

Generac Automatic Home Standby Generator FAQs

What is an automatic home standby generator?

An automatic home standby generator is a backup electrical system that operates whether you are home or away. Within seconds of an outage, it automatically supplies power directly to your home’s electrical circuit breaker box. After utility power returns, the generator shuts itself off and waits for the next outage. It operates on natural gas or liquid propane gas and sits outside just like a central air conditioning unit. See our ["How It Works"](#) video for more information.

Why is an automatic standby generator important?

Power outages can strike any time, any place, and the damage can be costly. A power outage is not merely an inconvenience. It can be costly, stressful, and even dangerous. Some of the more common effects include:

- Spoiled food
- Flooded basements
- Frozen pipes
- Risk for people whose health depends on medical devices

What is the difference between a portable and a home standby generator?

You may be considering a portable generator for use during power outages. We sell a lot of portables, and they can certainly be used to provide backup power, but there are some key differences you need to be aware of:

	Portable Generators	Automatic Home Standby Generators
Uses	Portability makes them ideal for job sites, tailgating, camps, or other remote locations.	They are hard-wired to your home so that's the only place you will use them.
Starting	You must be home when the power goes out to start and connect almost all portables.	Starts up automatically when utility power is lost—whether you're home or away.
Connecting	Must be manually connected via a transfer switch or with extension cords.	Permanently connected to your home's electrical system so there is nothing you need to do when power is lost.
Refueling	Must be refueled every 6-12 hours, depending on loads and size of fuel tank.	No refueling if connected to your natural gas line. We also offer propane and diesel options with long run times.
Capacity	Typically powers only some key appliances.	Can power your entire home or selected circuits.
Monitoring	You must monitor operation in person.	With Mobile Link™ you can monitor your generator from your smartphone, tablet or PC.

Can an automatic backup generator replace utility service?

No. The generator fuel costs would be much more expensive than buying power from the utility company since their cost to produce electricity is divided among thousands of customers. Our automatic generators are specifically produced for use as backup to utility power and should not be used as primary power.

Is there a payment plan/ financing available?

Generac’s authorized dealers offer financing through Synchrony Financial. Payment plans are available with low monthly payment options, subject to credit approval. If you are interested in financing your purchase, please advise the Consumer Sales Representative when scheduling your in-home assessment.

Could we use our own financier?

Most dealers will allow a customer to finance the generator and installation through their own bank or credit union. Additionally, they also accept credit card payments. Ask your dealer for more information.

How are the generators powered?

A permanently installed Generac home backup generator protects your home automatically. It runs on natural gas or liquid propane (LP) fuel, and sits outside just like a central air conditioning unit. A home backup

generator delivers power directly to your home's electrical system, backing up your entire home or just the most essential items.

How does the home standby generator get appropriately sized?

There are many types and sizes of automatic home standby generators. The only way to accurately determine what type and size generator is suitable for your needs, is to have an authorized dealer come to your home to review your property and learn more about your back up power requirements.

What happens during the free in-home assessment?

During your free in-home assessment, an authorized dealer will discuss your backup power requirements, and recommend the home standby generator size that fits your needs. They will provide you with a written estimate, and best of all, there is no obligation to buy.

Who is Generac?

Since 1959, Generac has been designing and manufacturing backup power generators for residential, commercial, and industrial applications. We have grown to be the world's largest provider of residential backup generators, selling five times as many generators as all of our competitors combined. Generac's broad product line is available through the industry's largest network of independent generator dealers, retailers and wholesalers. To learn more, visit our [About Us](#) page or connect with us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [Google+](#).

For additional information on Generac Automatic Home Standby Generators or to schedule your FREE in-home assessment, please call 1(844) 224-9578 or visit www.Generac.com/ameren-offer.