The Load And Runtime Calculator

Bonus asset from The 72-Hour Outage Plan: A room-by-room readiness kit for homeowners. Included with your order at no additional cost.

When to use it: Complete it during modules 2 and 3, before you look at a single product. Bring it back out for every purchase you consider afterwards.

These are the words, not a description of them. Say or send them as they stand; the blanks in square brackets are the only thing you change.

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COLUMNS, for each device you list: Device | Tier (1 must run / 2 prevents loss / 3 comfort) | Nameplate watts | Measured watts | Surge watts | Hours needed per day | Source of the figure (label / manual / meter)

TIER 1 - MUST RUN (absence causes harm or damage)

TIER 2 - PREVENTS LOSS (refrigeration, well pump)

TIER 3 - COMFORT (lamp, laptop, fan, modem)

RUNNING TOTAL (tier 1) = _______ W

RUNNING TOTAL (tier 1 + 2) = _______ W

LARGEST SINGLE SURGE ON THE LIST = _______ W

REQUIRED CAPACITY = running total + largest single surge = _______ W

BATTERY RUNTIME = watt-hours _______ / running watts _______ x 0.85 = _______ hours

MY RUNTIME TARGET (from my area's longest recorded outage) = _______ hours

PRODUCT CONSIDERED: _____________ advertised runtime _______ h my calculated runtime _______ h

IF THEY DIFFER BY MORE THAN 20%, THE REASON IS: _____________________
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Your own version, in your own words