How can I work out how much the heaters cost to use?

Electricity Consumption Explained.

Many Customers ask how they can work out the electric consumption of the heater they are interested in purchasing. The explanation I am about to give will vary depending on your tarriff, and your supplier. However, I will be using figures for an Iberdrolla customer on a fixed tarriff. Correct as of 1st Jan 2014.

Rental Charge

Your Bill will have two charges. The first one is, in effect, your rental for the period in question. It is rated by price per kilowatt (12cents) by permitted power (5kW) by period measured (61 days). So: 0.12 X 5 X 61 = 36.6. Your Potencia Facturada is 36.60 + IVA. This charge will be the same for all customers on the 5kw tarriff even if they do not use any electricity.

Consumption Charge.

Electric power is measured in Watts. So one kilowatt (1kW) is one thousand Watts. If you had ten 100 Watt light bulbs and turned them all on they would be consuming 1,000 watts - 1kW. If you left them all on for one hour they would have consumed a unit known as 1kWh (One Kilowatt Hour), and cost you 18 cents (15 cents + 3.15 cents IVA). For ease of Maths I will call this 18 cents. So the bottom line is: It costs you 18 cents per kilowatt per hour to use electricity.

Efficiency, Economy, and Cost- Effectiveness.

Economy. The Thermostat

Knowing the cost per unit of electricity, you now have one component of a complicated equation. It would seem that a 1kW heater will cost you 18 cents per hour to run. With many electric heaters this is true, but if they have a thermostat, then that consumption SHOULD be reduced. The thermostat should turn the heater off when it, or the room, has reached the desired temperature. Neater Heater thermostats are very sensitive and therefore effective.

Efficiency. The Element.

The element is the part of the heater that is made hot by electricity. What happens next is down to design. Ultimately the designer tries to make the air as warm as possible using as few watts as possible. This determines the Efficiency of the heater. Using modern technology and materials the Norwegian designers have made Neater Heaters extremely efficient in turning your 18 cents into very warm air.

Cost Effectiveness.

Combining an efficient element with a sensitive thermostat reduces your 18 cents for the hour, assuming you have the correct sized heater for the room. Once the heater has warmed your room from cold to the desired ambient temperature (remember, these are radiators and not fires, so we are talking comfort, not sauna) the thermostat will turn it off, and on, periodically, as it maintains a constant room temperature. The accumulated periods of it being turned off will reduce your consumption and therefore your bill. Sometimes considerably, depending on variables such as insulation, number of outside walls, and its aspect (EG North or South facing).