



## Frequently Asked Questions about HVAC Systems

### 1. How often should I service my HVAC units?

- It's advisable to schedule professional HVAC maintenance at least once a year. This routine service helps identify and address potential issues, ensuring the system operates efficiently and prolonging its lifespan.

### 2. What are the signs my HVAC system needs servicing?

- Signs include unusual sounds during operation, reduced heating or cooling efficiency, water leaking around equipment, uneven temperature distribution, and frequent cycling. If you notice any of these issues, it's recommended to schedule a professional inspection promptly.

### 3. Can I do HVAC maintenance myself?

- While you can perform basic tasks such as changing air filters and cleaning vents, comprehensive HVAC maintenance is best left to professionals. Trained technicians have the expertise to identify and address potential problems, ensuring optimal system performance.

### 4. How often to replace air filters?

- Air filters should typically be replaced every 1 to 3 months, depending on factors such as filter type/Merv rating, the presence of pets, mostly carpeted homes, overall home cleanliness and overall system usage. Regular filter replacement helps maintain good indoor air quality and prevents strain on the HVAC system.

### 5. Recommended thermostat setting for efficiency?

- For energy efficiency (not so much personal comfort), consider setting your thermostat to 78°F in the summer and 68°F in the winter when you are at home. Adjusting the thermostat when you are away or using programmable features can further optimize energy usage.

### 6. How to improve HVAC system efficiency?

- Regular maintenance, such as cleaning flame sensors/ignitors, cleaning indoor/outdoor coils, cleaning drain lines, checking refrigerant levels, unobstructed vent pipes, and ensuring proper insulation, contributes to improved efficiency. Additionally, sealing air leaks in your home and using smart thermostats can enhance overall energy performance.



**7. What to do if HVAC system makes strange noises?**

- Unusual noises can indicate issues with the blower motor, condenser fan, or other components. It's essential to turn off the system and contact a professional HVAC technician for a thorough inspection and necessary repairs.

**8. Safety precautions for servicing HVAC?**

- Before performing any maintenance, turn off the power to the HVAC system. Wear appropriate protective gear, follow safety guidelines provided by the manufacturer, and exercise caution when dealing with electrical components to ensure personal safety.

**9. How to troubleshoot thermostat issues?**

- If your thermostat is not functioning correctly, check for common issues such as dead batteries, loose wiring, or incorrect settings. If these basic troubleshooting steps don't resolve the problem, consult the thermostat manual or seek professional assistance.

**10. Lifespan of HVAC unit and replacement time?**

- The typical lifespan of an HVAC unit is 15 to 20 years. However, if your system requires frequent repairs, experiences a decline in efficiency, or is outdated, it may be time to consider replacement for improved energy efficiency and performance.

**11. Improving indoor air quality through HVAC?**

- Regularly changing air filters, using air purifiers and humidifiers, and ensuring proper ventilation contribute to better indoor air quality. These measures help remove contaminants, allergens, smelly or dry static situations creating a healthier living environment.

**12. Role of ductwork in HVAC efficiency?**

- Well-maintained and sealed ductwork is crucial for optimizing HVAC efficiency. Regular inspections, cleaning, and sealing of any leaks in the ducts prevent air loss and ensure that conditioned air reaches its intended destination.

**13. Benefits of a programmable thermostat?**

- Programmable thermostats offer benefits such as energy savings by adjusting temperatures based on your schedule. They provide greater control over your HVAC system, allowing you to set different temperatures for various times of the day, reducing energy consumption when not needed.

**14. Using smart home tech for HVAC control?**

- Smart Wi-Fi thermostats enable remote monitoring and control of your HVAC system through smartphone apps. They often include features like learning your preferences,



providing energy usage insights, and allowing you to adjust settings from anywhere, enhancing convenience and energy efficiency. They also provide alerts to possible system issues.

**15. Identifying and fixing air leaks?**

- Identify air leaks by inspecting windows, doors, and ductwork for gaps. Seal these gaps with weatherstripping, caulk, or insulation to prevent conditioned air from escaping and outdoor air from infiltrating your home, improving overall energy efficiency.

**16. Importance of regular HVAC inspections?**

- Regular inspections are crucial for identifying potential issues before they become major problems. Professional technicians can detect and address issues early on, ensuring your HVAC system operates efficiently and minimizing the risk of unexpected breakdowns.

**17. Checking and adjusting refrigerant levels?**

- Checking and adjusting refrigerant levels is a task best left to professionals. Insufficient or excessive refrigerant can impact system efficiency and performance. A licensed HVAC technician has the expertise and tools to handle refrigerant-related tasks safely and accurately.

**18. What to do if HVAC doesn't provide adequate control?**

- If your HVAC system is not providing adequate temperature control, check the thermostat settings, replace air filters, and ensure there are no obstructions around vents. If issues persist, contact a professional to diagnose and address the underlying problem.

**19. Government incentives for energy-efficient HVAC?**

- Many governments offer incentives, such as rebates or tax credits, for upgrading to energy-efficient HVAC systems. Check with local authorities or energy efficiency programs to explore potential financial benefits for making environmentally friendly choices.

**20. Preparing HVAC for seasonal changes?**

- Prepare for seasonal changes by scheduling routine maintenance before each season. Adjust thermostat settings, test the system to ensure proper functionality, and address any issues promptly to guarantee optimal performance during temperature transitions.