

## Washing machines

### Snapshot

	50-lb. Capacity	100-lb. Capacity
<b>Highest priced unit:</b>	\$11,375	\$16,875
<b>Average priced unit:</b>	\$9,000	\$14,667
<b>Lowest priced unit:</b>	\$7,250	\$13,167

### Pricing Trends

2011-2012 +4%

2012-2013: +4%

2013-2014: +4%

**Typical delivery time:** 1-3 weeks

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

**Average life span of product:** 10 to 15 years

**Percent vendor installed:** Varies, but most are installed

**Standard warranty:** 3 to 5 years

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

**Average maintenance cost per year:** Varies, but about \$625

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

*Sources: Continental Girbau, Laundrylux, Maytag, Unimac*



Photo: Unimac

### FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Facilities offering various levels of care might have both commercial and residential machines, so it's important to think about infection control practices for both types and train staff accordingly."

Angela Brinkley, Director of Resident Services, St. Catherine's Village, Madison, MS

### Buyer Notes

- Providers should get a washer with a spin speed of at least 300 RPM, says one vendor. Once you get over 300 or 330, you reach a point of diminishing returns; only so much water can spin out.
- A machine with controls that allow you to measure laundry outputs is important. The data can help determine the efficiency of the laundry system.
- As a rule of thumb, average maintenance costs are approximately 3% of the total cost of processing linens, which could include both washers and dryers.
- Some machines can be programmed in multiple languages, so facilities with staff who prefer to speak in a language other than English can offer this feature to facilitate work.

**For a list of vendors go to the:  
EQUIPMENT section, pages 89-91**