

10 Simple Steps

to save money on your air conditioner

Get the most value out of your Air Conditioning system by following these simple steps.

1. Only purchase Quality Equipment.

Buying a good quality air conditioner from a leading manufacturer will help to save you money. High quality systems work more efficiently and effectively. They are backed by nationwide warranties with a great stock of spare parts readily available. It makes sense to invest in the manufacturers who are constantly improving their products by investing themselves into Research and Development.

2. Size is Important.

The area you require to be air conditioned and the size of your air conditioning unit are important factors to consider when purchasing an air conditioning system. It is important to make sure that your unit is not being overloaded by trying to cool too big an area which could lead to burn-out and costly electricity bills. Additionally it's not cost effective to purchase a more expensive and more powerful unit that's only going to cool a small space. Before you purchase your next air conditioner have your room measured by a professional who can provide you with the right advice.

3. Only use experienced Air Conditioner technicians.

Installing and servicing your Air Conditioning system is not a DIY project. To make sure that your unit is positioned in the correct and most effective position only use an experienced Air Conditioning technician. Plus, to make sure you keep your product's warranty secure, only book a maintenance service through a qualified specialist. They will ensure your Air Conditioner is constantly running at its optimum and can also advise you of any potential problems before they occur.

4. Pay attention to Energy ratings.

The Energy star rating is an important factor to consider when you purchase an air conditioning system. You should buy one with a minimum energy rating of at least 3 stars. The system may cost a bit more in the initial outlay but in the long run your expenses will be much lower as these units operate more efficiently and can save you money on your power bills.

5. Set-up a regular maintenance program.

All of the leading manufacturers recommend that your system is serviced every 12 months and this can often be a stipulation of theirs to safe-guard your products warranty. Having your system maintained properly is essential to keeping it operating at its optimum level. An expert technician will check crucial parts associated with the system to be able to make sure that it is working properly. A standard service would normally include cleaning of filter systems, reviewing of airflows, checking that all fittings are protected and guarantee the system is working effectively. A qualified specialist can also diagnose any potential problems before they occur.

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6. Adjust the thermostat.

When looking to purchase an air conditioner it is important to consider one that comes with a programmable thermostat where you can automatically adjust and set the temperature for different parts of the day or for periods when you leave home. For cooling purposes, it is also important to find the highest temperature that you are comfortable with... even to make a room cooler by only 1°C uses more power it to maintain the temperature. We recommend that a comfortable living zone should be between 22°C and 25 °C.

7. Clean your return air filters regularly.

Ducted systems & reverse cycle systems all have a return air grill positioned in the ceiling or at low level on a wall. If the grill has a filter inside it, make sure that it is cleaned out every 4-6 weeks using a vacuum cleaner or rinsing with water for a thorough clean. Airborne dust and debris builds-up on this filter over time which can affect the functionality of your air conditioning unit. If the filter breaks or becomes damaged, contact your air conditioning specialist to get it replaced.

8. Make your house energy efficient.

If a warm day forecasted you should pre-cool your home before the heat starts to increase. A programmable timer on an air conditioning system allows you to set it to come on early in the morning (we recommend about 24°C). This will ensure that your home is already nice and cool, and you can lower the temperature as needed throughout the day, as it gets hotter, without putting a large load on your air conditioner. On hot days it is also advisable that you keep doors shut and windows closed, and it's always a good idea to draw the curtains or close the blinds to keep your house cooler.

9. Placement of outdoor unit can also save you money.

Make sure your air conditioning condenser unit is located in a shady spot and is clear of any other appliances or elements, like hot water systems, to allow it to effectively dispose of the heated air it removes from your house. A good rule-of-thumb is to ensure that the condenser has a surrounding clearance of at least 300mm on all sides. For units that are more exposed to the elements on roofs etc. make sure that the condenser coil is not facing north or west as this can dramatically reduce the unit's performance.

9. Position of other household appliances.

The position of your air conditioning thermostat needs to be in a central and neutral position to accurately gauge the temperature of a room. If it is too close to a lamp, TV, or other electrical appliances – it can be tricked into thinking its hotter than it really is – and this will make your air conditioner work harder to cool the area, increasing running costs.

10. Only cool the rooms you need to.

If you have a Multi-Head air conditioning system you should turn-off the units in the rooms you're not using so you're not using power to cool them. However, if the rooms are going to be used later in the day it is often advisable to maintain a steady flow of cool air into the room so that it doesn't become too hot and then need you to place a heavy load on the system when you need to use it.

For further information or advice, contact us to speak with our expert technicians.