

# Washing machines

## Snapshot

	50-lb. Capacity	100-lb. Capacity
<b>Highest priced unit:</b>	\$13,688	\$27,000
<b>Average priced unit:</b>	\$9,887	\$21,150
<b>Lowest priced unit:</b>	\$7,194	\$17,375

## Pricing Trends

2008-2009: +3%

2009-2010: +3%

2010-2011: +4%

**Typical delivery time:** Some immediately, roughly 4 weeks for others.

**Typical delivery charges:** Varies, based on freight

**Average life span of product:** 10 to 20 years

**Percent vendor installed:** Varies broadly

**Standard warranty:** 3 to 5 years

**Extended warranty:** Depends on dealer. Options exist for parts.

**Average maintenance cost per year:**  
About \$260

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

*Source: Continental Girbau, Dexter, Maytag, Laundrylux, Pellerin Milnor*



Photo: Unimac

## FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"The biggest feature I look for when buying a washer is serviceability. Are parts readily available? Is there a 'local' service center that will take care of me when I call? I'm not afraid to ask for references and check with others." Joel Nelson, Maintenance Supervisor, Greenfield, Princeton, IL

## Buyer Notes

- Selecting a manufacturer that offers multi-load washer-extractors with high G-force is one of the most beneficial things long-term care operators can do to increase efficiency in their laundry areas, one dealer advised.
- If you don't need the more common 50- or 100-lb. capacity machines, some manufacturers offer 60-lb. washers for about \$11,000, or \$15,300 for an 80-lb. capacity washer.
- The life span of a commercial washing machine varies widely based on how well it is maintained and repaired. Operators that conduct routine maintenance checks can greatly increase the longevity of their machines.
- Look for programmable machines with higher extraction rates to shorten dry times.

**For a list of vendors go to the:  
EQUIPMENT section, pages 78-79**