Estimating Peak Hourly Hot Water Demand

To estimate your household's peak hourly hot water demand, determine what time of day (morning or evening) your family is likely to require the greatest amount of hot water. Then calculate the maximum expected hot water demand using the table below.

Note: This does not provide an estimate of your family's total daily use, only the peak hourly use. Also, the values in this table do not consider water conservation measures, like low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, front-loading clothes washers, etc.that can reduce hot water use for each activity.

	Avg. gallons hot water per usage		**Times used in hour**		**Gallons used in hour**
Showering	20	X		=	
Bathing	20	X		=	
Shaving	2	X		=	
Washing hands and face	2	X		=	
Hand dishwashing	4	X		=	
Automatic dishwashing	10	X		=	
Preparing food	5	X		=	
Automatic clothes washing	32	X		=	

For example, if your family's expected greatest hot water use is in the morning, the total might be:

3 showers	20	X	3	=	60 gallons/hour
1 shave	2	X	1	=	2 gallons/hour
Hand-wash dishes	4	X	1	=	4 gallons/hour
Peak hour demand					66 gallons/hour

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association and ACEEE estimates.