

# Light Bulb Comparison Chart

Lamp type	Energy-saving incandescents (halogen)	Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)	Light emitting diod (LEDs)
Energy savings compared with regular incandescents	25%	75%	75% - 80%+
Purchase cost	\$	\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Five-year est. total cost (bulbs + energy)	\$29 (mostly energy \$)	\$10 (mostly energy \$)	\$24 (mostly bulb \$)
100-watt equivalent available?	Yes	Yes	Not yet. Only up to 75-watt equivalent
Lamp life (hours)	1,000 - 3,000	8,000 - 10,000	25,000+
Expected life span (at 1,000 hrs/yr; about 2.8 hrs/day)	1 to 3 years	8 to 10 years	25+ years
Dim well?	Yes	Most no	Some yes/ Some no
Color shift warmer when dimmed?	Yes	No	No
Okay for frequent switching?	Yes	No	Yes
Color temperature options	Warm only	Warm to cool	Warm to cool
Ability to make colors look true to life (color quality or CRI)	Excellent	Very good	Very good
Okay for enclosed fixtures?	Yes	Some yes	Some yes
How much heat does the bulb give off?	Lots of <i>radiant</i> heat	Moderate <i>radiant</i> heat	Moderate <i>conductive</i> heat
Works well in cold temperatures?	Yes	Some yes	Yes
Contains mercury?	No	Very small amount	No

