



YOUR HEAT PUMP GUIDE



This guide will help you understand how your heat pump works, what to expect, and how to keep it running efficiently, especially during cold Minnesota winters.

HOW YOUR HEAT PUMP WORKS

Your heat pump provides both heating and cooling by moving heat around, instead of creating it.

In winter, it extracts heat from outdoor air and pumps it into your home. In summer, it works in reverse to remove heat from inside to keep you cool. This highly efficient process helps maintain steady comfort throughout the year.



What's Normal

Heat pumps often run longer than traditional furnaces. You'll feel steady, gentle airflow instead of short bursts of very hot air. This is normal and helps maintain consistent comfort.



Thermostat and Comfort Settings

For best performance, keep your thermostat at a consistent temperature. Avoid frequently adjusting the temperature or making large setbacks. Heat pumps are designed to steadily maintain comfort, not rapidly heat a cold home. If you have a supplemental heating source, like propane or natural gas, your heat pump should remain the primary system most of the time.



Cold Climate Tip

Even in very cold weather, your heat pump will likely continue operating efficiently. Supplemental heat may turn on occasionally during extreme cold; this is normal.



Airflow and Outdoor Unit Care

Keep the vents and registers inside your home clean and unobstructed. Your outdoor unit also needs clear airflow to operate properly. Remove snow, leaves, and debris regularly, and keep vegetation clear as well (a few feet).



Winter Operation

Your heat pump will periodically defrost itself in winter. You may see water dripping or steam rising from the outdoor unit. This is normal and ensures proper performance.

SIMPLE MAINTENANCE STEPS

Keeping your system maintained helps ensure comfort, efficiency, and long equipment life. The most important step is keeping your heat pump's filters clean. Dirty filters reduce airflow and make your system work harder. Ducted system filters should typically be cleaned or replaced every three months. Non-ducted system filters should be cleaned monthly, especially if pets are present, and are found in the "head" of your system rather than inside the outdoor unit.

Quick Maintenance Checklist

1. Clean or replace filters regularly
2. Keep outdoor unit clear of snow and debris
3. Keep vents and registers unobstructed
4. Schedule professional service every 1 - 2 years



PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

A professional technician should inspect your heat pump every one to two years. Regular service ensures proper operation, prevents problems, and helps extend system life. Most heat pumps last about 15 years with proper care.

Call a Contractor If You Notice

- Your home isn't reaching the desired temperature
- Energy use increases suddenly
- Airflow is weak
- You hear unusual noises

These may indicate your system needs adjustment or maintenance.



With proper operation and maintenance, your heat pump will provide reliable, efficient comfort for many years.