

Air Conditioning Tips to Survive the AZ Summer Heat

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Now that the high temperatures are starting to kick in, AFM has a few tips every Arizona resident should know about the efficient ways to keep your home cool with your air-conditioning system.

1. Pick a trusted contractor.

If done correctly, a new air-conditioner will result in more comfort all year round. However, improvements and installations are tricky. Unless you have worked in the HVAC field, it's hard to understand all the details. Check out recommendations from friends, not a telemarketer who claims to have coupons. Someone who has been in the business for a longer amount of time might also be a better choice as well. Don't forget to check their license with the Arizona Registrar of Contractors.

2. Buy an AC that fits your home.

A good contractor will do some research about your house, the climate, and the condition and placement of your air ducts. That way they are able to better determine what AC you need and whether you need to repair or realign any air ducts in order to improve cooling efficiency.

3. Update your systems.

Changing just the outside AC unit won't help your energy bills. Most units are programmed to work best with their corresponding furnace and air handler. Separate items might not match the capacity and efficiency of the AC unit and thus won't help you keep your house as cool as you might want. When updating your systems, make sure all items have Energy Star labels. These items are certified with the Environmental Protection Agency and are at least 20 percent more cooler than air-conditioners that meet the minimum federal standards.

4. Insulation.

Though most people see insulation as a winter chore, it is important in order to keep a space cool. If any cold air is seeping out of your house, it will definitely raise costs and creating a less energy-efficient environment. Any Phoenix homeowner should weather strip the homes to seal doors and windows, especially when an air-conditioning system is operating. This includes insulating the ducts in your home too. If too much cool air escapes the house into the unheated, hot attic, it will just waste your air-conditioning system and your money. Aeroseal Phoenix can help save you hundreds each year by sealing the duct system.

5. Fans.

Installing fans in the home can make a huge difference. In addition to traditional fans intended to circulate air, ceiling fans can pull warm air up and push cooler air down into the living space. An attic fan is also an efficient way to cool a home. These heavy-duty fans can create an even more efficient way in cooling your home without over doing your air-conditioning system.

6. Tile Floors.

Replacing carpet with tile floors is another benefit to gaining a cool house during the summertime. The heavy fabric of carpet can absorb and keep heat inside your home, while tile flooring is easier to cool down and does not retain heat nearly as much. Don't forget that tile is also a lot easier to clean, and will help ceiling fans circulate the hot air upwards.

Tips courtesy of Donley Service Center - learn more by clicking [here](#).