

What You Need To Know About Home Comfort

(NAPSA)—A home comfort system is a major investment, so homeowners need an understanding of the system they're getting, whether it's an air conditioner, heat pump or gas furnace. To help, the experts at the Champion® brand of Johnson Controls answer common questions.

1. What does HVAC mean?

HVAC is the acronym for heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, which are the three functions a home comfort system typically combines. Together, these technologies control indoor environmental comfort and air quality.

2. How can I find the right contractor? Look for one associated with a reputable brand of HVAC equipment and backed by the products and training resources of a major manufacturer.

3. What are the benefits of a central HVAC system? It provides the highest level of overall comfort, indoor air quality and humidity control and makes your house more attractive to potential buyers.

4. Should I repair or replace my existing system? Generally, replace your existing home comfort system when repairs cost 30 percent of a new purchase or utility bills are up 50 percent due to an older, less efficient system using more, higher-priced electricity.

5. If I get a new system, will I be able to reuse any parts of my existing one? Your contractor will inspect your electrical system, ductwork and other components and provide a recommendation on what you should replace and what you can reuse.

6. What can I expect to save with new equipment? Air-conditioning and heating equipment consume about 44 percent of a home's energy bill. Today's ENERGY STAR®—(a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) qualified systems are as much as 60



There are a few things it may comfort you to know about your home comfort system.

percent more efficient than 10-year-old equipment.

7. How complicated is the installation? That depends on the house, the existing system and the new one. Although air conditioners and gas furnaces require different components, the common denominator is ductwork, which must be properly sized and zoned.

8. What thermostat should I use? Look for a programmable thermostat for accurate, reliable, energy-saving performance. For added savings and convenience, the Champion Touch-screen Thermostat with Proprietary Hexagon Interface from Johnson Controls works with your smartphone to easily program your system wherever you are.

9. What does an air handler do? It circulates conditioned air. You can combine it with accessories to filter, humidify or dehumidify the air.

10. Can my HVAC system improve indoor air? Indoor air can be from five to 100 times more polluted than outdoor air. Humidifiers, dehumidifiers, ventilation systems, ultraviolet lights and air filter technologies can dramatically improve indoor air quality.

Your HVAC contractor can determine your costs and customize a system just for you. To find a Champion HVAC contractor nearby, visit www.championhomecomfort.com or follow on YouTube and @Champion_HVAC on Twitter.