

# WATTS v LUMENS

*So watts the difference?*

**Watts** = The amount of energy a bulb uses.

**Lumens** = The amount of light a bulb produces.

**TOOLBANK**



**Incandescent** bulbs use a lot of energy to produce light and are easily damaged.

**LED** bulbs are more expensive but are more energy efficient and can last up to 50,000 hours 50 times longer than a std bulb.

Incandescent Bulb WATTS	Approximate Light Output LUMENS
25	217
35	346
40	450
50	600
60	800
100	1,200 - 1,600
150	2,600

Not so long ago if you wanted a replacement light bulb it was fairly simple, you had a rough idea how bright a 60 watt bulb was and replaced with one which was either less or more bright depending on where you were using it.

However due to recent legislation all household bulbs now are 'energy efficient' halogen, CFL or LED these use far less 'watts' to give you the same amount of light, these new bulbs are now measured in lumens as well as watts.

Depending on how energy efficient a bulb is it's now possible to buy two bulbs of the same wattages that have different lumens (the lower lumen bulb being more energy efficient). The table above shows approximately how many lumens a traditional incandescent light bulb produced, from this you can choose a bulb roughly of a similar brightness.

You can then choose the most energy efficient bulb based on the wattage (the lower the watts the more energy efficient the bulb is). For example GU10 (down lighter bulbs) are available in 3.5 watt (217 & 238 lumens – old style 25 Watt) 5.0 watt (346 & 380 lumens – old style 35 Watt) up to 8.0 watts (556 & 596 lumens – old style 50 Watt).

**SO OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW!**