



When Replacing your Old
Furnace, Heat Pump, or
Air Conditioner...

Don't Ignore Your Ducts

An investment in a new high efficiency heating and cooling system should save significantly on your utility bills. However, you won't save much if your existing ductwork is in bad shape.

A typical poor duct system really drags down the performance of new high efficiency equipment. Many buyers of new equipment have ended up with *little or no savings*.

Compared to before, many also find:

- Their home is *less* comfortable,
- There is *more* dust and summer humidity,
- Their new system is *noisier*.

Don't let your old ducts keep you from getting the high performance you are paying for.

To ensure your new equipment saves money and works properly, slow down and become an informed consumer. Have your duct system tested for leakage, correct sizing, and correct insulation levels.

Duct Systems Waste Money

"Typical duct systems lose 25 to 40 percent of the heating or cooling energy put out by the central furnace, heat pump or air conditioner. Duct repairs could be the most important energy improvement measure you can do."

US Department of Energy Consumer Report

"Studies have shown that an average duct system loses 10 to 40 percent of the cool air through gaps in the duct joints. While sealing ducts is a common practice now, few homes have had this done."

Readers Digest's Family Handyman magazine

"We have done a lot of work in looking at how ducts impact air conditioning systems. Typically a leaky duct system can lose 20% to 40% of the energy that you pay for to heat and cool your house."

**Dr. Max Sherman, Department of Energy,
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab**

"The ducts that are part of central heating and cooling systems offer one of the best opportunities to increase your energy efficiency and your comfort. Studies indicate that up to 30% of the heated or cooled air is lost—along with the money spent to heat or cool that air—through leaky ducts."

Pacific Gas and Electric Utility

"For an average home, leaky ducts can waste hundreds of dollars each year. Duct leakage also lowers the heating and cooling capacity, and can lessen equipment life."

Southface Energy Institute