

## Information sheet

# WASHING MACHINES

At QPRC, we recommend front loading washing machines, as they use less water. Here are a few tips to help you choose a washing machine that suits your budget, saves water, and is kind to the environment.

### Front loaders vs top loaders?

In a test of 18 washing machines by Choice Magazine (March 2007), the top four machines in a rating of overall performance (irrespective of size) were all front loaders. The best overall performer in each size category was a front loader.

### How's it going to wash?

Front loaders are gentler on the clothes than top loaders. They have higher spin speeds resulting in less moisture in the clothes on completion. This shortens drying time and minimizes the use of a tumble dryer. In terms of dirt removal or rinse performance, neither type has an advantage but front loaders offer more temperature and wash options.

### I want to save water and energy...

One of the biggest advantages of front loaders is that they use significantly less water than a top loader, up to 70% less in some cases or 36,000 litres per year. They also use less detergent and less energy. This reduces greenhouse gases making front loaders more environmentally friendly than top loaders.

### How easy is it to load washing?

Front loaders on the floor require bending to load and unload, unlike top loaders which could cause issues for those with back problems. However, these problems are reduced if front loaders are placed on pedestals or in a purpose built cabinet.



### Saving space...

Front loaders are very effective space savers. A dryer can easily be mounted on top of the machine without hindering its operation.