FAQ's:

General product knowledge

There are a lot of factors to consider when you're planning to purchase a generator, such as cost, size and power capacity. Making the right decision based on these factors is crucial to ensure that you get the best value possible out of your generator.

We'd like to help you with some of the most commonly asked questions so that we can help you make an informed decision about purchasing a generator.

What Should I Know Before Buying a Generator?

You need to consider:

- What is the wattage capacity you require?
- Does the generator have enough outlets to plug in all of the items I want to power?
- How noisy is the generator?
- Do you prefer a recoil or an electric start generator?
- How large is the fuel tank and how many hours of operation will it provide?
- Can the generator be easily transported?

If you are unsure about any of the above, please contact us and we will gladly assist you!

Maxwatt petrol generators are tough, rugged and offer the highest levels of performance, reliability and safety, while still being in compliance with Australian WH&S regulations. Our generators are the ideal portable power source to power up all your electrical appliances and tools AND are also useful for home use as a backup power supply.
Maxwatt digital inverter generators offer the best in portable power while being light to carry, fuel efficient and super silent. Besides the electrical output being able to power all sensitive electronic equipment, our generators are also an essential part of recreational caravanning and camping AND also useful for home use as a backup power supply.

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What size generator do you need?

What Size Generator Do I Need?

It is very important to understand how many watts you intend to power so that you can make an informed decision on selecting the best size generator for your needs. If you choose a generator that is too small, you will not be able to run heavy duty items such as fridges or effectively run essential appliances during a power outage. Furthermore, if you overload the generator may lead to its breakdown as well as damage to all appliances that are using its power.

Alternatively, if you choose a generator that is too big, you will be spending more on its purchase, installation, fuel, maintenance and repairs than is required or necessary. Choosing a generator that is too big may lead to unnecessary costs.

The size of your generator depends on the number and type of electrical appliances that you plan to run. Heating and cooling appliances like air conditioners and refrigerators require a larger start up power and generally use a lot of power to run. You will need a bigger generator to power such appliances. Alternatively, if you want to power the lights in your house or the occasional small power tool, you can opt for a smaller generator.

It is also important to consider the start up power that the appliances require. Equipment that have moving parts like fans and pumps consume a lot of electricity at start-up, but do not require a lot of power to continue functioning. This is because the motor needs a lot more power to move from a stationary position to their normal running position. The power consumption surge when starting up these appliances can cause your generator to fail, even when its size capacity is sufficient for all your appliances' running wattage.

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Calculating your required wattage

The first thing you need to do is work out your Total Electrical Load, using the power chart below. Then, you will need to establish your running load, such as lights and appliances, which you expect to operate at any one time.

FOR THE OUTDOORS

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Hedge Trimmer	450	450
Lawn Mower	1200	1200
Weed Trimmer	500	500
Edge Trimmer	500	500
Chain Saw	1200	1200

FOR THE HOME

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Light Bulbs - 60 - 70 Watt	70	70
Well Pump	500	1000
(Medium) Refrigerator/Freezer	350	700
Microwave - 750 Watts	750	950
Coffee Maker	1000	1000
Electric Stove - 6" Element	1600	1600
Colour TV - 27"	350	350
Security System	350	350
Computer with 17" Monitor	450	450
1/2 HP Garage Door	450	900
Sump Pump 1/2 HP*	500	1000
Washing Machine	750	1500

Some equipment like an air conditioning system will require double the rate wattage to run. Refer to the starting watts in chart.

RECOIL STARTING METHOD

DIGITAL INVERTER TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRIC/RECOIL STARTING METHOD

2 YEAR WARRANTY

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FOR AN EMERGENCY

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
(Medium) Refrigerator/Freezer	500	1000
Lamp	100	100
Sump Pump 1/2 HP	375	750
Fan	200	400
Radio/Television	50 - 300	50 - 300

FOR EVENTS

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Radio/CD/DVD Players	50 - 200	50 - 200
Inflator Pump	50	50
Electric Grill	1650	1650
Box Fan	200	200
Outdoor Light String	250	250
Icecream Truck	5000-8000	5000-8000
Coffee Van	5000-8000	5000-8000

RECOIL STARTING METHOD

ELECTRIC/RECOIL STARTING METHOD

2 YEAR WARRANTY

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CAMPING

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Air Condition - 1 HP	750	1500
Light	100	100
Fridge (Small)	300	600
Microwave	600	850
Fan	200	400
Laptop	200	200
Colour TV - 20"	250	250
Kettle	1100	1100
Iron	1200	1200
Radio	100	100

When camping, try to avoid heating products such as kettles and coffee machines as they draw lots of power. Try rather use portable gas appliances.

If a mistake is made upon purchase regarding the size of on Maxwatt models, customers are given the opportunity to upgrade to a bigger model within 24 hours of purchase.

RECOIL STARTING METHOD

DIGITAL INVERTER TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRIC/RECOIL STARTING METHOD

2 YEAR WARRANTY

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FOR CONSTRUCTION

Device	Running Watts	Starting Watts
Power Hand Drill	700	700
Belt Sander - 3"	1000	1000
Air Compressor - 1/4 HP	185	400
Air Compressor - 1 HP	750	1500
Air Compressor - 2 HP	1500	3000
Table Saw	2000	2000
LED Flood Light	200	200
Reciprocating Saw	960	960
Circular Saw - 71/4"	1000	1000
Battery Charger	300	300
Cement Mixer	550	1100
Welder 140Amp	4400	4400
Grinder 5"	1000	1000
Grinder 9"	2300	2300
Drop Saw 10"	1800	1800
Shop Vac	1100	1100
Jig Saw	600	600
Jack Hammer (Large 16KG)	1800	1800
Jack Hammer (Medium 6KG)	1100	1100
Planer	700	700

The tables below are a guide to the running and starting power requirements of some common electrical devices. Please do take note that this guide is an approximate one only.

RECOIL STARTING METHOD

DIGITAL INVERTER TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRIC/RECOIL STARTING METHOD

2 YEAR WARRANTY

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What Will Happen If I Overload My Generator?

Portable generators should never be overloaded; however, all Maxwatt portable petrol sets can provide a surge to their normal output for a short period (e.g. during start-ups).
For example, a 7kVA Maxwatt generator can deliver up to 5000 running Watts and 5500 starting Watts.

Important to note: If a generator is running for long periods of time with an overload (i.e. that is a rating above the maximum rating of the set) there are various things that may occur:

- Overheating of the engine
- Overheating of the alternator, which will burn out the windings.
- Breakdown in oil consistency causing low oil pressure and engine failure.
- Reduced generator lifespan.

Does the engine comply to Australian standards?

These are all purpose-designed and built 4-stroke, overhead valve (OHV) petrol engines that comply with Australian EPA emissions standards.

How heavy is it?

The smaller models can be easily carried by one person using the integrated ergonomic lifting handle. Larger models have multiple lifting points and also Never-Flat wheels and handles for ease of portability; it is recommended for safety that they be handled as a two-person lift or by one person using a mechanical aid. Please refer to our website for the weights of each respective model.

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How noisy is it?

The inverter generator models are the quietest in our product range. The selectable ECO-throttle switch, double-insulated acoustic enclosure and low-tone mufflers allow these units to run ultra-silently from only 59 dB(A).

What can it run?

Each model of Maxwatt generator has its own electrical output ratings that are expressed in terms of running power and starting power, both of which are measured in Watts. To select the right generator for your needs, please refer to the Generator Selection Guide on our website at www.maxwatt.com.au

How many kVA is it?

Due to the various manufacturers using different ways to determine their kVA ratings, the only way you can be really sure of accurately comparing generator outputs is by referring only to their continuous running power outputs in Watts.

Does it have electric start?

The following Maxwatt models are electric start: MX4000IS; MX7000ES; MX9000ES. They are fitted with a 12 Volt Lithium Ion battery but can also be started manually using their built-in recoil starter.

What is the warranty?

To ensure the lasting quality of your ownership experience, all Maxwatt generators are covered by a 2-year domestic use warranty. Please refer to the full conditions of the warranty that are clearly stated on our website at www.maxwatt.com.au.

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