

Smart Life & Ecofriendly Systems

1 Connected Appliance Top Loading Washer Dryer



1 BW-DKX120F(N) top loading washer dryer

Hitachi has released the BW-DKX120F top loading washer dryer with a Wind Iron program*¹ that blows high-velocity air to smooth out creases as it dries the clothes (12-kg wash and 6-kg drying capacity).

The main features are as follows:

- (1) A Wind Iron program that avoids the need for ironing by blowing high-velocity air (approximately 500 km/h²) to smooth out creases as it dries clothes.
- (2) An auto-dosing system for detergent and fabric softener that automatically dispenses the correct amounts for each wash cycle to delivering excellent laundry performance and get the full benefit of the fabric softener while also avoiding the need to measure out and add these manually.
- (3) An AI Wash*³ function that cleverly delivers a clean wash by sensing eight different variables (including type of detergent and dirtiness of clothes) to automatically control the wash as needed for each cycle.
- (4) Connection to a smartphone app to assist with operation. Convenience is also enhanced

by a laundry advice function based on wash performance indicators and an artificial intelligence (AI) wash program the learns the user's laundry preferences. (Hitachi Global Life Solutions, Inc.)

*1 For wash loads up to 2 kg. Has higher water use and energy consumption, a longer operating time, and a louder washing noise than a normal program. (Tested by Hitachi Global Life Solutions)

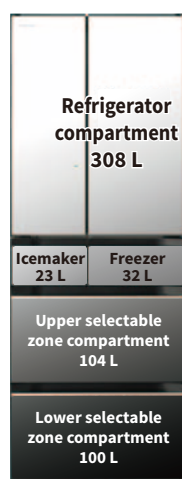
*2 Speed in vicinity of outlet calculated based on outlet cross-section and air flow rate (Tested by Hitachi Global Life Solutions)

*3 Operates during a washing cycle of normal program to adjust water use, energy consumption, and operating time. (Tested by Hitachi Global Life Solutions)

2 Large-capacity Refrigerator with Selectable Zone Feature

Hitachi has released the R-KX57N and R-KX50N refrigerators that incorporate the selectable zone feature allowing two compartments (pull-out drawers) in the lower section to be designated as either vegetable, refrigerator, or freezer compartments as required. The refrigerator's main features are as follows:

- (1) The selectable zone feature allows users to adjust the refrigerator layout to suit their lifestyle needs, for example by choosing to relocate the vegetable or freezer compartments to the middle of the refrigerator or by designating both compartments as freezers when buying frozen goods in bulk. Vegetable storage performance is also enhanced



Selectable zone



2 R-KX57N(X) large-capacity refrigerator with selectable zone feature (left) and options for upper and lower selectable zone compartments (right)

by the addition of a mode that minimizes the drying out of vegetables in the refrigerator. This uses indirect cooling that does not directly expose food to cold air.

(2) The new models continue to offer moisture cooling feature*, whereby food retains its freshness regardless of where on the refrigerator shelf it is placed, extra fresh room in the lower part of the refrigerator that is purpose-designed for storing meat and fish, and delicious freezing function for quick and tasty home freezing.

(3) A new quick cooling function that temporarily increases the flow of chilled air into the refrigerator to ensure that food cools quickly regardless of where on the refrigerator shelf it is placed. This function is helpful for things like chilling a freshly made bento lunchbox or shortening the time it takes to cool something down during cooking.

(Hitachi Global Life Solutions, Inc.)

* Moisture cooling does not include the door pockets.

3 Cordless Stick Vacuum Cleaner

Cordless stick vacuum cleaner PV-BH900H has recently been released and it is easy to use with enough suction to serve as a home's main vacuum cleaner yet it is light weight. The main features are as follows:

(1) A newly designed vacuum cleaner body that is lighter than the previous model*¹ (with a standard weight*² of only 1.9 kg) while still retaining high power. Adoption of higher battery voltage made it possible. Besides that, this vacuum cleaner has a new exterior design that is simple with less bumps and protrusions.

(2) The vacuum cleaner is easy to look after with a dust press structure that makes it less likely that hair or other material will get tangled in the inner sleeve filter where centrifugal separation mainly takes place. Disposal of dust



3 PV-BH900H(N) cordless stick vacuum cleaner

after vacuuming is simple and avoids the need to touch it, using a dedicated lever for this purpose.

(3) User friendliness is also improved by a new recharging stand. This compact unit has a basket arrangement for holding the vacuum cleaner that makes it easy to insert. It is also able to hold all of the cleaner attachments so that they are close at hand when doing the vacuum cleaning. (Hitachi Global Life Solutions, Inc.)

*¹ PV-BH900G (FY2019 model), standard weight 2.0 kg

*² Total weight of body, extension pipe, and head

4 Connected Appliance Health-conscious Superheated Steam Microwave Oven

Hitachi has rolled out a software update for its MRO-W10X health-conscious superheated steam microwave oven, a connected appliance. Updating*¹ with the new software adds additional menu options for the convenient and delicious double-scan cooking feature that measures



4 MRO-W10X health-conscious superheated steam microwave oven in metallic gray

weight and temperature^{*2} and uses this to automatically control the cooking temperature to match the portion size.

The main features of the new auto-menu options for double-scan cooking are as follows:

(1) Additional auto-menu options for making Cookpad^{*} classic recipes

The update adds 10 new classic recipes available through the Cookpad recipe service to go with the 30 carefully chosen auto-menu options supplied with the new microwave oven. Cookpad classic recipes that would normally be prepared in a frying pan or pot can now be cooked to perfection using the oven or microwaving functions.

(2) Additional auto-menu options developed in partnership with food manufacturers

Hitachi has teamed up with four food manufacturers who care about good taste (Ajinomoto Co., Inc., Kagome Co., Ltd., Kikkoman Corporation, and Kewpie Corporation) to jointly develop new auto-menu options for the double-scan cooking feature. In all, 20 new auto-menu recipes have been added that make good use of common household ingredients.

(Hitachi Global Life Solutions, Inc.)

^{*1} Use of the new functions requires the dedicated app and installation of the software update in the microwave oven.

^{*2} Measures the weight and temperature of the food (and container). It works by measuring the surface temperature before cooking and tracking the temperature change until it reaches the surface temperature specified in the recipe.

^{*} See "Trademarks" on page 158.

by Hitachi to replicate the hard-on-the-outside/soft-in-the-middle texture of the rice prepared by the historic Hachidaime Gihey^{*2} restaurant in Kyoto, the range of gourmet cook programs available on previous models for cooking rice to suit different dishes has been augmented on the new cooker by the addition of a gourmet sushi rice cooking program so that this style of rice cooking can also benefit from Hachidaime Gihey's skills.

To serve up rice that is just right for sushi, Hachidaime Gihey believes it should be cooked in a different way to normal white rice, keeping the moisture level and stickiness down to an appropriate level while still retaining its granularity. The new gourmet sushi rice cooking program cooks rice quickly before the grains have a chance to absorb too much water by pressurizing the cook pot to a maximum of 1.3 times atmospheric pressure and thereby achieving a higher boiling point, of up to 107°C. The result is that the rice cooks more quickly through sustained exposure to pressurized steam at this higher temperature. In this way, the cooker is able to serve up rice fit for sushi at Hachidaime Gihey by achieving the right balance of soaking, heating, and steaming to keep moisture and stickiness to an appropriate level while retaining granularity so that the rice will come out just right after mixing with the sushi vinegar.

(Hitachi Global Life Solutions, Inc.)

^{*1} Cooked using the gourmet cook program for normal white rice. The power consumption is higher and the cooking time longer than the economy mode program that is the default setting.

^{*2} A well-known historic rice restaurant in Kyoto that is beloved of rice aficionados and has been in business for generations, serving delicious rice dishes that draw on skills passed down from their forebears.

5 Induction Rice Cooker

Hitachi has released the new RZ-W100DM induction rice cooker. Along with the continuing availability of the gourmet rice cooking program^{*1} that was specially devised



5 RZ-W100DM induction rice cooker in black frost color scheme