you how to optimise their use
- Inform you on their water and electricity consumption and their noise emissions
- Guarantee a high level performance (class A, B or C) for washing and drying.

* by comparison to the less efficient appliances available on the market

Refrigerators with the European eco-label,



- Use much less energy (electricity consumption reduced by 60%*)
- Are less noisy
- Do not use ozone depleting substances
- Minimise the use of substances with a global warming effect
- Are taken back for free by the manufacturer after use
- Can be easily dismantled and recycled
- Teach you how to get the best use out of your machine
- Availability of spare parts is guaranteed for a 12 year period

* by comparison to the less efficient appliances available on the market

Guide for ecological use of household appliances

For an ecological wash ...

Re-group the dirty laundry and use the most economic programme.
Follow the washing instructions for your washing machine.
Prefer 40°C washing cycles and avoid the use of 90°C washing cycles.
Limit the use of pre-washing to very dirty laundry.

How to wash dishes and be ecological too ...

Avoid rinsing the dishes before placing them in the dishwasher.
Follow maintenance instructions for the machine.
Choose the most economical programme: it limits water consumption and heats to an adequate temperature (50° C).

Finally, use detergents with the European eco-label!

An ecological use of your refrigerator...

Do not place your refrigerator next to a heat source. Respect a minimum distance between the appliance and the wall.
Allow hot foodstuffs to cool down completely before placing them in the appliance.
Limit the opening time of the door: you can save up to 5% energy.
Defrost frequently.

Long live recycling!

Do not throw away your old household appliance! Ask your Municipality how to recycle the appliance.