



YORK® HVAC Maintenance Tips

Regular home HVAC maintenance means better operation and reduced energy costs all year long. No matter which system you have, we recommend the following basic preventative maintenance. However, if your air conditioner or heat pump is more than 10 years old, or your furnace is more than 12 years old, contact your local YORK® contractor to see if you should invest in newer, more efficient equipment.

Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps

- Clean dust and move furniture away from the floor grates in each room and hallway. This helps ensure even, proper airflow throughout your home.
- Clear leaves and debris from the system's outdoor condenser unit grille. If you notice the interior of the unit is dirty, contact your contractor. They'll have the skills to wash the unit without damaging it.
- Examine ducts in the attic or crawl space for holes, loose tape or separated sections that might leak air.
- Trim shrubbery around the outdoor unit to allow at least two feet of clearance.
- Set the thermostat mode to cooling (and heating for heat pumps) to make sure it's working. Contact your contractor for service if you hear any unusual noises.
- Replace your air handler filter once a month to reduce airflow restrictions and wasted energy.
- Make sure the condensate line is clear to allow for liquid runoff.
- Set up an annual checkup of your system. Your YORK® contractor can help schedule routine maintenance.

Air Handlers

- Examine ducts around your air handler for holes, loose tape or separated sections, which can cause leaks in your home's HVAC airflow.
- Replace your air handler filter once a month to reduce airflow restrictions, which can cause your system to work harder than it should.

Indoor Air Quality

- Change or clean air filters regularly in air handlers/furnaces per your manufacturer's instructions. Some air cleaners will require an annual filter change, while others need more frequent replacement.
- Maintain proper humidity levels to reduce airborne allergens. Check the pans and coils of your humidification/dehumidification units for debris.
- Clean return grills regularly to prevent dust and debris from accumulating in ducts and filters.
- Examine ducts around your air handler for holes, loose tape or separated sections, which may allow air infiltration that can impact your system's effectiveness.
- Schedule residential indoor air quality testing for your home to identify problems with your indoor air quality.
- Make sure the air system is balanced to avoid negative air pressure from pulling pollens and allergens into your home. A dedicated ventilation system can help by introducing filtered outside air, which creates positive pressure with clean air.

Gas Furnace

- Complete a normal cycle from start-up to shutdown. Look at the thermostat reading to confirm the system shuts off when reaching the high temperature you've set. If the furnace shuts off beforehand, it's likely having a short cycling problem and requires a service call.
- Clean dust and move furniture away from the floor grates, including return grates, in each room and hallway.
- Clear obstacles from the furnace and safety switch on the furnace door.
- Check vent connections in the exhaust pipe and chimney for rust or gaps.
- Make sure your carbon dioxide monitor is operating properly and has fresh batteries.
- Replace furnace filters annually.