

HVAC 101:

A Quick Guide for Homeowners

There's a lot to think about when buying a central air conditioning, heat pump or gas furnace system. That's because next to your home itself, a home comfort system is one of your largest investments. Here are answers to ten common questions to help you make you an intelligent HVAC choice.

1 Should I repair or replace my existing system?

As a rule of thumb, replace your existing home comfort system when repairs cost 30% of a new purchase – or when utility bills have increased 50% as a result of older, less efficient systems using more, higher priced electricity.

2 How much can I save with new equipment?

Air conditioning and heating equipment consume about 44% of a home's energy bill. Today's ENERGY STAR® qualified systems are as much as 60% more efficient than ten-year old equipment.

3 Is installing a central HVAC system really necessary?

In new homes or remodels, a central home comfort system is the best solution for overall comfort and superior indoor air quality and humidity control.

4 What is the best thermostat to use with my system?

Look for a programmable thermostat for accurate, reliable, energy-saving performance. Our Affinity™ Hx3™ 4.3-inch Touch-screen Thermostat offers voice control using Amazon Alexa and is compatible with Apple Watch®. And thanks to over-the-air updates and compatibility with most conventionally wired home comfort systems, you can be assured of efficient, reliable operation. With real-time alerts, home and away modes, schedule creation and quick heat/cool settings, the Hx3™ is a great way to save even more.

5 How can I be sure I'm selecting the right contractor?

Seek out a contractor who is associated with a recognized brand. If they are backed by the product and training resources of a major manufacturer, you will feel confident that you're getting the home comfort system that best meets your needs. You can find local YORK® contractors [here](#).

6 How do I select the right heating/cooling system?

Get solid advice from an expert. The right contractor can perform a load calculation or an energy analysis to determine your operating costs. After getting to know your needs, they can customize a system just for you.

7 If I have an existing system, can any of the components be reused?

Every system is different. After a thorough inspection of your electrical system, ductwork and other system components that go into a system, your contractor will explain what you need to replace, and what you can keep.

8 What is involved in installing a brand new system?

Air conditioners and gas furnaces require different components. But the common denominator is ductwork. Whether made from metal or fiberglass, ductwork must be properly sized and zoned for optimal system performance.

9 What does the air handler do for my system?

An air handler circulates conditioned air throughout your home. You can combine it with accessories to filter, humidify or dehumidify the air stream as needed.

10 What can I do to improve Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)?

Indoor air can be from five to 100 times more polluted than outside air. Adding humidifiers, dehumidifiers, ventilation systems, UV lights and air filter technologies can dramatically improve your indoor air quality.

Your home and your needs are unique. YORK® can provide the information you need to make an intelligent decision based on your budget and lifestyle. Graduate to the best equipment, controls, installation and service. Call today and learn why YORK® is the smart choice!