

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A NEW AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

IT MAY BE TIME TO BUY A NEW AIR CONDITIONER IF YOUR:

- Unit is over 10 years old.
- Refrigerant is R-22 (or Freon), an ozone-depleting gas.
- You don't have a programmable thermostat and no one is at home during the day
- Your repair costs are high (and frequent)



An energy-efficient air conditioner will keep you cool this summer and lower your energy bills if you use these buying tips:

1 SEER IS IMPORTANT, BUT IT IS JUST THE STARTING POINT

You can judge the efficiency of an air conditioning unit by the SEER standard (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio).

Do you need the top of the line? Not necessarily. Many factors come into play, which is why it pays to have a free, in-home consultation with our team for your best deal.

Buying Tip: An experienced HVAC contractor will sell you the best a/c unit for your home, not the most expensive one. We're proud of the fact that our most frequent compliment is our no-pressure, free in-home consultation and comprehensive evaluation...and that's before you buy!

2 BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER AND SMALLER ISN'T NECESSARILY CHEAPER

If the air conditioner is too big it will cool the house too quickly without removing the humidity. This will make the house clammy and uncomfortable. If an air conditioner is too small it won't keep a house cool enough on hot days. A properly sized air conditioner provides you the best comfort and efficiency.

To properly determine the correct size for an air conditioner, the dealer should do a heat gain calculation in your home. (This is sometimes called a Manual J calculation.)

Such calculations take into account the climate and the size, design, and construction of your house. This is the only way to get the proper fit for your air conditioner and give you years of comfort and energy savings.

Buying Tip: Make sure your dealer does a heat gain calculation in your home. If this service isn't offered, find another dealer. (We start with this step!)

3 CHECK THE DECIBEL LEVEL OF YOUR AIR CONDITIONER TO INSURE QUIET OPERATION

How loud is the air conditioner when it cycles on? Find out before the a/c is installed in your home and interrupting your sleep or TV programs. Consider a two-stage air conditioner, which costs about 30% more than a single-stage air conditioner (but offers maximum comfort and energy efficiency for years to come.)

Buying Tip: Consider a two-stage unit for maximum efficiency and low noise.

4 NOTE THAT COSTS VARY DEPENDING ON YOUR HOME SETUP

If you have no ductwork, or your ductwork is old and leaky and needs replacement, the project cost will be at least twice as much more than what you'll pay if a new air conditioner can be connected to the existing ductwork. You'll also need to determine the best location for the outdoor unit.

Buying Tip: An experienced HVAC contractor will help you figure out the best setup for your budget. (We have worked on over 2000 homes in this area, so we've seen it all!)

5 KNOW THE 60/40 RULE WHEN IT COMES TO INSTALLATION

The largest variable in the long-term reliability of your air conditioner is installation. Rely 40% on your brand choice, and 60% on the quality of your contractor.

Buying Tip: Ask if the technicians are NATE-certified and look for customer reviews. (We're proud of our NATE certifications and 9.8/10 rating on HomeStars! Our top reviews even make us blush a little.)

DISCOVER YOUR HOME'S HEAT GAIN CALCULATION DURING OUR NO-PRESSURE, IN-HOME CONSULTATION. THEN YOU'LL BE READY TO PICK THE PERFECT AIR CONDITIONER FOR YOUR HOME.

CALL US AT [905-307-2988](tel:905-307-2988) OR [CLICK HERE TO SCHEDULE ONLINE.](#)