

High-SEER Heat Pumps and Air Conditioners

For a typical home in Arizona's desert climate, heating and cooling costs can account for 50% of your annual energy bill. Keeping your home cool when temperatures exceed 115 degrees puts a big demand on your cooling equipment. To help you choose the best system for your needs and save money, APS suggests you consider the following information when installing a new unit.

Look at "SEER" Energy Efficiency Ratings

The efficiency of heat pumps and air conditioners during the cooling season is measured by what is called the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER). The *higher the SEER rating* of your unit, the *more energy-efficient* and cost effective it will be to operate. The minimum SEER rating allowed by government standards is 10, but units with SEER ratings of 18 or higher are available. For our desert climate, APS recommends that you **consider a minimum 12 SEER unit** to help lower your monthly energy bills.

Lower Your Energy Bills

The difference between a 12 SEER and a 10 SEER is increased efficiency and savings on your energy bills. With a properly installed 12 SEER unit you can save up to 15 percent on the cooling portion of your energy bill compared to a 10 SEER unit. With a higher SEER unit you'll save even more. The monthly savings may pay back your investment in as little as 2 years. After that, it's money in your pocket each month. To see how much money you can save with high SEER units in a typical home, see the chart on the back page.



High Efficiency Units Help Protect the Environment

On a larger scale, the energy conserved by your high-efficiency unit (12 SEER or greater) will lessen your home's impact on our environment. With an efficient heating and cooling system, you can save money and also help preserve natural resources.

Get the Job Done Right

Selecting a trained, qualified air conditioning contractor to install a new system or replace an existing one can be as important as the unit you install. Be sure your contractor is licensed, bonded and insured and has the skills and training to properly install and service heating and cooling equipment. To help our customers receive the best possible service, APS maintains a contractor qualification program.

APS Qualified Contractors are members of the Arizona Heat Pump Council, commit to a rigorous training program, and have the skills to help you select the most efficient unit for your needs and budget – and get it installed right!

How Much Can You Save with a High-Efficiency Heat Pump or Air Conditioner?

About 50% of your annual electric bill is spent on running your heating and cooling system. You'll save on energy costs if you replace your older unit with a properly installed energy-efficient modern one. Typically, the older your unit, the more you'll save. How much energy you save depends on the efficiency of your existing system compared to the efficiency of the new unit. The actual operating efficiency of an old unit depends on its age and condition.

Estimate your older unit SEER rating:

- Pre-1980 SEER rating of 6 or less
- 1980-1985 SEER rating of 7
- 1986-1991 SEER rating of 8

Use the chart below to estimate your electric bill savings after installing a new high-SEER system (for a typical 3-ton system).

Savings in Annual Cooling Costs for a Typical 3-Ton Heat Pump or Air Conditioner										
		New SEER Rating								
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Old SEER Rating	5	\$406	\$443	\$473	\$500	\$522	\$542	\$559	\$574	\$587
	6	\$270	\$307	\$337	\$364	\$386	\$406	\$423	\$438	\$451
	7	\$173	\$210	\$241	\$267	\$289	\$309	\$326	\$341	\$355
	8	\$101	\$138	\$168	\$195	\$217	\$237	\$254	\$269	\$282
	9	\$ 45	\$ 81	\$112	\$138	\$161	\$180	\$197	\$213	\$226
	10	\$ 0	\$ 37	\$ 67	\$ 94	\$116	\$136	\$153	\$168	\$181

Note: A 10 SEER unit is the minimum efficiency currently allowed by the Federal government. The figures above are based on energy calculations by APS using the APS Standard Plan. Your actual savings may vary.

For More Information or a Referral to an APS Qualified Contractor

For more information on home energy efficiency, or a referral to an **APS Qualified Contractor**, call the **APS Energy Answer Line in Phoenix at (602) 371-3636** or toll-free **1 (888) 890-9730**. Or visit our web site at www.apsc.com.