What the Package Can Tell You...

How much power does the bulb use?
- Power usage is measured in watts.
- The greater the wattage, the more power used.

How bright is the light?
- Brightness is measured in lumens.
- The larger the number, the more lumens, the brighter the light.

How long does the bulb last?
- Average lifespan is measured in hours.

All of these things can tell you how much the lighting really costs!

Choose the bulb that is right for you!
- People with limited sight abilities need lighting that can help prevent falls and improve daily activities.
- Any bulb can enhance safety and security when used the right way.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE:

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## Incandescent Lightbulbs

**How Do They Work?**
- When electric currents move through a tungsten wire, the tungsten wire heats up and produces light.

**Making a Sustainable Choice**
- Only about 8% of the energy they use creates visible light.
- The rest of the energy is wasted as heat!

## Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs)

**How Do They Work?**
- When electricity passes through a gas-filled glass tube, a special coating inside the tube produces light.

**Making a Sustainable Choice**
- About 21% of the energy they use creates visible light.
- Most of our energy comes from coal-fired power plants that put mercury into the environment.
- Even though CFLs contain a tiny bit of mercury, they reduce the overall amount of mercury that goes into the environment by using less energy.

## Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)

**How Do They Work?**
- Electricity passes through semiconductors to make light.
- New white-light LEDs work in your home just like incandescent bulbs and CFLs.

**Making a Sustainable Choice**
- About 20-30% of the energy they use creates visible light.
- LED technology is changing rapidly.
- Check the stores often for new products as they hit the shelves!

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### When Thinking of Lighting Costs, Consider...

- **Initial Cost:** How much will the bulb cost when you first buy it?
- **Lifespan:** How often will you have to replace the bulb?
- **Energy Use:** How much energy does the bulb use?

### Light Source Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Incandescents</th>
<th>CFLs</th>
<th>LEDs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Initial Cost</strong></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lifespan</strong></td>
<td>About 1,000 hours</td>
<td>About 10,000 hours</td>
<td>About 20,000 hours!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Energy Use</strong></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- To make certain that you are purchasing a quality product, choose bulbs with the Energy Star® logo.
- Be sure to purchase bulbs from a reputable manufacturer.
- For best results, choose white-light LEDs.