

Heat Pumps

Best Practices for Your New Heat Pump



Heat pumps work differently than boilers or furnaces. Use these tips to help you get the most from your heat pump and maximize your savings on your energy bills.

Let your heat pump run



Thermostat Settings — Heat pumps work best when you keep your thermostat at a constant temperature all the time — overnight, when you're out for the day or even away for a day or two. Unlike furnaces and boilers, adjusting your thermostat for short-term situations is not recommended and may lead to higher energy bills.



Winter Considerations — Continue to use your heat pump in very cold weather. It is not advised to shut your heat pump off, even when temperatures fall below zero. If you feel like you are not getting enough heat, turn up the temperature on your thermostat and consider setting the air flow at its highest setting.



Primary Heat — Use your heat pump as your primary source of heating and cooling. Even if you kept your older boiler or furnace, turn its thermostat way down and let your heat pump do the work.

Keep the heat pump clean



Filters — Always vacuum or rinse indoor air filters when the indicator light comes on or if they become visibly dirty. At a minimum, clean or replace the filters as recommended by the manufacturer, which could be once a month, depending on how dirty they are. Wash or replace allergen cartridges according to manufacturer recommendations.



Outdoor Units — If you have an air source heat pump be sure to keep the outdoor unit clear of obstructions, like leaves, debris, snow, ice, or water runoff from the roof. A rain and snow shelter can help minimize the work needed to keep the unit clean. Be sure to trim back any plants or bushes that are touching the unit.



Air Flow — Make sure the airflow is unrestricted around both the outdoor and indoor units.



Seasonal — check on your indoor and any outdoor equipment at least once per season. Make sure there is no obvious damage, like mold, ice buildup, or water dripping from the unit. If you notice an indicator light turned on, be sure to clean the filter before calling a maintenance professional.



Professional Maintenance — Schedule regular maintenance visits with your installer. Consult the manufacturer specs and/or warranty for the recommended intervals (most are every 1-2 years). If you ever notice damage to your heat pump, call your installer to schedule a visit, and they will make sure your heat pump is working properly.