

How a Generator Can Help You Escape the Pain of a Power Outage

Almost everyone has experienced a power outage at some point in their lives. They are often caused by things like severe weather, traffic accidents that affect nearby poles and lines, and even blown transformers, and even very short outages have the potential to do some serious damage. [Generators can help prevent much of the pain](#) associated with even short-term power outages in a few very important ways.

Common Issues Caused by Power Outages

Power outages of any length can cause issues for homeowners. Some of the most common problems include:

- **Flooded basements** – Unless your sump pump has a battery backup, a power failure can cause it to stop working, which may lead to significant flooding and related damage.
- **Spoiled food** – If the power outage lasts longer than a few hours, or if you open the refrigerator or freezer door during an outage, the food stored inside could spoil.
- **Damaged electronics** – Desktop computers are especially susceptible to the effects of sudden shutdowns caused by power outages. Things like data loss or corruption and hard drive damage are common.
- **Loss of medical devices** – If you rely on an IV pump, CPAP machine, or various other medical devices that improve your quality of life (or in some cases even save your life), a power outage can cause serious and perhaps even life-threatening medical issues.

Fortunately, if you choose to install a generator, you can avoid all these issues, save money, and continue to live comfortably despite a lengthy power outage.

What a Generator Does

A generator is a piece of battery-powered equipment that automatically kicks on in the event of a power outage to supply power to your home. Though you may not be able to power every appliance and electronic device in your home, you certainly will be able to power the most important ones, including your medical devices, refrigerator and freezer, and sump pump, to name a few. Then, when the power comes back on, the generator shuts itself down smoothly in order to prevent any sort of interruption in the function of your electronics and appliances. However, it is important that you [purchase the right size and style generator](#) for your needs.

The Importance of Professional Installation

There are many generators on the market today, and most of the ones you can find in home improvement stores are gas-powered. Though these do a great job in a pinch, they must be installed and used with a great deal of caution since they emit dangerous combustion gases – and they present a fire hazard, too. [Professional household generator installation](#) can help you avoid this; these generators charge themselves while the utility power is on, then power your home from a built-in battery, which means there is no need to fear dangerous fumes. A professional can help you choose the right generator for your home's unique needs, then install it correctly and safely so you can rely on it when you need it.

Though there's no real way to avoid power outages altogether, you can take steps to minimize their effects on your home, electronics, and appliances. A generator should be viewed as an investment in your health and comfort that will pay for itself each and every time the power goes out – even if only for a moment.