Right Light Guide for General Use Bulbs



Today there are many lighting options available.

The right bulb for you depends on how much light you need, what color light you want, and its costs and features.

STEP 1

Decide How Much Light You Need

Focus on Brightness. Different amounts of light are needed for different uses. Instead of thinking about light bulbs based solely on the amount of energy they use, focus on their brightness level.

Lumen is the measurement of <u>brightness</u>. Higher lumen bulbs produce brighter light.

If you like your bulb's current brightness, choose a CFL or LED with similar lumens to reduce your energy use. You may also consider a bulb that is less bright to save more.

Note: Lumen output listed on packages may vary. Light bulbs listing anywhere from 800 to 860 lumens are similarly bright, for instance.

Watt (W) is the measure of <u>power consumption</u>. Lower wattage bulbs can lower your electric bills.



Brightness	ln	candescent	CFL	LED
450 lumens	*	40W	9-13W	4-8W
800 lumens	*	60W	13-16W	8-13W
1100 lumens	\	75W	17-23W	11-15W
1600 lumens -	\	100W	23-28W	16-20W

Least Efficient Most Efficient

STEP 2

Decide What Color Light You Want

Choose Light Appearance.

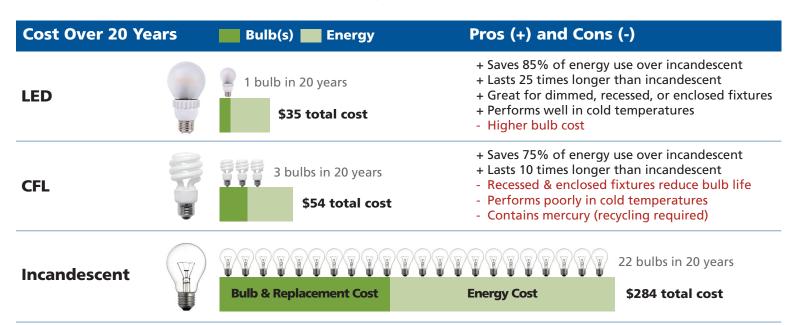
You'll be pleased with your new bulb by choosing a light appearance that you like. All of these colors are available for LEDs and CFLs and at most brightness levels.

Note: Choose warm or soft white (2700-3000 K) to match the color of incandescent bulbs.



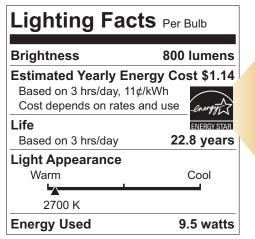
Think About Costs and Benefits

Compare Types of Light Bulbs. You can think about product, replacement, and energy costs over 20 years for different bulb types. Why 20 years? Because LEDs can last that long. Some incandescent bulbs are being phased out and will soon be unavailable. The pros and cons of LEDs and CFLs will help you pick a bulb that is right for you.



<u>Note</u>: Cost comparison is based on a 20-year life and takes into account power consumption, hours of use per day, residential electric cost, bulb cost, and replacement cost. For detailed cost calculations and a full pro/con list, visit http://Lighting.MnCERTs.org.

Buy Your New Bulbs. The Lighting Facts label on all bulb packaging clearly shows light appearance and brightness. The label also includes the ENERGY STAR® logo when a bulb meets the required certification levels for high efficiency, performance, and reliability.





STEP 4

Find Rebates and Resources



Contact Agralite Electric Cooperative at 800-950-8375 or www.agralite.coop

