

What is a watt?

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A watt is a unit of power. It is the amount of energy an item needs to function; the rate at which energy is consumed.

One watt = electricity flowing at a rate of one joule (unit of energy) per second.

The symbol for a watt is 'W'

What is power?

Power is the rate at which energy is either produced or consumed; the rate at which energy flows. Power is measured in watts.

What is energy?

Energy is the capacity to do work - such as creating light, heat, or motion.

What is a watt-hour?

A watt-hour is a unit of energy. It is the amount of energy an item consumes over a given timeframe; a way to measure the amount of work generated or performed.

Watt hours are generally measured in kilowatt-hours.

The symbol for a watt-hours is 'Wh'

What's the difference between watts and watt-hours?

Power is the rate at which energy is either produced or consumed; the rate at which energy flows. Power is measured in watts.

 **Watts**
measure
power

 **Watt-hours**
measure
energy

What is a kilowatt-hour?

A kilowatt-hour is a measure of electrical energy equivalent to a power consumption of one thousand watts for one hour. ie.

1kWh = 1000 Wh

The symbol for a kilowatt-hours is 'kWh'

Variations on kilowatt hours

- > 1 kilowatt hour (kWh) = 1,000 watt hours (Wh)
- > 1 megawatt hour (MWh) = 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh)
- > 1 gigawatt hour (GWh) = 1,000 megawatt hours (MWh)

smarter  business®

John De Mierre House | Bridge Road | Haywards Heath | West Sussex | RH16 1UA

t: 01444 220060

e: info@smarterbusiness.co.uk

w: www.smarterbusiness.co.uk

Where did the watt get its name?

The watt is named after a Scottish inventor named James Watt, inventor of the steam engine.

