

# The Battle of the Home Standby Generator

Generac vs. Kohler vs. Briggs & Stratton

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
ELECTRIC Inc. 



## When it comes to choosing a home standby generator, you have a ton of options.

This type of permanently installed unit is designed to kick on automatically during an outage, and comes in various different brands and wattages—with their own special features.

We're taking a look at three of the top brands of home generators, comparing similar models side-by-side to help you find a partial or full-home generator for your needs.

Let's see how these three comparable Generac, Kohler and Briggs & Stratton standbys “stand-up” against one another.



# Small-Sized Partial-House Standby Generators

A generator from anywhere to 7-11 kW can often power basic circuits in your home, such as your fridge, sump pump, garage door, etc.

It's a wattage that typically supports the "essentials" and is often ideal for small homes or partial home functionality during an outage.

## THE WINNER Generac's Guardian

**SOUND LEVEL.** Although the other two generators offer higher wattage, they run significantly louder, at between 8 or 14 dBA noisier than the Guardian. Generac can thank its Quiet-Test™ low-speed mode for its superior noise levels.

**SLEEK TECH.** Unlike the Briggs & Stratton's model, Generac's Guardian and Kohler's 20RESV models come with a multilingual LCD display, which allows you to monitor your battery status and track maintenance recommendations.

**REMOTE MONITORING.** Though all three brands offer generous customer support, Generac's generator comes with free remote monitor through [Mobile Link™](#), which gives you access to your generator via your smartphone or tablet, on-the-go. Kohler also offers a feature like this, which they call their [OnCue Plus Generator Management System](#), but it's for an additional fee.



[Generac's Guardian](#)  
11 kW



[Briggs & Stratton's](#)  
Fortress 12 kW



[Kohler's RESV](#)  
12 kW

	<a href="#">Generac's Guardian</a> 11 kW	<a href="#">Briggs &amp; Stratton's</a> Fortress 12 kW	<a href="#">Kohler's RESV</a> 12 kW
<b>Power Type</b>	Liquid Propane / Natural Gas	Liquid Propane / Natural Gas	Liquid Propane / Natural Gas
<b>Wattage*</b>	11,000 LP/10,000 NG	12,000 LP/11,000 NG	12,000 LP/11,000 NG
<b>Noise Level</b>	64 dBA (or 58 dBA in Quiet-Test™ low-speed exercise mode)	72.3 dBA	71 dBA
<b>Warranty</b>	5-Year	10-Year	5-Year
<b>Engine Type</b>	Generac's G-Force Engine	Vanguard™ Engine	Kohler Series 7000 V-Twin
<b>Housing</b>	NEMA/UL 3R Aluminum Enclosure	Automotive-Grade Galvanneal Steel	Steel
<b>LCD Display</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Remote Monitoring</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Customer Support</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Overload Protection</b>	✓	✓	X

\*NG = Natural Gas, LP = Liquid Propane

### SHOUTOUTS: BRIGGS

*Briggs & Stratton Fortress generators come with a generous 10-year warranty, as opposed to the Kohler and Generac's standard 5-year warranty.*

### SHOUTOUTS: KOHLER

*Kohler's remote monitoring is included with every generator: its OnCue Plus Generator Management System.*

## Explore Our Selection of Generators

Don't waste your time researching dozens of brands of generators. Some big names stand apart for their superior reviews and performance— such as our favorite manufacturers: Generac and Kohler.

These brands are our preferred providers for their years of reliability and praise, and we're ready to turn you into a believer.

**Here at Southwest Florida Electric, we're proud to be fully authorized Generac and Kohler service dealers.** Meaning, we not only sell these trusted brands, but we are certified to assist you with servicing them— from replacing an old part to a routine check-up.

You get a generator from us, we're going to make sure it's ready when you need the most. That's a promise.



**Explore our generators and discover what makes our team at SWFL Electric different than any other generator supplier or fixer-upper in the area.**

