

VIDEO GAMES MAY BE ENERGY-DRAINING

You're probably not thinking about the amount of energy your video game console is using when you're trying to make it to the next level in your secrets ops mission, but maybe you should. Video game consoles use a substantial amount of electricity and can offer great opportunities for lowering your utility bills.

How do you reduce the waste? The best thing to do is simply turn off your video game console whenever possible. Another good option is to enable the automatic power-down feature already built into your device. These features are often disabled initially, so you have to activate them yourself, but they can save tons of energy without negatively affecting your gaming experience. If you have an Xbox One, disconnecting your cable box from your gaming console when you want to watch TV is another great way to reduce energy use. Do this by using the HDMI port on your TV to connect your Xbox One.

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The Xbox One and PlayStation 4 consume three to four times more energy than the Wii U. The chart shows how energy use in playing mode varies by model. Right now, the Nintendo Wii U is the most energy efficient of the major game systems.

Video game consoles also use much more power when used for nongaming purposes—like watching movies—than a stand-alone device such as a DVD player. So if you're craving a movie, make sure to use a separate DVD player rather than your game console.

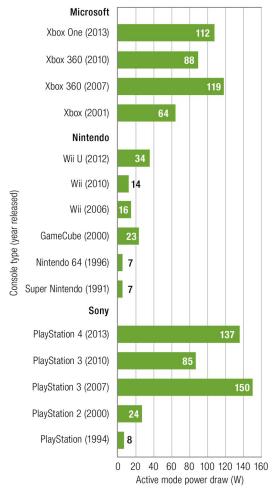
Join the more than 50 percent of gamers who regularly turn off or power manage their systems, and sit back and enjoy the savings.





THE EVOLUTION OF VIDEO GAME POWER DRAW

The Nintendo game consoles have historically drawn less power than the Sony and Microsoft consoles, and the latest Nintendo model continues the trend as the most efficient of the available options.



Note: W = watt.