



Dimensional Analysis

Cost of Energy



Consumable Energy



Gasoline

*Potential
Energy (fuel)*

\$1.85
gallon



Natural Gas

*Potential
Energy (fuel)*

\$0.91668
Therm



Electricity

*Kinetic
Energy*

\$0.076
kWh



Consumable Energy

What's the cheapest?

Gasoline $\frac{\$1.85}{\text{gallon}}$

Natural Gas $\frac{\$0.91668}{\text{Therm}}$

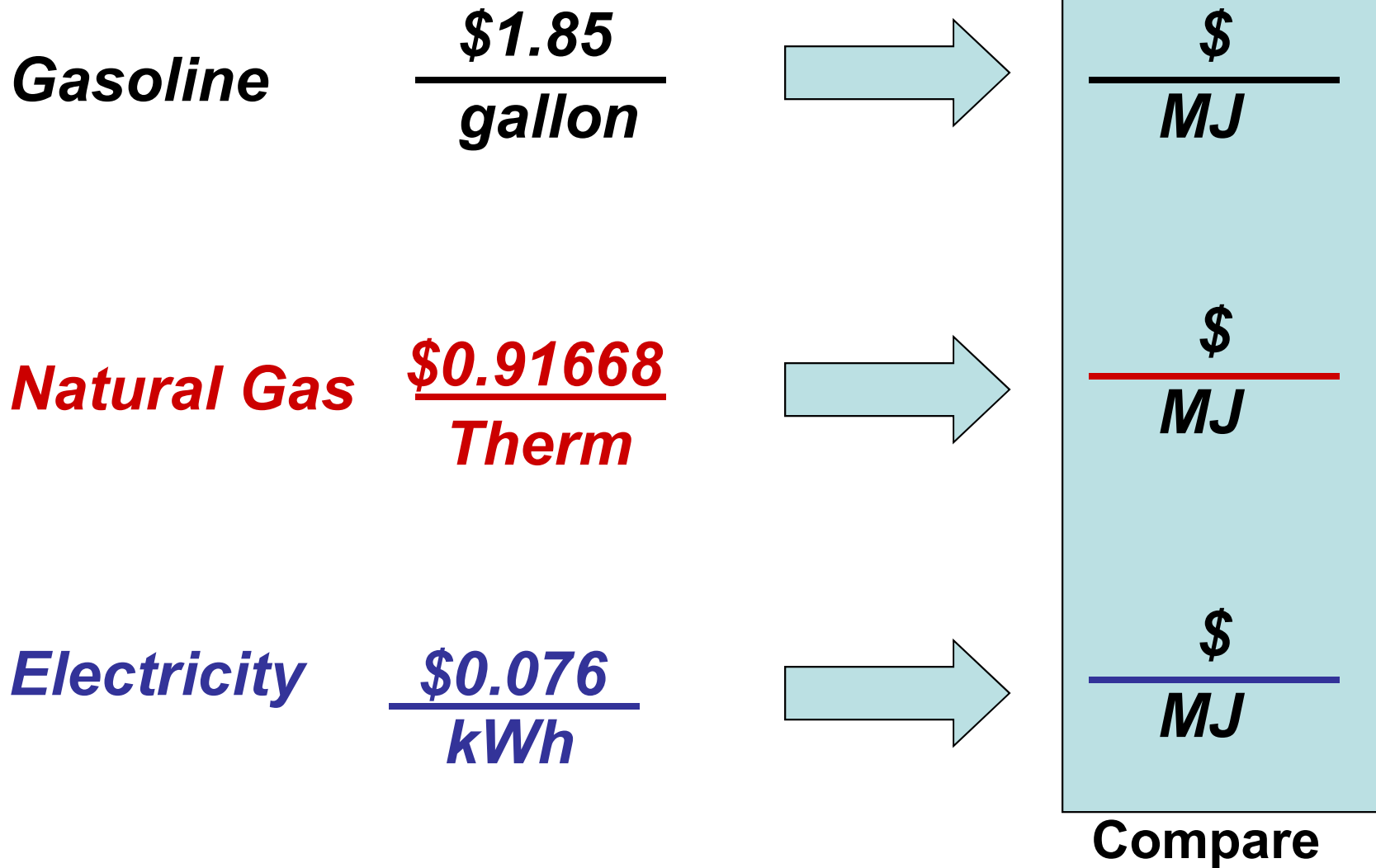
Electricity $\frac{\$0.076}{\text{kWh}}$

Different Units!
Not comparable.



Consumable Energy

What's the cheapest?





Unit Conversion: *Natural Gas*

Natural Gas $\frac{\$0.91668}{\text{Therm}}$

Conversion Factors

1 Therm = 105,480,400 J

1,000,000 J = 1 MJ (exactly)

$$\frac{\text{5 Sig. Figs. } \$0.91668}{\cancel{\text{Therm}}} \times \frac{\cancel{1 \text{ Therm}}}{105,480,400 \cancel{\text{ J}}} \times \frac{\text{Exact Number } 1,000,000 \cancel{\text{ J}}}{1 \text{ MJ}} =$$

$$\underline{0.00869052} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}} \quad \text{5 Sig. Figs.} = \underline{8.6905} \times 10^{-3} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}} \quad \text{5 Sig. Figs.}$$





Unit Conversion: *Electricity*

Electricity $\frac{\$0.076}{kWh}$

Conversion Factors

1000 W = 1 kW (exactly)

1 Wh = 3600 J (exactly)

1,000,000 J = 1 MJ (exactly)

2 Sig. Figs.

$$\frac{\$0.076}{kWh} \times \frac{1 \text{ kW}}{1000 \text{ W}} \times \frac{1 \text{ Wh}}{3600 \text{ J}} \times \frac{1,000,000 \text{ J}}{1 \text{ MJ}} =$$

$$0.02111111 \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}} = 2.1 \times 10^{-2} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}}$$

2 Sig. Figs.

2 Sig. Figs.





Unit Conversion: *Gasoline*

Gasoline $\frac{\$1.85}{\text{gallon}}$

Conversion Factors

1 gallon = 3.7854 Liter

1 Wh = 3600 J_(exactly)

1 Liter = 9700 Wh

1,000,000 J = 1 MJ _(exactly)

3 Sig. Figs.

$$\frac{\$1.85}{\cancel{\text{gallon}}} \times \frac{\cancel{1 \text{ gallon}}}{3.7854 \cancel{\text{ Liter}}} \times \frac{\cancel{1 \text{ Liter}}}{9700 \cancel{\text{ Wh}}} \times \frac{\cancel{1 \text{ Wh}}}{3600 \cancel{\text{ J}}} \times \frac{1,000,000 \cancel{\text{ J}}}{1 \text{ MJ}}$$

5 Sig. Figs. 2 Sig. Figs. Exact Exact


$$0.01399541 \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}} = 1.4 \times 10^{-2} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}}$$


2Sig. Figs. 2Sig. Figs.




Consumable Energy

What's the cheapest?

Gasoline $\frac{\$1.85}{\text{gallon}}$  $2.1 \times 10^{-2} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}}$
Largest (expensive)

Natural Gas $\frac{\$0.91668}{\text{Therm}}$  $8.6905 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}}$
Smallest (cheapest)

Electricity $\frac{\$0.076}{\text{kWh}}$  $1.4 \times 10^{-2} \frac{\$}{\text{MJ}}$
In between



Conversion Factors: *Memorize*

Metric Prefixes

• pico	(p)	$\times 10^{-12}$
• nano	(n)	$\times 10^{-9}$
• micro	(μ)	$\times 10^{-6}$
• milli	(m)	$\times 10^{-3}$
• centi	(c)	$\times 10^{-2}$
• kilo	(k)	$\times 10^3$
• Mega	(M)	$\times 10^6$

Conversion Factors: (*exact*)

$$1 \text{ mL} = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L}$$

$$1 \text{ }\mu\text{m} = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ kg} = 1 \times 10^3 \text{ g}$$

$$1 \text{ MJ} = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ J}$$

$$1 \text{ mL} = 1 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ cc} \quad (\textit{exactly})$$

$$1 \text{ inch} = 2.54 \text{ cm} \quad (\textit{exactly})$$



Dimensional Analysis: One More Example



265 cubic inches = 265 inch³

Small Block V8 Engine

$$\frac{\overset{3 \text{ s.f.}}{265 \text{ inch}^3}}{1} \times \frac{\overset{\text{Exact}}{2.54 \text{ cm}}}{\cancel{1 \text{ inch}}} \times \frac{\overset{\text{Exact}}{2.54 \text{ cm}}}{\cancel{1 \text{ inch}}} \times \frac{\overset{\text{Exact}}{2.54 \text{ cm}}}{\cancel{1 \text{ inch}}} = \overset{3 \text{ s.f.}}{4342.57 \text{ cm}^3}$$

$$\frac{\overset{3 \text{ s.f.}}{4342.57 \text{ cm}^3}}{1} \times \frac{\overset{\text{Exact}}{1 \text{ mL}}}{\cancel{1 \text{ cm}^3}} \times \frac{\overset{\text{Exact}}{1 \text{ L}}}{\cancel{1000 \text{ mL}}} = \overset{3 \text{ s.f.}}{4.34 \text{ L}}$$

