

Replacing Air Filters

By regularly checking your air filters, you can save 10-15% or more on the cost of heating or cooling your home as well as maintain a better air quality.

Filters in your home can be located in a large “return grill” on the ceiling or low on the wall. Sometimes it is found in a hallway. They are usually near your thermostat. If you cannot find them there, check the furnace or air handler. They can also be found in the attic, crawlspace, basement, closet under stairs or outdoors. If you have more than one thermostat, you will more than likely have more than one filter.

What Kind of Filter Should I Use?

Most systems have been designed for the low “static pressure drop” that cheaper filters allow. High efficient filters can sometimes restrict air flow and can make equipment less efficient or worsen your air quality. Always ask your HVAC contractor which filter is better for your system.

How Often Should I Check My Filter?

A rule of thumb is “every month.” Check it every month. If the system runs a lot, you may have to check or replace it more often. A good way to remember is to mark a “check filter” date on your calendar.

What About Washable Filters?

These are usually more expensive and a lot of trouble to clean and dry. Evaluate whether it is worth the trouble and if your system is designed for high static pressure drop.

Inventory your filters and the sizes and keep extras on hand. Remember: A clean filter is a happy filter!