

# What is an alternator generator

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The simplified difference is an alternator is a device that converts mechanical energy into alternating current (AC) electrical energy. A generator is a mechanical device that converts mechanical energy into either alternating current (AC) or direct current (DC) electrical energy. Alternators produce more power than generators.

Alternators are efficient because they only provide energy when it's needed. The alternator can come on and off as the battery needs to recharge. Because of this, your car doesn't die when it's running for a long time.

The armature is the rotating coil or series of coils in an electric motor. When the armature is stationary it becomes easy to produce voltage (low voltage) excitation to the rotor through the slip rings.

You would choose a generator when more electricity is needed because they produce voltage throughout the entire device without stopping. You can use a generator to charge a battery when it's completely drained as well.

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