

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Proper Installation Key To HVAC Operation

(NAPSA)—Getting the most out of a new heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) system starts with choosing the one that's right for your home and making sure it's installed properly.

A system that's too small will strain and not heat or cool. One that's too large won't effectively remove moisture from "clammy air," even though it may cool faster. An oversized unit will just run up your energy bill.

To maximize efficiency, reduce energy costs, improve air quality and get the most from an HVAC system, use a certified technician to evaluate your current system for upgrades, replacement or repair or to evaluate your new home for first-time installations.

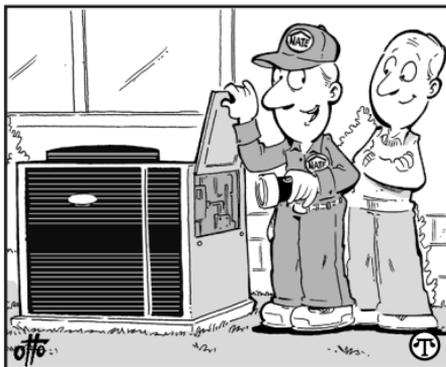
North American Technician Excellence (NATE)—certified technicians, for example, are skilled professionals who have proven their knowledge in the HVACR industry by passing specialized NATE-certification tests.

To help guide your installation, here are some tips and questions to ask your technician:

- Where will the thermostat be located? On an inside wall with plenty of air circulation is best.

- Make sure there is plenty of access space around your heater or air conditioner. If they are behind a door, is there adequate ventilation? Can they draw air easily?

- Are the systems equipped with insulated pipes? If not, is there easy access to drainage pans



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to avoid condensation buildup that can lead to household mold and mildew, affecting your indoor air quality?

- Are your heating and cooling systems equipped with easy-to-locate filters that you can change? Dirty filters diminish your system's effectiveness and energy efficiency—and increase energy costs.

- Check your ductwork—is it insulated? If your ductwork is bad, it will diminish your system's efficiency.

You can find more helpful tips and tricks at HVACRAAdvice.com. In addition, the Web site also features a contractor locator where homeowners can type in a zip code to find companies that employ NATE-certified technicians.

To learn more, visit the Web site at www.HVACRAAdvice.com.