

Furnace Filters

One of the most neglected areas of home ownership is the regular changing of furnace & air conditioning filters.

Here are some facts that you may not know about how filters affect the performance of your heating/cooling system

1. Dirt and neglect are the #1 causes of heating and cooling system failure.
2. A dirty filter will slow down air flow and make the system work harder to keep you warm or cool - wasting energy.
3. Single use filters are generally better at filtering the air than the course type of reusable filters.
4. Hepa filters are also available if you have allergies, (but check with your furnace manufacturer because some of these can put a strain on the circulation motor because of the added air flow resistance).
5. Check your filter every month, especially during heavy use months (winter and summer). If the filter looks dirty after a month, change it. At a minimum, change the filter every 3 months.
6. For most systems there is only one filter for both the heating and the air conditioning of your home. I.E., do not look for a filter for the furnace and another filter for the air conditioning; they are one and the same.

If [Pre-Spect](#) performed your home inspection for you, the location of the furnace filter is listed in the HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS section of the report, (if you no longer have your report contact me and I will send it to you. We keep reports on file for a period of 4 years, sometimes longer!)

If we did NOT inspect your home, you can usually find the filter at one of the following locations:

- a) Inside the furnace housing door at the top of the furnace.
- b) Inside the furnace housing door at the bottom of the furnace.
- c) In the return air plenum to the side, above or below the furnace.
- d) At the return air register in either the wall or the ceiling of your home.

The way in which I remember to change the filter in our home is at the changing of the seasons. You can also try putting it on your yearly calendar at the beginning of each year. I hope you have a WARM & COZY winter, knowing that your furnace is properly cared for and loved!