

Dehumidifier REGULATORY UPDATE

The U.S. Department of Energy (DoE) released an updated energy efficiency standard for dehumidifiers. This is expected to save energy, reduce consumer utility bills, and help limit global warming.

Old Product
45 PINT
New Product
30 PINT

Old Product
30 PINT
New Product
20 PINT

Old Product
50 PINT
New Product
35 PINT

Dehumidifier
BUYING CHART
Old vs. New (PINTS)

Old Product
60 PINT
New Product
40 PINT

Old Product
70 PINT
New Product
50 PINT

WHY THE CHANGE?

The DoE defines performance ratings for dehumidifiers and test methods for determining performance. For dehumidifiers, the two primary performance ratings are the capacity and the energy efficiency metric.

ENERGY

The new dehumidifier standard will help save more energy, thanks in large part to an updated test procedure used to calculate how much electricity each dehumidifier model uses. The new energy efficiency metric is referred to as Integrated Energy Factor (IEF) which replaces the old metric, Energy Factor (EF). Unlike EF, IEF includes the energy the dehumidifier uses when it has cycled off.

TEMPERATURE

The new test procedure specifies that portable dehumidifiers are tested at 65°F, rather than 80°F, to more accurately reflect expected performance in a basement setting or crawl space that may be cooler than other areas of the dwelling—which can affect the efficiency of the dehumidifier. This 15°F reduction in testing temperature means that a dehumidifier tested to the new procedure will likely report a smaller capacity than when tested to the old procedure.

Dehumidifier REGULATORY UPDATE



CAPACITY

Capacity ratings express how much moisture a dehumidifier can remove—larger, wetter rooms need higher capacity dehumidifiers. With the new test standards you will begin to see similar looking dehumidifiers with less capacity callout. This is because of the change to the test procedures. With cooler conditions, there is less water to remove in the air, which is why the capacities have decreased.

CAPACITY

Is defined as the amount of water removed per day (24 hours) at test conditions (reported in pints/day) and identifies the relative amount of moisture a dehumidifier can remove.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY METRIC

Identifies how many liters of water a dehumidifier can remove per kilowatt-hour of energy consumed.



WHAT THIS MEANS?

The new standard will ensure that dehumidifiers are designed to operate in these cooler spaces in a way that delivers the efficiency gains they promise, saving consumer's energy and money.

WHEN DOES THE UPDATE TAKE PLACE?

The standard takes effect June 13, 2019.