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What You Need to Know about Air-Conditioning. by Ophelia Fry

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What You Need to Know about Air-Conditioning

An air conditioner works on the same principle as your home refrigerator. It consists of an evaporator, or the cooling coil located inside the room, and a condenser, or heating coil, which releases the heat outdoors. The evaporator and condenser are connected by a maze of fin-enclosed coils filled with a refrigerant. This is the heat transfer fluid which is pumped within the closed loop by a pump called the compressor. The liquid evaporates indoors, in the process; it absorbs heat and cools the room. The hot gas is then pumped outdoors to the condenser; there it releases heat and becomes a liquid again. The fins in the system serve to increase the system efficiency by increasing the "heat transfer area" of the coils.

What is central air-conditioning?

Central air-conditioning is a system which is connected through the entire home through a maze of ventilation ducts. Cooled air is carried through supply ducts into the home and hot air is vented back through return ducts to be "re-cooled" by the central air-conditioner. Central air-conditioners come as either packaged or split air-conditioning units. A split air-conditioner has an outdoor cabinet housing the condenser with the compressor and an indoor housing containing the evaporator. In a packaged unit all components are contained in a single cabinet, which is placed either on the roof or on a concrete slab near the foundation. There are advantages and disadvantages to both. Either way, with a press of a button, or the simple move of a dial, your home can defy the sun's rays and help you defeat the summer onslaught by keeping your home cool.

Common Air-conditioning Problems

There are a number of problems that can affect your air-conditioning system. Some of these you can fix yourself, generally, when the problems are electrical in nature. But, if the air conditioner stops working for other reasons, like leaking refrigerant or lines that are iced up, then you need professional help. There's nothing more disconcerting than to have an air-conditioning breakdown in Bushnell or Ocala, FL at the height of summer. If you want to avoid this you need to hire a skilled service technician who will provide more than regular maintenance. A trained air-conditioning technician for instance, will know where to locate and fix the problems.

Changing Your Air-conditioner

Your existing air-conditioner might well be past its economic life and is beginning to cost you money. It could be that you are spending way too much on repair bills, or your energy bills are hitting the roof. If you are contemplating a switch, you should consult a professional to ensure you get the best value for your money. You need to start with an energy-efficient unit that is properly sized for your home, and is able to provide years of trouble free service. The key to a cost-effective operation is superlative and professional installation, regular maintenance, and proper usage. If you are contemplating an air-conditioner change and live in, for example: Lady Lake, FL, it would save you money in the long run to consult a qualified and professional air-conditioning company servicing Lady Lake, which offers quality installation, repairs, and routine maintenance. This would be the best way to minimize your energy bills.

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