Dryers

Photo: Laundrylux

Snapshot

	75-lb. Capacity	125-lb. Capacity
Highest priced unit:	$4,775	$8,431
Mid-range priced unit:	$4,117	$7,894
Lowest priced unit:	$3,592	$7,507

Pricing Trends
2013-2014: +5%
2014-2015: +3% to +4%
2015-2016: +3% to +5%

Typical delivery time: 2 to 4 weeks

Typical delivery charges: Varies depending on location

Average life span of product: 13 to 19 years

Percent vendor installed: Varies, but most are installed

Standard warranty: 2 to 3 years

Extended warranty: Depends on the dealer

Average maintenance cost per year: Around $600

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Sources: Laundrylux, P&G Professional, Pellerin Milnor, UniMac

FROM THE FRONT LINES:
"We like to have the digital system where you can set the temperature level, set the cooling time and review the cycles that have been previously run. The control system helps with controlling the temperature of the dryer while it's running, instead of relying on heat sensors which have given us several issues."
G. Phil Rudy, Director of Property Maintenance, TLC Management, Marion, IN

Buyer Notes

- Consider buying dryers with an onboard fire suppression system, which tests for rises in basket temperature and can activate a water system to put out combustion fires.

- Dryers with moisture- and temperature-sensing technology will help save on energy and labor costs in the long run, and help protect linens from damage related to over-drying.

- Buying a dryer that has the ability to reverse spin direction will help reduce dry times, as well as reduce the number of wrinkles in linens, says one vendor.

- Look for dryers that operate with a "roller drive system," which places the basket on four rollers, one vendor suggests. These systems can help machines last longer.