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- About Us



Mobile home HVAC systems are vital for maintaining a comfortable and healthy living environment. However, when these systems are compromised by poor air quality, the long-term effects can be significant. Understanding how mobile home HVAC systems work and their vulnerabilities to air quality issues is essential for homeowners who wish to ensure their well-being.

Mobile homes often come equipped with compact HVAC systems designed to fit their limited space. These systems typically include heating, ventilation, and air conditioning components that work together to regulate indoor climate. Outdoor compressor units must be securely mounted to prevent damage **mobile home hvac ductwork** knowledge. Given the size constraints, mobile home HVAC units can be more susceptible to inefficiencies and malfunctions compared to those in traditional homes.

One of the primary concerns with mobile home HVAC systems is their exposure to outdoor pollutants and allergens. Mobile homes may not have as robust insulation or sealing as permanent structures, which makes it easier for external contaminants to infiltrate the interior environment. This infiltration can lead to a plethora of issues ranging from minor discomforts such as allergies to more severe health problems like respiratory illnesses.

The long-term effects of poor air quality on residents of mobile homes can be profound.

Prolonged exposure to pollutants such as dust, mold spores, pollen, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) can exacerbate existing health conditions or contribute to the development of new ones. For instance, individuals with asthma may experience increased frequency of attacks due to higher levels of airborne irritants.

Furthermore, children and elderly individuals residing in mobile homes are particularly vulnerable. Children's developing respiratory systems are susceptible to damage from inhaling polluted air over extended periods. Similarly, older adults may find that poor air quality aggravates pre-existing health issues like cardiovascular diseases or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

To mitigate these risks, regular maintenance of mobile home HVAC systems is crucial. This includes changing filters frequently, ensuring proper ventilation throughout the home, and conducting routine inspections for signs of wear or damage in the system's components. Homeowners might also consider investing in air purifiers or dehumidifiers as supplementary measures to improve indoor air quality.

In conclusion, while mobile home HVAC systems play a crucial role in maintaining comfort within these unique living spaces, they also face particular challenges related to air quality management. By understanding these challenges and taking proactive steps towards addressing them, residents can protect themselves from the long-term health effects associated with poor indoor air quality in mobile homes.

The rise in poor air quality is a growing concern across the globe, and its implications extend beyond human health. One area that is often overlooked in this discourse is the impact of air quality on Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems. These systems are pivotal in maintaining indoor comfort and air quality, yet they are increasingly challenged by deteriorating outdoor air conditions. Understanding the long-term effects of poor air quality on HVAC performance is essential for both system efficiency and indoor environmental health.

At its core, an HVAC system is designed to filter, heat, cool, and circulate air within a building. However, when outdoor air quality declines due to pollutants such as particulate matter (PM2.5), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and other airborne contaminants, these systems must work harder to maintain indoor standards. The increased load on filters can lead to more frequent maintenance requirements and reduced lifespan of the equipment. For instance, clogged filters restrict airflow, forcing fans and blowers to operate under strain which can lead to mechanical failures over time.

Moreover, poor air quality can exacerbate wear and tear on HVAC components such as coils and ductwork. Pollutants can settle on these surfaces leading to corrosion or microbial growth like mold both of which compromise system efficiency and potentially introduce health risks into the circulated air. This not only leads to higher energy consumption but also increases operational costs due to necessary repairs or replacements.

The longevity of HVAC systems is significantly affected by continuous exposure to subpar air conditions. Systems may need premature replacement if they consistently operate under adverse conditions without adequate filtration or maintenance interventions. This reality underscores a critical economic implication: as businesses face greater expenses related to frequent repairs or new installations, this could translate into higher costs for consumers who rely on these services.

Furthermore, there's an indirect effect on public health when HVAC systems underperform due to poor external air quality; inadequate filtration means more pollutants enter living spaces unfiltered thereby posing respiratory risks especially for vulnerable populations such as children or those with pre-existing conditions.

To mitigate these impacts in the long term, it's imperative for stakeholders including building managers and policymakers to invest in high-efficiency filtration technologies capable of handling elevated levels of outdoor pollutants. Regular maintenance schedules should be strictly adhered to ensure optimal performance even under challenging conditions. Additionally, increasing awareness about the importance of ventilation management amidst fluctuating outdoor pollution levels is crucial.
In conclusion, while much attention has been rightly focused on how poor air quality affects human health directly, it is equally important to consider its repercussions on essential infrastructure like HVAC systems that play a key role in our daily lives indoors. Addressing this issue requires proactive measures aimed at enhancing system resilience against environmental challenges while ensuring sustainable indoor environments for future generations.
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Types of Measurements Required in Mobile Home HVAC Checks

The relationship between air quality and health has long been a subject of scientific inquiry, with particular attention to vulnerable populations living in suboptimal conditions. Mobile homes, often associated with lower socioeconomic status, present unique challenges when it comes to ensuring good air quality. These dwellings are typically smaller, more densely packed, and may lack the advanced ventilation systems found in traditional housing. As such, residents of mobile homes are at a heightened risk of exposure to pollutants that can have serious long-term health effects.

Poor air quality within mobile homes is frequently the result of both external and internal factors. External factors include proximity to highways or industrial areas that emit pollutants like nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter. Internal factors might involve the use of certain household products that release volatile organic compounds (VOCs), smoking indoors, or inadequate ventilation systems that fail to remove contaminants effectively.

The long-term health effects associated with poor air quality in mobile homes are manifold and concerning. Respiratory issues are among the most immediate consequences; prolonged exposure to airborne pollutants such as dust mites, mold spores, and tobacco smoke can exacerbate conditions like asthma and bronchitis. Children living in these environments are particularly susceptible; their developing respiratory systems make them more vulnerable to the adverse effects of pollution.

Beyond respiratory problems, there is growing evidence linking poor indoor air quality to cardiovascular diseases. Fine particulate matter can enter the bloodstream through inhalation, leading to inflammation that affects heart health over time. Inhabitants of mobile homes exposed chronically to these particles may face increased risks for hypertension, heart attacks, and stroke.

Moreover, recent studies suggest a connection between suboptimal air quality and neurological disorders. Exposure to pollutants like lead or certain VOCs has been associated with cognitive decline in adults and developmental delays in children. This presents a significant public health concern as it impacts educational outcomes and quality of life for individuals from early childhood into old age.

Addressing these issues requires a multi-faceted approach aimed at improving air quality both inside and around mobile home communities. Policy interventions could include regulations limiting emissions from nearby industrial sources or providing subsidies for installing better ventilation systems within these homes. Community education programs can also play a crucial role by informing residents about steps they can take-such as using non-toxic cleaning products or ensuring regular maintenance of HVAC systems-to minimize indoor pollution levels.

In conclusion, while mobile homes offer an affordable housing option for many individuals and families, they should not come at the cost of long-term health risks due to poor air quality. Understanding the specific challenges faced by this population is essential for crafting effective policies that protect their well-being now and into the future. The goal must be not only affordable housing but also safe housing where clean air is accessible to all residents regardless of their economic standing.





Comparing Digital vs Analog Multimeters for HVAC Use

The Environmental and Economic Consequences of Inefficient HVAC Systems: Assessing Long Term Effects of Poor Air Quality

In the modern world, where urbanization and industrial activities continue to expand at an unprecedented rate, the quality of air we breathe has become a pressing concern. Central to this issue is the often-overlooked role that inefficient Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems play in exacerbating poor air quality. As we delve into assessing the long-term effects of suboptimal air conditions, it becomes evident that both environmental and economic consequences are significant.

Inefficient HVAC systems contribute substantially to environmental degradation. These systems, when not properly maintained or outdated, consume excessive energy resources. This overconsumption leads directly to increased greenhouse gas emissions as most energy production still relies heavily on fossil fuels. As a result, inefficient HVAC systems indirectly accelerate climate change by contributing to higher atmospheric carbon levels. Moreover, such systems frequently fail to filter pollutants effectively from indoor environments. This inefficiency allows particulate matter and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to accumulate indoors, posing serious health risks to occupants and contributing further to overall poor air quality.

Economically, the repercussions of inefficient HVAC systems are equally concerning. The immediate financial strain is evident in inflated energy bills due to excessive consumption required by malfunctioning or outdated units. Businesses and homeowners alike face heightened operational costs without realizing that investing in efficient technology could mitigate these expenses significantly over time. Furthermore, poor indoor air quality can lead to decreased productivity among employees due to health issues such as respiratory problems or allergies triggered by unfiltered pollutants. This decline in workforce efficiency translates into reduced economic output for businesses.

Long-term exposure to poor air quality also results in broader societal economic impacts through increased healthcare costs. Chronic illnesses linked directly or indirectly with polluted indoor environments place additional burdens on medical facilities and insurance providers. Consequently, governments may need to allocate more financial resources towards public health interventions aimed at managing diseases associated with poor air quality.

Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach involving technological upgrades, regular maintenance practices for existing HVAC installations, and policy interventions promoting sustainable building codes and standards for new constructions. By prioritizing energy-efficient HVAC solutions, both environmental impact and economic burdens can be alleviated significantly.

In conclusion, while inefficient HVAC systems may seem like a minor component within the larger framework of global environmental concerns, their contribution to deteriorating air quality cannot be understated. Understanding the intricate link between these systems' performance and long-term environmental as well as economic consequences opens avenues for strategic improvements that promise healthier living conditions alongside financial savings-a dual benefit crucial for sustainable development moving forward.

Safety Considerations When Using Multimeters in Mobile Homes

Title: Strategies for Improving Air Quality in Mobile Homes: Assessing Long-Term Effects of Poor Air Quality

Living in mobile homes often presents unique challenges when it comes to maintaining good air quality. These structures, typically compact and sometimes older, can easily accumulate pollutants that degrade the indoor environment. Assessing the long-term effects of poor air quality in mobile homes requires a comprehensive understanding of both health implications and practical strategies to mitigate these issues.

Poor indoor air quality is linked to various health problems including respiratory disorders, allergies, and even cardiovascular conditions. Over time, exposure to pollutants such as mold spores, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), dust mites, and smoke can exacerbate these health issues. In mobile homes, which may have less efficient ventilation systems compared to traditional houses, these pollutants can linger longer and at higher concentrations.

Understanding the long-term effects involves recognizing how persistent exposure impacts vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly more severely. Children's developing lungs are particularly susceptible to damage from airborne contaminants. For older adults or

those with pre-existing health conditions, prolonged exposure can lead to worsened symptoms or trigger new health problems.

To combat these potential hazards, implementing effective strategies for improving air quality is crucial. One primary strategy is enhancing ventilation within the home. This might include installing exhaust fans in kitchens and bathrooms or using portable air purifiers equipped with HEPA filters that capture fine particles from the air.

Regular maintenance also plays a significant role in maintaining good air quality. For instance, checking HVAC systems frequently ensures they are functioning correctly without circulating dust or other allergens. Additionally, keeping humidity levels in check by employing dehumidifiers can prevent mold growth-a common problem in humid environments often encountered by mobile homeowners.

Moreover, choosing low-emission building materials and household products can significantly reduce VOCs inside a mobile home. Opting for natural cleaning products instead of chemical-laden alternatives minimizes toxic emissions while still keeping spaces clean.

Education is another key component-informing residents about sources of indoor pollution empowers them to make conscious choices about their living environment. Awareness campaigns or workshops focusing on air quality maintenance could be beneficial community initiatives.

Finally, advocating for policy changes that promote better construction standards for mobile homes addresses root causes at an industry level. Ensuring newer models incorporate advanced ventilation systems and eco-friendly materials would foster healthier living conditions from the outset.

In conclusion, assessing and addressing the long-term effects of poor air quality in mobile homes necessitates a multi-faceted approach involving individual action and broader systemic changes. By adopting simple yet effective strategies like improved ventilation practices, regular maintenance checks, careful selection of building materials, educational initiatives on pollutant sources-and advocating for enhanced industry standards-we can protect vulnerable populations from adverse health outcomes associated with prolonged exposure to indoor pollutants while promoting overall well-being within these unique residential settings.



Recommended Brands and Models for HVAC Multimeters

In recent years, the importance of air quality has become increasingly apparent as we grapple with the long-term effects of pollution and poor ventilation. Advances in HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) technology are at the forefront of addressing these concerns, offering innovative solutions for better air filtration and ventilation. These developments are crucial in mitigating the adverse health effects associated with poor air quality, which range from respiratory issues to cardiovascular diseases.

Historically, HVAC systems have played a vital role in maintaining indoor comfort by controlling temperature and humidity levels. However, as our understanding of indoor air pollution deepens, there is a growing recognition that these systems must also efficiently filter out harmful pollutants. Modern HVAC technologies incorporate high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters and activated carbon filters designed to capture fine particulates and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These advancements ensure that even microscopic pollutants such as pollen, mold spores, and smoke particles are effectively removed from indoor environments.

Moreover, technological innovations extend beyond mere filtration. Advanced ventilation systems now include smart sensors that continuously monitor air quality in real-time. These systems can automatically adjust airflow rates based on detected pollutant levels or occupancy patterns to optimize indoor conditions without wasting energy. Such adaptability not only enhances comfort but also ensures that occupants breathe cleaner air consistently.

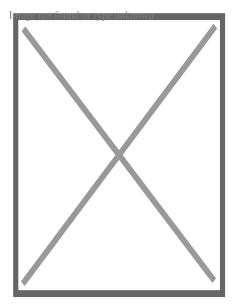
The implications of improved HVAC technology on public health cannot be overstated. Prolonged exposure to poor air quality has been linked to numerous health problems including asthma exacerbation, reduced lung function, and even premature death due to heart disease or stroke. By improving indoor air quality through advanced HVAC systems, we can significantly reduce these risks.

Furthermore, these technologies carry additional benefits beyond health improvements. Enhanced HVAC systems contribute to energy efficiency by optimizing airflow based on real-time data rather than fixed schedules. This leads to lower energy consumption and reduced operational costs for both residential and commercial buildings.

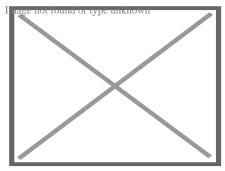
In conclusion, the advances in HVAC technology for better air filtration and ventilation mark a significant step forward in combating the long-term effects of poor air quality. As these technologies continue to evolve, they hold great promise not only for improving public health but also for fostering sustainable practices within our built environments. Investing in such innovations is essential if we are to create healthier living spaces capable of supporting human well-being amidst growing environmental challenges.

About Heat pump

This article is about devices used to heat and potentially also cool a building (or water) using the refrigeration cycle. For more about the theory, see Heat pump and refrigeration cycle. For details of the most common type, see air source heat pump. For a similar device for cooling only, see air conditioner. For heat pumps used to keep food cool, see refrigerator. For other uses, see Heat pump (disambiguation).



External heat exchanger of an air-source heat pump for both heating and cooling



Mitsubishi heat pump interior air handler wall unit

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Part of a series on

Sustainable energy

A car drives past 4 wind turbines in a field, with more on the horizon

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Energy conservation

- Arcology
- Building insulation
- Cogeneration
- Compact fluorescent lamp
- Eco hotel
- Eco-cities
- Ecohouse
- Ecolabel
- o Efficient energy use
- Energy audit
- Energy efficiency implementation
- Energy recovery
- o Energy recycling
- Energy saving lamp
- o Energy Star
- o Energy storage
- o Environmental planning
- Environmental technology
- Fossil fuel phase-out
- Glass in green buildings
- Green building and wood
- Green building
- Heat pump
- List of low-energy building techniques
- o Low-energy house
- Microgeneration
- Passive house
- Passive solar building design
- Sustainable architecture
- Sustainable city
- Sustainable habitat
- Sustainable refurbishment
- o Thermal energy storage
- Tropical green building
- Waste-to-energy
- Zero heating building
- o Zero-energy building

Renewable energy

- Biofuel
 - Sustainable
- o Biogas
- Biomass
- Carbon-neutral fuel
- Geothermal energy
- Geothermal power
- Geothermal heating
- Hydropower
 - Hydroelectricity
 - o Micro hydro
 - o Pico hydro
 - o Run-of-the-river
 - o Small hydro
- Marine current power
- Marine energy
- o Tidal power
 - Tidal barrage
 - Tidal farm
 - Tidal stream generator
- Ocean thermal energy conversion
- o Renewable energy transition
- Renewable heat
- Solar
- Wave
- Wind
 - Community
 - o Farm
 - o Floating wind turbine
 - Forecasting
 - Industry
 - Lens
 - o Outline
 - Rights
 - Turbine
 - o Windbelt
 - $\circ \ \ Windpump$

Sustainable transport

- o Green vehicle
 - Electric vehicle
 - Bicycle
 - Solar vehicle
 - Wind-powered vehicle
- Hybrid vehicle
 - Human-electric
 - o Twike
 - o Plug-in
- Human-powered transport
 - Helicopter
 - Hydrofoil
 - Land vehicle
 - o Bicycle
 - Cycle rickshaw
 - Kick scooter
 - Quadracycle
 - o Tricycle
 - Velomobile
 - Roller skating
 - Skateboarding
 - Walking
 - Watercraft
- Personal transporter
- o Rail transport
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A **heat pump** is a device that consumes energy (usually electricity) to transfer heat from a cold heat sink to a hot heat sink. Specifically, the heat pump transfers thermal energy using a refrigeration cycle, cooling the cool space and warming the warm space. [1] In cold weather, a heat pump can move heat from the cool outdoors to warm a house (e.g. winter); the pump may also be designed to move heat from the house to the warmer outdoors in warm weather (e.g. summer). As they transfer heat rather than generating heat, they are more energy-efficient than other ways of heating or cooling a home. [2]

A gaseous refrigerant is compressed so its pressure and temperature rise. When operating as a heater in cold weather, the warmed gas flows to a heat exchanger in the indoor space where some of its thermal energy is transferred to that indoor space, causing the gas to condense to its liquid state. The liquified refrigerant flows to a heat exchanger in the outdoor space where the pressure falls, the liquid evaporates and the temperature of the gas falls. It is now colder than the temperature of the outdoor space being used as a heat source. It can again take up energy from the heat source, be compressed and repeat the cycle.

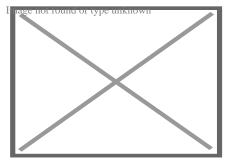
Air source heat pumps are the most common models, while other types include ground source heat pumps, water source heat pumps and exhaust air heat pumps.[3] Largescale heat pumps are also used in district heating systems.[4]

The efficiency of a heat pump is expressed as a coefficient of performance (COP), or seasonal coefficient of performance (SCOP). The higher the number, the more efficient a heat pump is. For example, an air-to-water heat pump that produces 6kW at a SCOP of 4.62 will give over 4kW of energy into a heating system for every kilowatt of energy that the heat pump uses itself to operate. When used for space heating, heat pumps are typically more energy-efficient than electric resistance and other heaters.

Because of their high efficiency and the increasing share of fossil-free sources in electrical grids, heat pumps are playing a role in climate change mitigation. [⁵][⁶] Consuming 1 kWh of electricity, they can transfer 1[⁷] to 4.5 kWh of thermal energy into a building. The carbon footprint of heat pumps depends on how electricity is generated, but they usually reduce emissions. [⁸] Heat pumps could satisfy over 80% of global space and water heating needs with a lower carbon footprint than gas-fired condensing boilers: however, in 2021 they only met 10%. [⁴]

Principle of operation

[edit]



A: indoor compartment, B: outdoor compartment, I: insulation, 1: condenser, 2: expansion valve, 3: evaporator, 4: compressor

Main articles: Heat pump and refrigeration cycle and Vapor-compression refrigeration

Heat flows spontaneously from a region of higher temperature to a region of lower temperature. Heat does not flow spontaneously from lower temperature to higher, but it can be made to flow in this direction if work is performed. The work required to transfer a given amount of heat is usually much less than the amount of heat; this is the motivation for using heat pumps in applications such as the heating of water and the interior of buildings.[9]

The amount of work required to drive an amount of heat Q from a lower-temperature reservoir such as the interior of a

building is: Image not found or type unknown where

- o hatisistative two reformed on the working fluid by the heat pump's compressor.
- Idisplanshed Pransferred from the lower-temperature reservoir to the higher-temperature reservoir.
- Idisplaisstyle instathtam @QR coefficient of performance for the heat pump at the temperatures prevailing in the reservoirs at one instant.

The coefficient of performance of a heat pump is greater than one so the work required is less than the heat transferred, making a heat pump a more efficient form of heating than electrical resistance heating. As the temperature of the higher-temperature reservoir increases in response to the heat flowing into it, the coefficient of performance decreases, causing an increasing amount of work to be required for each unit of heat being transferred.[9]

The coefficient of performance, and the work required by a heat pump can be calculated easily by considering an ideal heat pump operating on the reversed Carnot cycle:

- o If the low-temperature reservoir is at a temperature of 270 K (?3 °C) and the interior of the building is at 280 K (7 °C) the relevant coefficient of performance is 27. This means only 1 joule of work is required to transfer 27 joules of heat from a reservoir at 270 K to another at 280 K. The one joule of work ultimately ends up as thermal energy in the interior of the building so for each 27 joules of heat that are removed from the low-temperature reservoir, 28 joules of heat are added to the building interior, making the heat pump even more attractive from an efficiency perspective.[note 1]
- As the temperature of the interior of the building rises progressively to 300 K (27 °C) the coefficient of performance falls progressively to 9. This means each joule of work is responsible for transferring 9 joules of heat out of the low-temperature reservoir and into the building. Again, the 1 joule of work ultimately ends up as thermal energy in the interior of the building so 10 joules of heat are added to the building interior.[note 2]

This is the theoretical amount of heat pumped but in practice it will be less for various reasons, for example if the outside unit has been installed where there is not enough airflow. More data sharing with owners and academics—perhaps from heat meters—could improve efficiency in the long run.[11]

History

[edit]

Milestones:

1748

William Cullen demonstrates artificial refrigeration.[12]

1834

Jacob Perkins patents a design for a practical refrigerator using dimethyl ether.[13] 1852

Lord Kelvin describes the theory underlying heat pumps.[14]

1855-1857

Peter von Rittinger develops and builds the first heat pump.[15]

1877

In the period before 1875, heat pumps were for the time being pursued for vapour compression evaporation (open heat pump process) in salt works with their obvious advantages for saving wood and coal. In 1857, Peter von Rittinger was the first to try to implement the idea of vapor compression in a small pilot plant. Presumably inspired by Rittinger's experiments in Ebensee, Antoine-Paul Piccard from the University of Lausanne and the engineer J. H. Weibel from the Weibel–Briquet company in Geneva built the world's first really functioning vapor compression system with a two-stage piston compressor. In 1877 this first heat pump in Switzerland was installed in the Bex salt works. [14][16]

1928

Aurel Stodola constructs a closed-loop heat pump (water source from Lake Geneva) which provides heating for the Geneva city hall to this day.[17] 1937–1945

During the First World War, fuel prices were very high in Switzerland but it had plenty of hydropower.[14]

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Wyss in 1937/38 to replace the wood stoves in the City Hall of Zurich. To avoid noise and vibrations, a recently developed rotary piston compressor was used. This historic heat pump heated the town hall for 63 years until 2001. Only then was it replaced by a new, more efficient heat pump.[14]

1945

John Sumner, City Electrical Engineer for Norwich, installs an experimental water-source heat pump fed central heating system, using a nearby river to heat new Council administrative buildings. It had a seasonal efficiency ratio of 3.42, average thermal delivery of 147 kW, and peak output of 234 kW.[¹⁸]

1948

Robert C. Webber is credited as developing and building the first ground-source heat pump.[¹⁹]

1951

First large scale installation—the Royal Festival Hall in London is opened with a town gas-powered reversible water-source heat pump, fed by the Thames, for both winter heating and summer cooling needs.[18]

2019

The Kigali Amendment to phase out harmful refrigerants takes effect.

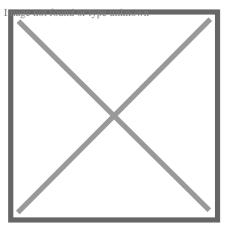
Types

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Air-source

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This section is an excerpt from Air source heat pump.[edit]



Heat pump on balcony of apartment

An air source heat pump (ASHP) is a heat pump that can absorb heat from air outside a building and release it inside; it uses the same vapor-compression refrigeration process and much the same equipment as an air conditioner, but in the opposite direction. ASHPs are the most common type of heat pump and, usually being smaller, tend to be

used to heat individual houses or flats rather than blocks, districts or industrial processes. $[^{20}][^{21}]$

Air-to-air heat pumps provide hot or cold air directly to rooms, but do not usually provide hot water. Air-to-water heat pumps use radiators or underfloor heating to heat a whole house and are often also used to provide domestic hot water.

An ASHP can typically gain 4 kWh thermal energy from 1 kWh electric energy. They are optimized for flow temperatures between 30 and 40 °C (86 and 104 °F), suitable for buildings with heat emitters sized for low flow temperatures. With losses in efficiency, an ASHP can even provide full central heating with a flow temperature up to 80 °C (176 °F). [²²]

As of 2023 about 10% of building heating worldwide is from ASHPs. They are the main way to phase out gas boilers (also known as "furnaces") from houses, to avoid their greenhouse gas emissions.[²³]

Air-source heat pumps are used to move heat between two heat exchangers, one outside the building which is fitted with fins through which air is forced using a fan and the other which either directly heats the air inside the building or heats water which is then circulated around the building through radiators or underfloor heating which releases the heat to the building. These devices can also operate in a cooling mode where they extract heat via the internal heat exchanger and eject it into the ambient air using the external heat exchanger. Some can be used to heat water for washing which is stored in a domestic hot water tank.[24]

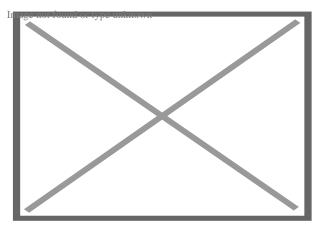
Air-source heat pumps are relatively easy and inexpensive to install, so are the most widely used type. In mild weather, coefficient of performance (COP) may be between 2 and 5, while at temperatures below around ?8 °C (18 °F) an air-source heat pump may still achieve a COP of 1 to 4.[²⁵]

While older air-source heat pumps performed relatively poorly at low temperatures and were better suited for warm climates, newer models with variable-speed compressors remain highly efficient in freezing conditions allowing for wide adoption and cost savings in places like Minnesota and Maine in the United States.[²⁶]

Ground source

[edit]

This section is an excerpt from Ground source heat pump.[edit]



A heat pump in combination with heat and cold storage

A ground source heat pump (also geothermal heat pump) is a heating/cooling system for buildings that use a type of heat pump to transfer heat to or from the ground, taking advantage of the relative constancy of temperatures of the earth through the seasons. Ground-source heat pumps (GSHPs) – or geothermal heat pumps (GHP), as they are commonly termed in North America – are among the most energy-efficient technologies for providing HVAC and water heating, using far less energy than can be achieved by burning a fuel in a boiler/furnace or by use of resistive electric heaters.

Efficiency is given as a coefficient of performance (CoP) which is typically in the range 3 – 6, meaning that the devices provide 3 – 6 units of heat for each unit of electricity used. Setup costs are higher than for other heating systems, due to the requirement to install ground loops over large areas or to drill bore holes, and for this reason, ground source is often suitable when new blocks of flats are built.[²⁷] Otherwise air-source heat pumps are often used instead.

Heat recovery ventilation

[edit]

Main article: Heat recovery ventilation

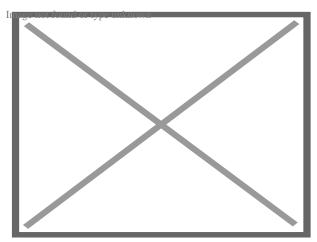
Exhaust air heat pumps extract heat from the exhaust air of a building and require mechanical ventilation. Two classes exist:

- o Exhaust air-air heat pumps transfer heat to intake air.
- Exhaust air-water heat pumps transfer heat to a heating circuit that includes a tank of domestic hot water.

Solar-assisted

[edit]

This section is an excerpt from Solar-assisted heat pump.[edit]

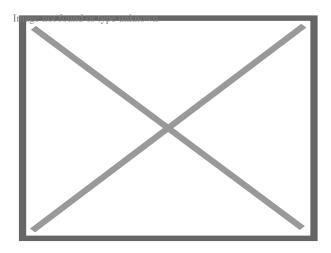


Hybrid photovoltaic-thermal solar panels of a SAHP in an experimental installation at Department of Energy at Polytechnic of Milan

A solar-assisted heat pump (SAHP) is a machine that combines a heat pump and thermal solar panels and/or PV solar panels in a single integrated system. [²⁸] Typically these two technologies are used separately (or only placing them in parallel) to produce hot water. [²⁹] In this system the solar thermal panel performs the function of the low temperature heat source and the heat produced is used to feed the heat pump's evaporator. [³⁰] The goal of this system is to get high coefficient of performance (COP) and then produce energy in a more efficient and less expensive way. It is possible to use any type of solar thermal panel (sheet and tubes, roll-bond, heat pipe, thermal plates) or hybrid (mono/polycrystalline, thin film) in combination with the heat pump. The use of a hybrid panel is preferable because it allows covering a part of the electricity demand of the heat pump and reduce the power consumption and consequently the variable costs of the system.

Water-source

[edit]



Water-source heat exchanger being installed

A water-source heat pump works in a similar manner to a ground-source heat pump, except that it takes heat from a body of water rather than the ground. The body of water does, however, need to be large enough to be able to withstand the cooling effect of the unit without freezing or creating an adverse effect for wildlife.[31] The largest water-source heat pump was installed in the Danish town of Esbjerg in 2023.[32][33]

Others

[edit]

A thermoacoustic heat pump operates as a thermoacoustic heat engine without refrigerant but instead uses a standing wave in a sealed chamber driven by a loudspeaker to achieve a temperature difference across the chamber.[34]

Electrocaloric heat pumps are solid state.[35]

Applications

[edit]

The International Energy Agency estimated that, as of 2021, heat pumps installed in buildings have a combined capacity of more than 1000 GW.[⁴] They are used for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and may also provide domestic hot water and tumble clothes drying.[³⁶] The purchase costs are supported in various countries by consumer rebates.[³⁷]

Space heating and sometimes also cooling

[edit]

In HVAC applications, a heat pump is typically a vapor-compression refrigeration device that includes a reversing valve and optimized heat exchangers so that the direction of heat flow (thermal energy movement) may be reversed. The reversing valve switches the direction of refrigerant through the cycle and therefore the heat pump may deliver either heating or cooling to a building.

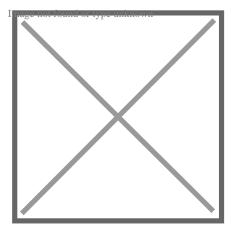
Because the two heat exchangers, the condenser and evaporator, must swap functions, they are optimized to perform adequately in both modes. Therefore, the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER in the US) or European seasonal energy efficiency ratio of a reversible heat pump is typically slightly less than those of two separately optimized machines. For equipment to receive the US Energy Star rating, it must have a rating of

at least 14 SEER. Pumps with ratings of 18 SEER or above are considered highly efficient. The highest efficiency heat pumps manufactured are up to 24 SEER.[³⁸]

Heating seasonal performance factor (in the US) or Seasonal Performance Factor (in Europe) are ratings of heating performance. The SPF is Total heat output per annum / Total electricity consumed per annum in other words the average heating COP over the year. $[^{39}]$

Window mounted heat pump

[edit]



Saddle-style window mounted heat pump 3D sketch

Window mounted heat pumps run on standard 120v AC outlets and provide heating, cooling, and humidity control. They are more efficient with lower noise levels, condensation management, and a smaller footprint than window mounted air conditioners that just do cooling.[⁴⁰]

Water heating

[edit]

In water heating applications, heat pumps may be used to heat or preheat water for swimming pools, homes or industry. Usually heat is extracted from outdoor air and transferred to an indoor water tank.[41][42]

District heating

[edit]

Large (megawatt-scale) heat pumps are used for district heating.[⁴³] However as of 2022 about 90% of district heat is from fossil fuels.[⁴⁴] In Europe, heat pumps account for a mere 1% of heat supply in district heating networks but several countries have targets to decarbonise their networks between 2030 and 2040.[⁴] Possible sources of heat for such applications are sewage water, ambient water (e.g. sea, lake and river water), industrial waste heat, geothermal energy, flue gas, waste heat from district cooling and heat from solar seasonal thermal energy storage.[⁴⁵] Large-scale heat pumps for district heating combined with thermal energy storage offer high flexibility for the integration of variable renewable energy. Therefore, they are regarded as a key technology for limiting climate change by phasing out fossil fuels.[⁴⁵] They are also a crucial element of systems which can both heat and cool districts.[⁴⁷]

Industrial heating

[edit]

There is great potential to reduce the energy consumption and related greenhouse gas emissions in industry by application of industrial heat pumps, for example for process heat. $[^{48}][^{49}]$ Short payback periods of less than 2 years are possible, while achieving a high reduction of CO_2 emissions (in some cases more than 50%). $[^{50}][^{51}]$ Industrial heat pumps can heat up to 200 °C, and can meet the heating demands of many light industries. $[^{52}][^{53}]$ In Europe alone, 15 GW of heat pumps could be installed in 3,000 facilities in the paper, food and chemicals industries. $[^{4}]$

Performance

[edit]

Main article: Coefficient of performance

The performance of a heat pump is determined by the ability of the pump to extract heat from a low temperature environment (the *source*) and deliver it to a higher temperature environment (the *sink*).[⁵⁴] Performance varies, depending on installation details, temperature differences, site elevation, location on site, pipe runs, flow rates, and maintenance.

In general, heat pumps work most efficiently (that is, the heat output produced for a given energy input) when the difference between the heat source and the heat sink is small. When using a heat pump for space or water heating, therefore, the heat pump will be most efficient in mild conditions, and decline in efficiency on very cold days. Performance metrics supplied to consumers attempt to take this variation into account.

Common performance metrics are the SEER (in cooling mode) and seasonal coefficient of performance (SCOP) (commonly used just for heating), although SCOP can be used

for both modes of operation.[⁵⁴] Larger values of either metric indicate better performance.[⁵⁴] When comparing the performance of heat pumps, the term *performance* is preferred to *efficiency*, with coefficient of performance (COP) being used to describe the ratio of useful heat movement per work input.[⁵⁴] An electrical resistance heater has a COP of 1.0, which is considerably lower than a well-designed heat pump which will typically have a COP of 3 to 5 with an external temperature of 10 °C and an internal temperature of 20 °C. Because the ground is a constant temperature source, a ground-source heat pump is not subjected to large temperature fluctuations, and therefore is the most energy-efficient type of heat pump.[⁵⁴]

The "seasonal coefficient of performance" (SCOP) is a measure of the aggregate energy efficiency measure over a period of one year which is dependent on regional climate. $[^{54}]$ One framework for this calculation is given by the Commission Regulation (EU) No. $813/2013.[^{55}]$

A heat pump's operating performance in cooling mode is characterized in the US by either its energy efficiency ratio (EER) or seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER), both of which have units of BTU/($h\cdot W$) (note that 1 BTU/($h\cdot W$) = 0.293 W/W) and larger values indicate better performance.

Pump type and source	Typical use	35 °C (e.g. heated screed floor)	tion with output temperature 45 °C (e.g. heated screed floor)	55 °C (e.g. heated timb
High- efficiency air-source heat pump (ASHP), air at ?20 °C[⁵⁶]		2.2	2.0	ÃÃ,¢Ã¢ââ,¬Å¡
· ·	Low source temperature	2.4	2.2	1.9
•	Low output temperature	3.8	2.8	2.2

	gh output nperature 3.3	ÃÃ,¢Ã¢ââ,¬Å¡Ã,¬Ã'Ã,¶Æ	'Ã,¢Ã¢ââ,¬Å;
source heat pump (GSHP), water at 0 °C[⁵⁶]	5.0	3.7	2.9
ARAHINA 31	w output 7.2 mperature	5.0	3.7
Theoretical Carnot cycle limit, source ?20 °C	5.6	4.9	4.4
Theoretical Carnot cycle limit, source 0 °C	8.8	7.1	6.0
Theoretical Lorentzen cycle limit (CO 2 pump), return fluid 25 °C, source 0 °C[⁵⁸]	10.1	8.8	7.9

7.3

Carbon footprint

[edit]

10 °C

The carbon footprint of heat pumps depends on their individual efficiency and how electricity is produced. An increasing share of low-carbon energy sources such as wind and solar will lower the impact on the climate.

heating system	emissions of energy source	efficiency	resulting emissions for thermal energy
heat pump with onshore wind power	11 gCO ₂ /kWh[⁵⁹]	,	3 gCO ₂ /kWh
heat pump with global electricity mix	436 gCO ₂ /kWh[⁶⁰] (2022)	400% (COP=4)	109 gCO ₂ /kWh
natural-gas thermal (high efficiency)	201 gCO ₂ /kWh[⁶¹]	90% [[] citation neede	e 2 23 gCO ₂ /kWh
heat pump electricity by lignite (old power plant) and low performance	1221 gCO ₂ /kWh[⁶¹]	300% (COP=3)	407 gCO ₂ /kWh

In most settings, heat pumps will reduce ${\rm CO}_2$ emissions compared to heating systems powered by fossil fuels. [62] In regions accounting for 70% of world energy consumption, the emissions savings of heat pumps compared with a high-efficiency gas boiler are on average above 45% and reach 80% in countries with cleaner electricity mixes. [4] These values can be improved by 10 percentage points, respectively, with alternative refrigerants. In the United States, 70% of houses could reduce emissions by installing a heat pump. [63][4] The rising share of renewable electricity generation in many countries is set to increase the emissions savings from heat pumps over time. [4]

Heating systems powered by green hydrogen are also low-carbon and may become competitors, but are much less efficient due to the energy loss associated with hydrogen conversion, transport and use. In addition, not enough green hydrogen is expected to be available before the 2030s or 2040s.[64][65]

Operation

See also: Vapor-compression refrigeration

This section **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help improve of this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (May 2021) (Learn how and when to remove this message)

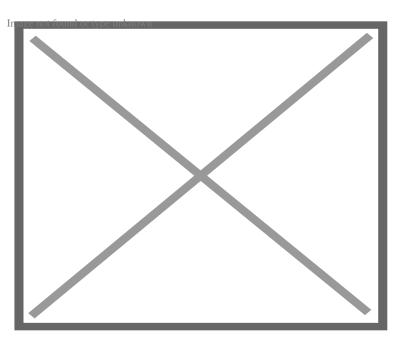
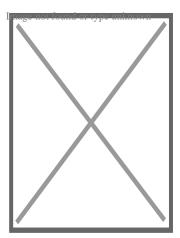
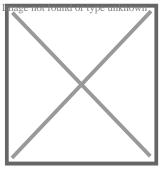


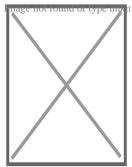
Figure 2: Temperature-entropy diagram of the vapor-compression cycle



An internal view of the outdoor unit of an Ecodan air source heat pump



Large heat pump setup for a commercial building



Wiring and connections to a central air unit inside

Vapor-compression uses a circulating refrigerant as the medium which absorbs heat from one space, compresses it thereby increasing its temperature before releasing it in another space. The system normally has eight main components: a compressor, a reservoir, a reversing valve which selects between heating and cooling mode, two thermal expansion valves (one used when in heating mode and the other when used in cooling mode) and two heat exchangers, one associated with the external heat source/sink and the other with the interior. In heating mode the external heat exchanger is the evaporator and the internal one being the condenser; in cooling mode the roles are reversed.

Circulating refrigerant enters the compressor in the thermodynamic state known as a saturated vapor [66] and is compressed to a higher pressure, resulting in a higher temperature as well. The hot, compressed vapor is then in the thermodynamic state known as a superheated vapor and it is at a temperature and pressure at which it can be condensed with either cooling water or cooling air flowing across the coil or tubes. In heating mode this heat is used to heat the building using the internal heat exchanger, and in cooling mode this heat is rejected via the external heat exchanger.

The condensed, liquid refrigerant, in the thermodynamic state known as a saturated liquid, is next routed through an expansion valve where it undergoes an abrupt reduction

in pressure. That pressure reduction results in the adiabatic flash evaporation of a part of the liquid refrigerant. The auto-refrigeration effect of the adiabatic flash evaporation lowers the temperature of the liquid and-vapor refrigerant mixture to where it is colder than the temperature of the enclosed space to be refrigerated.

The cold mixture is then routed through the coil or tubes in the evaporator. A fan circulates the warm air in the enclosed space across the coil or tubes carrying the cold refrigerant liquid and vapor mixture. That warm air evaporates the liquid part of the cold refrigerant mixture. At the same time, the circulating air is cooled and thus lowers the temperature of the enclosed space to the desired temperature. The evaporator is where the circulating refrigerant absorbs and removes heat which is subsequently rejected in the condenser and transferred elsewhere by the water or air used in the condenser.

To complete the refrigeration cycle, the refrigerant vapor from the evaporator is again a saturated vapor and is routed back into the compressor.

Over time, the evaporator may collect ice or water from ambient humidity. The ice is melted through defrosting cycle. An internal heat exchanger is either used to heat/cool the interior air directly or to heat water that is then circulated through radiators or underfloor heating circuit to either heat or cool the buildings.

Improvement of coefficient of performance by subcooling

[edit]

Main article: Subcooling

Heat input can be improved if the refrigerant enters the evaporator with a lower vapor content. This can be achieved by cooling the liquid refrigerant after condensation. The gaseous refrigerant condenses on the heat exchange surface of the condenser. To achieve a heat flow from the gaseous flow center to the wall of the condenser, the temperature of the liquid refrigerant must be lower than the condensation temperature.

Additional subcooling can be achieved by heat exchange between relatively warm liquid refrigerant leaving the condenser and the cooler refrigerant vapor emerging from the evaporator. The enthalpy difference required for the subcooling leads to the superheating of the vapor drawn into the compressor. When the increase in cooling achieved by subcooling is greater that the compressor drive input required to overcome the additional pressure losses, such a heat exchange improves the coefficient of performance.[⁶⁷]

One disadvantage of the subcooling of liquids is that the difference between the condensing temperature and the heat-sink temperature must be larger. This leads to a moderately high pressure difference between condensing and evaporating pressure, whereby the compressor energy increases.

Refrigerant choice

[edit]

Main article: Refrigerant

Pure refrigerants can be divided into organic substances (hydrocarbons (HCs), chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), hydrofluoroolefins (HFOs), and HCFOs), and inorganic substances (ammonia (NH

 $_3$), carbon dioxide (CO $_2$), and water (H $_2$ O)[68]).[69] Their boiling points are usually below ?25 °C.[70]

In the past 200 years, the standards and requirements for new refrigerants have changed. Nowadays low global warming potential (GWP) is required, in addition to all the previous requirements for safety, practicality, material compatibility, appropriate atmospheric life, *clarification needed* and compatibility with high-efficiency products. By 2022, devices using refrigerants with a very low GWP still have a small market share but are expected to play an increasing role due to enforced regulations, [71] as most countries have now ratified the Kigali Amendment to ban HFCs. [72] Isobutane (R600A) and propane (R290) are far less harmful to the environment than conventional hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) and are already being used in air-source heat pumps. [73] Propane may be the most suitable for high temperature heat pumps. [74] Ammonia (R717) and carbon dioxide (R-744) also have a low GWP. As of 2023 smaller CO heat pumps are not widely available and research and development of them continues. [75] A 2024 report said that refrigerants with GWP are vulnerable to further international restrictions. [76]

Until the 1990s, heat pumps, along with fridges and other related products used chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) as refrigerants, which caused major damage to the ozone layer when released into the atmosphere. Use of these chemicals was banned or severely restricted by the Montreal Protocol of August 1987.[⁷⁷]

Replacements, including R-134a and R-410A, are hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) with similar thermodynamic properties with insignificant ozone depletion potential (ODP) but had problematic GWP.[⁷⁸] HFCs are powerful greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change.[⁷⁹][⁸⁰] Dimethyl ether (DME) also gained in popularity as a refrigerant in combination with R404a.[⁸¹] More recent refrigerants include difluoromethane (R32) with a lower GWP, but still over 600.

refrigerant 20-year GWP 100-year GWP

R-290 propane[⁸²] 0.072 0.02 R-600a isobutane 3[⁸³]

R-32[⁸²]	491	136
R-410a[⁸⁴]	4705	2285
R-134a[⁸⁴]	4060	1470
R-404a[⁸⁴]	7258	4808

Devices with R-290 refrigerant (propane) are expected to play a key role in the future. [⁷⁴][⁸⁵] The 100-year GWP of propane, at 0.02, is extremely low and is approximately 7000 times less than R-32. However, the flammability of propane requires additional safety measures: the maximum safe charges have been set significantly lower than for lower flammability refrigerants (only allowing approximately 13.5 times less refrigerant in the system than R-32). [⁸⁶][⁸⁷][⁸⁸] This means that R-290 is not suitable for all situations or locations. Nonetheless, by 2022, an increasing number of devices with R-290 were offered for domestic use, especially in Europe. [citation needed]

At the same time, when? HFC refrigerants still dominate the market. Recent government mandates have seen the phase-out of R-22 refrigerant. Replacements such as R-32 and R-410A are being promoted as environmentally friendly but still have a high GWP.[89] A heat pump typically uses 3 kg of refrigerant. With R-32 this amount still has a 20-year impact equivalent to 7 tons of CO₂, which corresponds to two years of natural gas heating in an average household. Refrigerants with a high ODP have already been phased out. citation needed

Government incentives

[edit]

Financial incentives aim to protect consumers from high fossil gas costs and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions,[90] and are currently available in more than 30 countries around the world, covering more than 70% of global heating demand in 2021.[4]

Australia

[edit]

Food processors, brewers, petfood producers and other industrial energy users are exploring whether it is feasible to use renewable energy to produce industrial-grade heat. Process heating accounts for the largest share of onsite energy use in Australian manufacturing, with lower-temperature operations like food production particularly well-suited to transition to renewables.

To help producers understand how they could benefit from making the switch, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) provided funding to the Australian Alliance for Energy Productivity (A2EP) to undertake pre-feasibility studies at a range of

sites around Australia, with the most promising locations advancing to full feasibility studies.[91]

In an effort to incentivize energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact, the Australian states of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland have implemented rebate programs targeting the upgrade of existing hot water systems. These programs specifically encourage the transition from traditional gas or electric systems to heat pump based systems.[92][93][94][95][96]

Canada

[edit]

In 2022, the Canada Greener Homes Grant[⁹⁷] provides up to \$5000 for upgrades (including certain heat pumps), and \$600 for energy efficiency evaluations.

China

[edit]

Purchase subsidies in rural areas in the 2010s reduced burning coal for heating, which had been causing ill health.[⁹⁸]

In the 2024 report by the International Energy Agency (IEA) titled "The Future of Heat Pumps in China," it is highlighted that China, as the world's largest market for heat pumps in buildings, plays a critical role in the global industry. The country accounts for over one-quarter of global sales, with a 12% increase in 2023 alone, despite a global sales dip of 3% the same year.[99]

Heat pumps are now used in approximately 8% of all heating equipment sales for buildings in China as of 2022, and they are increasingly becoming the norm in central and southern regions for both heating and cooling. Despite their higher upfront costs and relatively low awareness, heat pumps are favored for their energy efficiency, consuming three to five times less energy than electric heaters or fossil fuel-based solutions. Currently, decentralized heat pumps installed in Chinese buildings represent a quarter of the global installed capacity, with a total capacity exceeding 250 GW, which covers around 4% of the heating needs in buildings.[99]

Under the Announced Pledges Scenario (APS), which aligns with China's carbon neutrality goals, the capacity is expected to reach 1,400 GW by 2050, meeting 25% of heating needs. This scenario would require an installation of about 100 GW of heat pumps annually until 2050. Furthermore, the heat pump sector in China employs over 300,000 people, with employment numbers expected to double by 2050, underscoring

the importance of vocational training for industry growth. This robust development in the heat pump market is set to play a significant role in reducing direct emissions in buildings by 30% and cutting PM2.5 emissions from residential heating by nearly 80% by 2030.[99][100]

European Union

[edit]

To speed up the deployment rate of heat pumps, the European Commission launched the Heat Pump Accelerator Platform in November 2024.[¹⁰¹] It will encourage industry experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to collaborate, share best practices and ideas, and jointly discuss measures that promote sustainable heating solutions.[¹⁰²]

United Kingdom

[edit]

As of 2022: heat pumps have no Value Added Tax (VAT) although in Northern Ireland they are taxed at the reduced rate of 5% instead of the usual level of VAT of 20% for most other products. [103] As of 2022 the installation cost of a heat pump is more than a gas boiler, but with the "Boiler Upgrade Scheme" [104] government grant and assuming electricity/gas costs remain similar their lifetime costs would be similar on average. [105] However lifetime cost relative to a gas boiler varies considerably depending on several factors, such as the quality of the heat pump installation and the tariff used. [106] In 2024 England was criticised for still allowing new homes to be built with gas boilers, unlike some other counties where this is banned. [107]

United States

[edit]

Further information: Environmental policy of the Joe Biden administration and Climate change in the United States

The High-efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program was created in 2022 to award grants to State energy offices and Indian Tribes in order to establish state-wide high-efficiency electric-home rebates. Effective immediately, American households are eligible for a tax credit to cover the costs of buying and installing a heat pump, up to \$2,000. Starting in 2023, low- and moderate-level income households will be eligible for a heat-pump rebate of up to \$8,000.[108]

In 2022, more heat pumps were sold in the United States than natural gas furnaces.[109]

In November 2023 Biden's administration allocated 169 million dollars from the Inflation Reduction Act to speed up production of heat pumps. It used the Defense Production Act to do so, because according to the administration, energy that is better for the climate is also better for national security.[110]

Notes

[edit]

- As explained in Coefficient of performance TheoreticalMaxCOP =
 (desiredIndoorTempC + 273) ÷ (desiredIndoorTempC outsideTempC) = (7+273)
 ÷ (7 (-3)) = 280÷10 = 28 [10]
- 2. ^ As explained in Coefficient of performance TheoreticalMaxCOP = $(desiredIndoorTempC + 273) \div (desiredIndoorTempC outsideTempC) = (27+273) \div (27 (-3)) = 300 \div 30 = 10[^{10}]$

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Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning

- o Air changes per hour
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- Building envelope
- Convection
- Dilution
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- Enthalpy
- Fluid dynamics
- o Gas compressor
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- Vapour pressure of water

Fundamental concepts

- Absorption-compression heat pump
- Absorption refrigerator
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- Air conditioning
- o Antifreeze
- Automobile air conditioning
- Autonomous building
- Building insulation materials
- Central heating
- Central solar heating
- o Chilled beam
- Chilled water
- Constant air volume (CAV)
- Coolant
- Cross ventilation
- Dedicated outdoor air system (DOAS)
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- Room air distribution
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- Solar cooling

- Air conditioner inverter
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- o Air filter
- Air handler
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- Evaporative cooler
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- Air flow meter
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- Carbon dioxide sensor
- Clean air delivery rate (CADR)
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- Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing
- Mold growth, assessment, and remediation
- Refrigerant reclamation
- Testing, adjusting, balancing

Professions, trades, and services

Measurement

and control

- \circ AHRI
- o AMCA
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- o BRE

Industry organizations

- BSRIACIBSE
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- o IIR
- o LEED
- SMACNA
- o UMC
- Indoor air quality (IAQ)

Health and safety

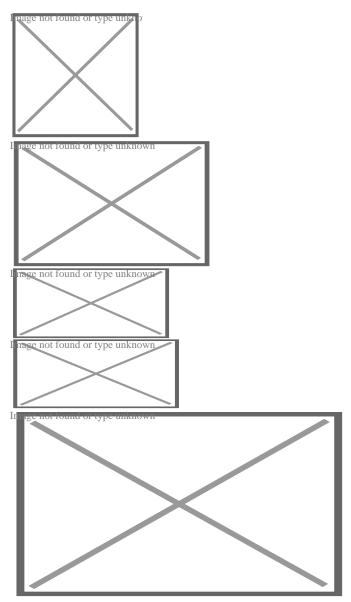
- Passive smoking
- Sick building syndrome (SBS)
- Volatile organic compound (VOC)
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- See also
- Glossary of HVAC terms
- Warm Spaces
- World Refrigeration Day
- o Template:Home automation
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 - France

Authority control databases: National Part of British at Windigata

- Japan
- Czech Republic
- Israel

About Air conditioning

This article is about cooling of air. For the Curved Air album, see Air Conditioning (album). For a similar device capable of both cooling and heating, see heat pump. "a/c" redirects here. For the abbreviation used in banking and book-keeping, see Account (disambiguation). For other uses, see AC.



There are various types of air conditioners. Popular examples include: Window-mounted air conditioner (Suriname, 1955); Ceiling-mounted cassette air conditioner (China, 2023); Wall-mounted air conditioner (Japan, 2020); Ceiling-mounted console (Also called ceiling suspended) air conditioner (China, 2023); and portable air conditioner (Vatican City, 2018).

Air conditioning, often abbreviated as A/C (US) or air con (UK),[¹] is the process of removing heat from an enclosed space to achieve a more comfortable interior temperature (sometimes referred to as 'comfort cooling') and in some cases also strictly controlling the humidity of internal air. Air conditioning can be achieved using a mechanical 'air conditioner' or by other methods, including passive cooling and ventilative cooling.[²][³] Air conditioning is a member of a family of systems and techniques that provide heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC).[⁴] Heat pumps are similar in many ways to air conditioners, but use a reversing valve to allow them both to heat and to cool an enclosed space.[⁵]

Air conditioners, which typically use vapor-compression refrigeration, range in size from small units used in vehicles or single rooms to massive units that can cool large buildings.^[6] Air source heat pumps, which can be used for heating as well as cooling, are becoming increasingly common in cooler climates.

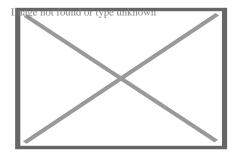
Air conditioners can reduce mortality rates due to higher temperature. [7] According to the International Energy Agency (IEA) 1.6 billion air conditioning units were used globally in 2016. [8] The United Nations called for the technology to be made more sustainable to mitigate climate change and for the use of alternatives, like passive cooling, evaporative cooling, selective shading, windcatchers, and better thermal insulation.

History

[edit]

Air conditioning dates back to prehistory. [9] Double-walled living quarters, with a gap between the two walls to encourage air flow, were found in the ancient city of Hamoukar, in modern Syria. [10] Ancient Egyptian buildings also used a wide variety of passive air-conditioning techniques. [11] These became widespread from the Iberian Peninsula through North Africa, the Middle East, and Northern India. [12]

Passive techniques remained widespread until the 20th century when they fell out of fashion and were replaced by powered air conditioning. Using information from engineering studies of traditional buildings, passive techniques are being revived and modified for 21st-century architectural designs. [13][12]



An array of air conditioner condenser units outside a commercial office building

Air conditioners allow the building's indoor environment to remain relatively constant, largely independent of changes in external weather conditions and internal heat loads. They also enable deep plan buildings to be created and have allowed people to live comfortably in hotter parts of the world.[14]

Development

[edit]

Preceding discoveries

[edit]

In 1558, Giambattista della Porta described a method of chilling ice to temperatures far below its freezing point by mixing it with potassium nitrate (then called "nitre") in his popular science book *Natural Magic*.[15][16][17] In 1620, Cornelis Drebbel demonstrated "Turning Summer into Winter" for James I of England, chilling part of the Great Hall of Westminster Abbey with an apparatus of troughs and vats.[18] Drebbel's contemporary Francis Bacon, like della Porta a believer in science communication, may not have been present at the demonstration, but in a book published later the same year, he described it as "experiment of artificial freezing" and said that "Nitre (or rather its spirit) is very cold, and hence nitre or salt when added to snow or ice intensifies the cold of the latter, the nitre by adding to its cold, but the salt by supplying activity to the cold of the snow."[15]

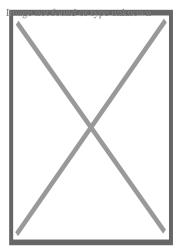
In 1758, Benjamin Franklin and John Hadley, a chemistry professor at the University of Cambridge, conducted experiments applying the principle of evaporation as a means to cool an object rapidly. Franklin and Hadley confirmed that the evaporation of highly volatile liquids (such as alcohol and ether) could be used to drive down the temperature of an object past the freezing point of water. They experimented with the bulb of a mercury-in-glass thermometer as their object. They used a bellows to speed up the evaporation. They lowered the temperature of the thermometer bulb down to ?14 °C (7 °F) while the ambient temperature was 18 °C (64 °F). Franklin noted that soon after they passed the freezing point of water 0 °C (32 °F), a thin film of ice formed on the surface of the thermometer's bulb and that the ice mass was about 6 mm (1?4 in) thick when they stopped the experiment upon reaching ?14 °C (7 °F). Franklin concluded: "From this experiment, one may see the possibility of freezing a man to death on a warm summer's day."[19]

The 19th century included many developments in compression technology. In 1820, English scientist and inventor Michael Faraday discovered that compressing and

liquefying ammonia could chill air when the liquefied ammonia was allowed to evaporate.[²⁰] In 1842, Florida physician John Gorrie used compressor technology to create ice, which he used to cool air for his patients in his hospital in Apalachicola, Florida. He hoped to eventually use his ice-making machine to regulate the temperature of buildings.[²⁰][²¹] He envisioned centralized air conditioning that could cool entire cities. Gorrie was granted a patent in 1851,[²²] but following the death of his main backer, he was not able to realize his invention.[²³] In 1851, James Harrison created the first mechanical ice-making machine in Geelong, Australia, and was granted a patent for an ether vapor-compression refrigeration system in 1855 that produced three tons of ice per day.[²⁴] In 1860, Harrison established a second ice company. He later entered the debate over competing against the American advantage of ice-refrigerated beef sales to the United Kingdom.[²⁴]

First devices

[edit]



Willis Carrier, who is credited with building the first modern electrical air conditioning unit

Electricity made the development of effective units possible. In 1901, American inventor Willis H. Carrier built what is considered the first modern electrical air conditioning unit. [25][26][27][28] In 1902, he installed his first air-conditioning system, in the Sackett-Wilhelms Lithographing & Publishing Company in Brooklyn, New York.[29] His invention controlled both the temperature and humidity, which helped maintain consistent paper dimensions and ink alignment at the printing plant. Later, together with six other employees, Carrier formed The Carrier Air Conditioning Company of America, a business that in 2020 employed 53,000 people and was valued at \$18.6 billion.[30][31]

In 1906, Stuart W. Cramer of Charlotte, North Carolina, was exploring ways to add moisture to the air in his textile mill. Cramer coined the term "air conditioning" in a patent

claim which he filed that year, where he suggested that air conditioning was analogous to "water conditioning", then a well-known process for making textiles easier to process.[³²] He combined moisture with ventilation to "condition" and change the air in the factories; thus, controlling the humidity that is necessary in textile plants. Willis Carrier adopted the term and incorporated it into the name of his company.[³³]

Domestic air conditioning soon took off. In 1914, the first domestic air conditioning was installed in Minneapolis in the home of Charles Gilbert Gates. It is, however, possible that the considerable device (c. 2.1 m \times 1.8 m \times 6.1 m; 7 ft \times 6 ft \times 20 ft) was never used, as the house remained uninhabited[20] (Gates had already died in October 1913.)

In 1931, H.H. Schultz and J.Q. Sherman developed what would become the most common type of individual room air conditioner: one designed to sit on a window ledge. The units went on sale in 1932 at US\$10,000 to \$50,000 (the equivalent of \$200,000 to \$1,100,000 in 2023.)[20] A year later, the first air conditioning systems for cars were offered for sale.[34] Chrysler Motors introduced the first practical semi-portable air conditioning unit in 1935,[35] and Packard became the first automobile manufacturer to offer an air conditioning unit in its cars in 1939.[36]

Further development

[edit]

Innovations in the latter half of the 20th century allowed more ubiquitous air conditioner use. In 1945, Robert Sherman of Lynn, Massachusetts, invented a portable, in-window air conditioner that cooled, heated, humidified, dehumidified, and filtered the air.[³⁷] The first inverter air conditioners were released in 1980–1981.[³⁸][³⁹]

In 1954, Ned Cole, a 1939 architecture graduate from the University of Texas at Austin, developed the first experimental "suburb" with inbuilt air conditioning in each house. 22 homes were developed on a flat, treeless track in northwest Austin, Texas, and the community was christened the 'Austin Air-Conditioned Village.' The residents were subjected to a year-long study of the effects of air conditioning led by the nation's premier air conditioning companies, builders, and social scientists. In addition, researchers from UT's Health Service and Psychology Department studied the effects on the "artificially cooled humans." One of the more amusing discoveries was that each family reported being troubled with scorpions, the leading theory being that scorpions sought cool, shady places. Other reported changes in lifestyle were that mothers baked more, families ate heavier foods, and they were more apt to choose hot drinks. [40][41]

Air conditioner adoption tends to increase above around \$10,000 annual household income in warmer areas.[⁴²] Global GDP growth explains around 85% of increased air condition adoption by 2050, while the remaining 15% can be explained by climate

change.[42]

As of 2016 an estimated 1.6 billion air conditioning units were used worldwide, with over half of them in China and USA, and a total cooling capacity of 11,675 gigawatts. [8][43] The International Energy Agency predicted in 2018 that the number of air conditioning units would grow to around 4 billion units by 2050 and that the total cooling capacity would grow to around 23,000 GW, with the biggest increases in India and China. [8] Between 1995 and 2004, the proportion of urban households in China with air conditioners increased from 8% to 70%. [44] As of 2015, nearly 100 million homes, or about 87% of US households, had air conditioning systems. [45] In 2019, it was estimated that 90% of new single-family homes constructed in the US included air conditioning (ranging from 99% in the South to 62% in the West). [46][47]

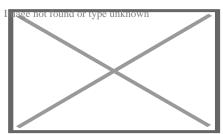
Operation

[edit]

Operating principles

[edit]

Main article: Vapor-compression refrigeration



A simple stylized diagram of the refrigeration cycle: 1) condensing coil, 2) expansion valve, 3) evaporator coil, 4) compressor

Cooling in traditional air conditioner systems is accomplished using the vapor-compression cycle, which uses a refrigerant's forced circulation and phase change between gas and liquid to transfer heat. [48][49] The vapor-compression cycle can occur within a unitary, or packaged piece of equipment; or within a chiller that is connected to terminal cooling equipment (such as a fan coil unit in an air handler) on its evaporator side and heat rejection equipment such as a cooling tower on its condenser side. An air source heat pump shares many components with an air conditioning system, but includes a reversing valve, which allows the unit to be used to heat as well as cool a space. [50]

Air conditioning equipment will reduce the absolute humidity of the air processed by the system if the surface of the evaporator coil is significantly cooler than the dew point of the surrounding air. An air conditioner designed for an occupied space will typically

achieve a 30% to 60% relative humidity in the occupied space.[51]

Most modern air-conditioning systems feature a dehumidification cycle during which the compressor runs. At the same time, the fan is slowed to reduce the evaporator temperature and condense more water. A dehumidifier uses the same refrigeration cycle but incorporates both the evaporator and the condenser into the same air path; the air first passes over the evaporator coil, where it is cooled[⁵²] and dehumidified before passing over the condenser coil, where it is warmed again before it is released back into the room. [citation needed]

Free cooling can sometimes be selected when the external air is cooler than the internal air. Therefore, the compressor does not need to be used, resulting in high cooling efficiencies for these times. This may also be combined with seasonal thermal energy storage.[53]

Heating

[edit]

Main article: Heat pump

Some air conditioning systems can reverse the refrigeration cycle and act as an air source heat pump, thus heating instead of cooling the indoor environment. They are also commonly referred to as "reverse cycle air conditioners". The heat pump is significantly more energy-efficient than electric resistance heating, because it moves energy from air or groundwater to the heated space and the heat from purchased electrical energy. When the heat pump is in heating mode, the indoor evaporator coil switches roles and becomes the condenser coil, producing heat. The outdoor condenser unit also switches roles to serve as the evaporator and discharges cold air (colder than the ambient outdoor air).

Most air source heat pumps become less efficient in outdoor temperatures lower than 4 °C or 40 °F.[⁵⁴] This is partly because ice forms on the outdoor unit's heat exchanger coil, which blocks air flow over the coil. To compensate for this, the heat pump system must temporarily switch back into the regular air conditioning mode to switch the outdoor evaporator coil *back* to the condenser coil, to heat up and defrost. Therefore, some heat pump systems will have electric resistance heating in the indoor air path that is activated only in this mode to compensate for the temporary indoor air cooling, which would otherwise be uncomfortable in the winter.

Newer models have improved cold-weather performance, with efficient heating capacity down to ?14 °F (?26 °C).[55][54][56] However, there is always a chance that the humidity that condenses on the heat exchanger of the outdoor unit could freeze, even in models that have improved cold-weather performance, requiring a defrosting cycle to be

performed.

The icing problem becomes much more severe with lower outdoor temperatures, so heat pumps are sometimes installed in tandem with a more conventional form of heating, such as an electrical heater, a natural gas, heating oil, or wood-burning fireplace or central heating, which is used instead of or in addition to the heat pump during harsher winter temperatures. In this case, the heat pump is used efficiently during milder temperatures, and the system is switched to the conventional heat source when the outdoor temperature is lower.

Performance

[edit]

Main articles: coefficient of performance, Seasonal energy efficiency ratio, and European seasonal energy efficiency ratio

The coefficient of performance (COP) of an air conditioning system is a ratio of useful heating or cooling provided to the work required. [57][58] Higher COPs equate to lower operating costs. The COP usually exceeds 1; however, the exact value is highly dependent on operating conditions, especially absolute temperature and relative temperature between sink and system, and is often graphed or averaged against expected conditions. [59] Air conditioner equipment power in the U.S. is often described in terms of "tons of refrigeration", with each approximately equal to the cooling power of one short ton (2,000 pounds (910 kg) of ice melting in a 24-hour period. The value is equal to 12,000 BTU_{IT} per hour, or 3,517 watts. [60] Residential central air systems are usually from 1 to 5 tons (3.5 to 18 kW) in capacity. [citation needed]

The efficiency of air conditioners is often rated by the seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER), which is defined by the Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute in its 2008 standard AHRI 210/240, *Performance Rating of Unitary Air-Conditioning and Air-Source Heat Pump Equipment*.[61] A similar standard is the European seasonal energy efficiency ratio (ESEER). [citation needed]

Efficiency is strongly affected by the humidity of the air to be cooled. Dehumidifying the air before attempting to cool it can reduce subsequent cooling costs by as much as 90 percent. Thus, reducing dehumidifying costs can materially affect overall air conditioning costs.[62]

Control system

[edit]

Wireless remote control

[edit]

Main articles: Remote control and Infrared blaster

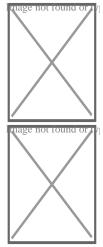


Α

wireless remote controller



The infrared transmitting LED on the remote



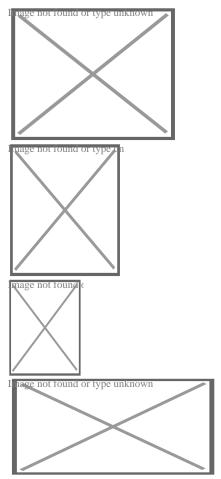
The infrared receiver on the air conditioner

This type of controller uses an infrared LED to relay commands from a remote control to the air conditioner. The output of the infrared LED (like that of any infrared remote) is invisible to the human eye because its wavelength is beyond the range of visible light (940 nm). This system is commonly used on mini-split air conditioners because it is simple and portable. Some window and ducted central air conditioners uses it as well.

Wired controller

[edit]

Main article: Thermostat



Several wired controllers (Indonesia, 2024)

A wired controller, also called a "wired thermostat," is a device that controls an air conditioner by switching heating or cooling on or off. It uses different sensors to measure temperatures and actuate control operations. Mechanical thermostats commonly use bimetallic strips, converting a temperature change into mechanical displacement, to actuate control of the air conditioner. Electronic thermostats, instead, use a thermistor or other semiconductor sensor, processing temperature change as electronic signals to control the air conditioner.

These controllers are usually used in hotel rooms because they are permanently installed into a wall and hard-wired directly into the air conditioner unit, eliminating the need for batteries.

Types

[edit]

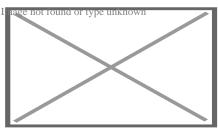
Types	Typical Capacity*	Air supply	Mounting	Typical application
Mini-split	small – large	Direct	Wall	Residential
Window	very small – small	Direct	Window	Residential
Portable	very small – small	Direct / Ducted	Floor	Residential, remote areas
Ducted (individual)	small – very large	Ducted	Ceiling	Residential, commercial
Ducted (central)	medium – very large	Ducted	Ceiling	Residential, commercial
Ceiling suspended	medium – large	Direct	Ceiling	Commercial
Cassette	medium – large	Direct / Ducted	Ceiling	Commercial
Floor standing	medium – large	Direct / Ducted	Floor	Commercial
Packaged	very large	Direct / Ducted	Floor	Commercial
Packaged RTU (Rooftop Unit)	very large	Ducted	Rooftop	Commercial

^{*} where the typical capacity is in kilowatt as follows:

very small: <1.5 kW
 small: 1.5–3.5 kW
 medium: 4.2–7.1 kW
 large: 7.2–14 kW
 very large: >14 kW

Mini-split and multi-split systems

[edit]



Evaporator, indoor unit, or terminal, side of a ductless split-type air conditioner

Ductless systems (often mini-split, though there are now ducted mini-split) typically supply conditioned and heated air to a single or a few rooms of a building, without ducts and in a decentralized manner. [63] Multi-zone or multi-split systems are a common application of ductless systems and allow up to eight rooms (zones or locations) to be conditioned independently from each other, each with its indoor unit and simultaneously from a single outdoor unit.

The first mini-split system was sold in 1961 by Toshiba in Japan, and the first wallmounted mini-split air conditioner was sold in 1968 in Japan by Mitsubishi Electric, where small home sizes motivated their development. The Mitsubishi model was the first air conditioner with a cross-flow fan. [64][65][66] In 1969, the first mini-split air conditioner was sold in the US.[67] Multi-zone ductless systems were invented by Daikin in 1973, and variable refrigerant flow systems (which can be thought of as larger multi-split systems) were also invented by Daikin in 1982. Both were first sold in Japan. [68] Variable refrigerant flow systems when compared with central plant cooling from an air handler, eliminate the need for large cool air ducts, air handlers, and chillers; instead cool refrigerant is transported through much smaller pipes to the indoor units in the spaces to be conditioned, thus allowing for less space above dropped ceilings and a lower structural impact, while also allowing for more individual and independent temperature control of spaces. The outdoor and indoor units can be spread across the building.[69] Variable refrigerant flow indoor units can also be turned off individually in unused spaces. [citation needed] The lower start-up power of VRF's DC inverter compressors and their inherent DC power requirements also allow VRF solar-powered heat pumps to be run using DC-providing solar panels.

Ducted central systems

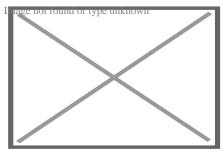
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Split-system central air conditioners consist of two heat exchangers, an outside unit (the condenser) from which heat is rejected to the environment and an internal heat exchanger (the evaporator, or Fan Coil Unit, FCU) with the piped refrigerant being circulated between the two. The FCU is then connected to the spaces to be cooled by ventilation ducts.[⁷⁰] Floor standing air conditioners are similar to this type of air conditioner but sit within spaces that need cooling.

Central plant cooling

[edit]

See also: Chiller



Industrial air conditioners on top of the shopping mall Passage in Linz, Austria

Large central cooling plants may use intermediate coolant such as chilled water pumped into air handlers or fan coil units near or in the spaces to be cooled which then duct or deliver cold air into the spaces to be conditioned, rather than ducting cold air directly to these spaces from the plant, which is not done due to the low density and heat capacity of air, which would require impractically large ducts. The chilled water is cooled by chillers in the plant, which uses a refrigeration cycle to cool water, often transferring its heat to the atmosphere even in liquid-cooled chillers through the use of cooling towers. Chillers may be air- or liquid-cooled.[⁷¹][⁷²]

Portable units

[edit]

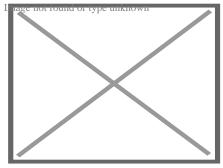
A portable system has an indoor unit on wheels connected to an outdoor unit via flexible pipes, similar to a permanently fixed installed unit (such as a ductless split air conditioner).

Hose systems, which can be *monoblock* or *air-to-air*, are vented to the outside via air ducts. The *monoblock* type collects the water in a bucket or tray and stops when full. The *air-to-air* type re-evaporates the water, discharges it through the ducted hose, and can run continuously. Many but not all portable units draw indoor air and expel it outdoors through a single duct, negatively impacting their overall cooling efficiency.

Many portable air conditioners come with heat as well as a dehumidification function. [73]

Window unit and packaged terminal

[edit]



Through-the-wall PTAC units, University Motor Inn, Philadelphia

Main article: Packaged terminal air conditioner

The packaged terminal air conditioner (PTAC), through-the-wall, and window air conditioners are similar. These units are installed on a window frame or on a wall opening. The unit usually has an internal partition separating its indoor and outdoor sides, which contain the unit's condenser and evaporator, respectively. PTAC systems may be adapted to provide heating in cold weather, either directly by using an electric strip, gas, or other heaters, or by reversing the refrigerant flow to heat the interior and draw heat from the exterior air, converting the air conditioner into a heat pump. They may be installed in a wall opening with the help of a special sleeve on the wall and a custom grill that is flush with the wall and window air conditioners can also be installed in a window, but without a custom grill.[⁷⁴]

Packaged air conditioner

[edit]

Packaged air conditioners (also known as self-contained units)[75][76] are central systems that integrate into a single housing all the components of a split central system, and deliver air, possibly through ducts, to the spaces to be cooled. Depending on their construction they may be outdoors or indoors, on roofs (rooftop units),[77][78] draw the air to be conditioned from inside or outside a building and be water or air-cooled. Often, outdoor units are air-cooled while indoor units are liquid-cooled using a cooling tower.[70][80][81][82][83]

Types of compressors

[edit]

Compressor	Common	Typical	Efficiency	Durability Repairability
types	applications	capacity	Efficiency	Durability Repairability

Reciprocating	Refrigerator, Walk-in freezer, portable air conditioners	small – large	very low (small capacity) medium (large capacity)	very low	medium
Rotary vane	Residential mini splits	small	low	low	easy
Scroll	Commercial and central systems, VRF	medium	medium	medium	easy
Rotary screw	Commercial chiller	medium – large	medium	medium	hard
Centrifugal	Commercial chiller	very large	medium	high	hard
Maglev Centrifugal	Commercial chiller	very large	high	very high	very hard

Reciprocating

[edit]

Main article: Reciprocating compressor

This compressor consists of a crankcase, crankshaft, piston rod, piston, piston ring, cylinder head and valves. [citation needed]

Scroll

[edit]

Main article: Scroll compressor

This compressor uses two interleaving scrolls to compress the refrigerant.[⁸⁴] it consists of one fixed and one orbiting scrolls. This type of compressor is more efficient because it has 70 percent less moving parts than a reciprocating compressor. [citation needed]

Screw

[edit]

Main article: Rotary-screw compressor

This compressor use two very closely meshing spiral rotors to compress the gas. The gas enters at the suction side and moves through the threads as the screws rotate. The

meshing rotors force the gas through the compressor, and the gas exits at the end of the screws. The working area is the inter-lobe volume between the male and female rotors. It is larger at the intake end, and decreases along the length of the rotors until the exhaust port. This change in volume is the compression. ¹*citation needed* ¹

Capacity modulation technologies

[edit]

There are several ways to modulate the cooling capacity in refrigeration or air conditioning and heating systems. The most common in air conditioning are: on-off cycling, hot gas bypass, use or not of liquid injection, manifold configurations of multiple compressors, mechanical modulation (also called digital), and inverter technology. [citation need

Hot gas bypass

[edit]

Hot gas bypass involves injecting a quantity of gas from discharge to the suction side. The compressor will keep operating at the same speed, but due to the bypass, the refrigerant mass flow circulating with the system is reduced, and thus the cooling capacity. This naturally causes the compressor to run uselessly during the periods when the bypass is operating. The turn down capacity varies between 0 and 100%.[85]

Manifold configurations

[edit]

Several compressors can be installed in the system to provide the peak cooling capacity. Each compressor can run or not in order to stage the cooling capacity of the unit. The turn down capacity is either 0/33/66 or 100% for a trio configuration and either 0/50 or 100% for a tandem. [citation needed]

Mechanically modulated compressor

[edit]

This internal mechanical capacity modulation is based on periodic compression process with a control valve, the two scroll set move apart stopping the compression for a given time period. This method varies refrigerant flow by changing the average time of compression, but not the actual speed of the motor. Despite an excellent turndown ratio – from 10 to 100% of the cooling capacity, mechanically modulated scrolls have high

energy consumption as the motor continuously runs. [citation needed]

Variable-speed compressor

[edit]

Main article: Inverter compressor

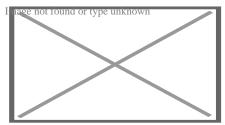
This system uses a variable-frequency drive (also called an Inverter) to control the speed of the compressor. The refrigerant flow rate is changed by the change in the speed of the compressor. The turn down ratio depends on the system configuration and manufacturer. It modulates from 15 or 25% up to 100% at full capacity with a single inverter from 12 to 100% with a hybrid tandem. This method is the most efficient way to modulate an air conditioner's capacity. It is up to 58% more efficient than a fixed speed system. [citation needed]

Impact

[edit]

Health effects

[edit]



Rooftop condenser unit fitted on top of an Osaka Municipal Subway 10 series subway carriage. Air conditioning has become increasingly prevalent on public transport vehicles as a form of climate control, and to ensure passenger comfort and drivers' occupational safety and health.

In hot weather, air conditioning can prevent heat stroke, dehydration due to excessive sweating, electrolyte imbalance, kidney failure, and other issues due to hyperthermia. [8] Heat waves are the most lethal type of weather phenomenon in the United States. [87][88] A 2020 study found that areas with lower use of air conditioning correlated with higher rates of heat-related mortality and hospitalizations. [89] The August 2003 France heatwave resulted in approximately 15,000 deaths, where 80% of the victims were over 75 years old. In response, the French government required all retirement homes to have at least one air-conditioned room at 25 °C (77 °F) per floor during heatwaves. [8]

Air conditioning (including filtration, humidification, cooling and disinfection) can be used to provide a clean, safe, hypoallergenic atmosphere in hospital operating rooms and other environments where proper atmosphere is critical to patient safety and well-being. It is sometimes recommended for home use by people with allergies, especially mold. [90] [91] However, poorly maintained water cooling towers can promote the growth and spread of microorganisms such as *Legionella pneumophila*, the infectious agent responsible for Legionnaires' disease. As long as the cooling tower is kept clean (usually by means of a chlorine treatment), these health hazards can be avoided or reduced. The state of New York has codified requirements for registration, maintenance, and testing of cooling towers to protect against Legionella.[92]

Economic effects

[edit]

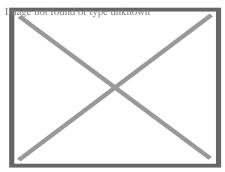
First designed to benefit targeted industries such as the press as well as large factories, the invention quickly spread to public agencies and administrations with studies with claims of increased productivity close to 24% in places equipped with air conditioning.[93]

Air conditioning caused various shifts in demography, notably that of the United States starting from the 1970s. In the US, the birth rate was lower in the spring than during other seasons until the 1970s but this difference then declined since then.[⁹⁴] As of 2007, the Sun Belt contained 30% of the total US population while it was inhabited by 24% of Americans at the beginning of the 20th century.[⁹⁵] Moreover, the summer mortality rate in the US, which had been higher in regions subject to a heat wave during the summer, also evened out.[⁷]

The spread of the use of air conditioning acts as a main driver for the growth of global demand of electricity.[⁹⁶] According to a 2018 report from the International Energy Agency (IEA), it was revealed that the energy consumption for cooling in the United States, involving 328 million Americans, surpasses the combined energy consumption of 4.4 billion people in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia (excluding China).[⁸] A 2020 survey found that an estimated 88% of all US households use AC, increasing to 93% when solely looking at homes built between 2010 and 2020.[⁹⁷]

Environmental effects

[edit]



Air conditioner farm in the facade of a building in Singapore

Space cooling including air conditioning accounted globally for 2021 terawatt-hours of energy usage in 2016 with around 99% in the form of electricity, according to a 2018 report on air-conditioning efficiency by the International Energy Agency. [8] The report predicts an increase of electricity usage due to space cooling to around 6200 TWh by 2050, [8] [98] and that with the progress currently seen, greenhouse gas emissions attributable to space cooling will double: 1,135 million tons (2016) to 2,070 million tons. [8] There is some push to increase the energy efficiency of air conditioners. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the IEA found that if air conditioners could be twice as effective as now, 460 billion tons of GHG could be cut over 40 years. [99] The UNEP and IEA also recommended legislation to decrease the use of hydrofluorocarbons, better building insulation, and more sustainable temperature-controlled food supply chains going forward. [99]

Refrigerants have also caused and continue to cause serious environmental issues, including ozone depletion and climate change, as several countries have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to reduce the consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons. [\$^{100}] CFCs and HCFCs refrigerants such as R-12 and R-22, respectively, used within air conditioners have caused damage to the ozone layer,[\$^{101}] and hydrofluorocarbon refrigerants such as R-410A and R-404A, which were designed to replace CFCs and HCFCs, are instead exacerbating climate change.[\$^{102}] Both issues happen due to the venting of refrigerant to the atmosphere, such as during repairs. HFO refrigerants, used in some if not most new equipment, solve both issues with an ozone damage potential (ODP) of zero and a much lower global warming potential (GWP) in the single or double digits vs. the three or four digits of hydrofluorocarbons.[\$^{103}]

Hydrofluorocarbons would have raised global temperatures by around 0.3–0.5 °C (0.5–0.9 °F) by 2100 without the Kigali Amendment. With the Kigali Amendment, the increase of global temperatures by 2100 due to hydrofluorocarbons is predicted to be around 0.06 °C (0.1 °F).[104]

Alternatives to continual air conditioning include passive cooling, passive solar cooling, natural ventilation, operating shades to reduce solar gain, using trees, architectural shades, windows (and using window coatings) to reduce solar gain. [citation needed]

Social effects

[edit]

Socioeconomic groups with a household income below around \$10,000 tend to have a low air conditioning adoption,[⁴²] which worsens heat-related mortality.[⁷] The lack of cooling can be hazardous, as areas with lower use of air conditioning correlate with higher rates of heat-related mortality and hospitalizations.[⁸⁹] Premature mortality in NYC is projected to grow between 47% and 95% in 30 years, with lower-income and vulnerable populations most at risk.[⁸⁹] Studies on the correlation between heat-related mortality and hospitalizations and living in low socioeconomic locations can be traced in Phoenix, Arizona,[¹⁰⁵] Hong Kong,[¹⁰⁶] China,[¹⁰⁶] Japan,[¹⁰⁷] and Italy.[¹⁰⁸][¹⁰⁹] Additionally, costs concerning health care can act as another barrier, as the lack of private health insurance during a 2009 heat wave in Australia, was associated with heat-related hospitalization.[¹⁰⁹]

Disparities in socioeconomic status and access to air conditioning are connected by some to institutionalized racism, which leads to the association of specific marginalized communities with lower economic status, poorer health, residing in hotter neighborhoods, engaging in physically demanding labor, and experiencing limited access to cooling technologies such as air conditioning.[109] A study overlooking Chicago, Illinois, Detroit, and Michigan found that black households were half as likely to have central air conditioning units when compared to their white counterparts.[110] Especially in cities, Redlining creates heat islands, increasing temperatures in certain parts of the city.[109] This is due to materials heat-absorbing building materials and pavements and lack of vegetation and shade coverage.[111] There have been initiatives that provide cooling solutions to low-income communities, such as public cooling spaces.[8][111]

Other techniques

[edit]

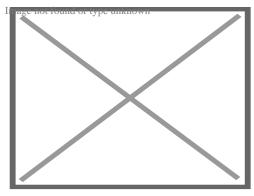
Buildings designed with passive air conditioning are generally less expensive to construct and maintain than buildings with conventional HVAC systems with lower energy demands.[112] While tens of air changes per hour, and cooling of tens of degrees, can be achieved with passive methods, site-specific microclimate must be taken into account, complicating building design.[12]

Many techniques can be used to increase comfort and reduce the temperature in buildings. These include evaporative cooling, selective shading, wind, thermal convection, and heat storage.[113]

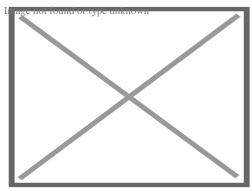
Passive ventilation

[edit]

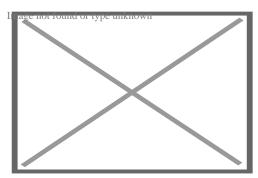
This section is an excerpt from Passive ventilation.[edit]



The ventilation system of a regular earthship



Dogtrot houses are designed to maximise natural ventilation.



A roof turbine ventilator, colloquially known as a 'Whirly Bird' is an application of wind driven ventilation.

Passive ventilation is the process of supplying air to and removing air from an indoor space without using mechanical systems. It refers to the flow of external air to an indoor space as a result of pressure differences arising from natural forces.

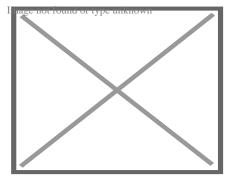
There are two types of natural ventilation occurring in buildings: wind driven ventilation and buoyancy-driven ventilation. Wind driven ventilation arises from the different pressures created by wind around a building or structure, and openings being formed on the perimeter which then permit flow through the building. Buoyancy-driven ventilation occurs as a result of the directional buoyancy force that results from temperature differences between the interior and exterior.[114]

Since the internal heat gains which create temperature differences between the interior and exterior are created by natural processes, including the heat from people, and wind effects are variable, naturally ventilated buildings are sometimes called "breathing buildings".

Passive cooling

[edit]

This section is an excerpt from Passive cooling.[edit]



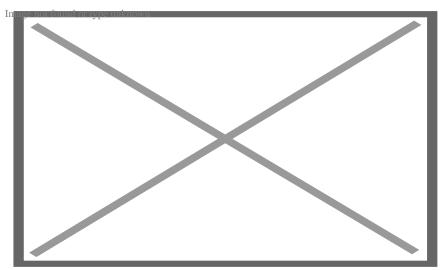
A traditional Iranian solar cooling design using a wind tower

Passive cooling is a building design approach that focuses on heat gain control and heat dissipation in a building in order to improve the indoor thermal comfort with low or no energy consumption.[115][116] This approach works either by preventing heat from entering the interior (heat gain prevention) or by removing heat from the building (natural cooling).[117]

Natural cooling utilizes on-site energy, available from the natural environment, combined with the architectural design of building components (e.g. building envelope), rather than mechanical systems to dissipate heat.[118] Therefore, natural cooling depends not only on the architectural design of the building but on how the site's natural resources are used as heat sinks (i.e. everything that absorbs or dissipates heat). Examples of on-site heat sinks are the upper atmosphere (night sky), the outdoor air (wind), and the earth/soil.

Passive cooling is an important tool for design of buildings for climate change adaptation – reducing dependency on energy-intensive air conditioning in warming

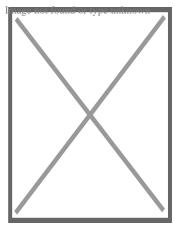
environments. $[^{119}][^{120}]$



A pair of short windcatchers (*malqaf*) used in traditional architecture; wind is forced down on the windward side and leaves on the leeward side (*cross-ventilation*). In the absence of wind, the circulation can be driven with evaporative cooling in the inlet (which is also designed to catch dust). In the center, a *shuksheika* (roof lantern vent), used to shade the qa'a below while allowing hot air rise out of it (*stack effect*).[11]

Daytime radiative cooling

[edit]



Passive daytime radiative cooling (PDRC) surfaces are high in solar reflectance and heat emittance, cooling with zero energy use or pollution.[121]

Passive daytime radiative cooling (PDRC) surfaces reflect incoming solar radiation and heat back into outer space through the infrared window for cooling during the daytime. Daytime radiative cooling became possible with the ability to suppress solar heating

using photonic structures, which emerged through a study by Raman et al. (2014).[¹²²] PDRCs can come in a variety of forms, including paint coatings and films, that are designed to be high in solar reflectance and thermal emittance.[¹²¹][¹²³]

PDRC applications on building roofs and envelopes have demonstrated significant decreases in energy consumption and costs. [123] In suburban single-family residential areas, PDRC application on roofs can potentially lower energy costs by 26% to 46%. [124] PDRCs are predicted to show a market size of ~\$27 billion for indoor space cooling by 2025 and have undergone a surge in research and development since the 2010s. [125][126]

Fans

[edit]

Main article: Ceiling fan

Hand fans have existed since prehistory. Large human-powered fans built into buildings include the punkah.

The 2nd-century Chinese inventor Ding Huan of the Han dynasty invented a rotary fan for air conditioning, with seven wheels 3 m (10 ft) in diameter and manually powered by prisoners.[127]

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Thermal buffering

[edit]

In areas that are cold at night or in winter, heat storage is used. Heat may be stored in earth or masonry; air is drawn past the masonry to heat or cool it.[13]

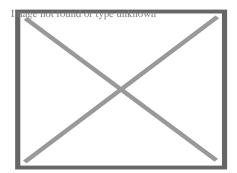
In areas that are below freezing at night in winter, snow and ice can be collected and stored in ice houses for later use in cooling.[¹³] This technique is over 3,700 years old in the Middle East.[¹²⁸] Harvesting outdoor ice during winter and transporting and storing for use in summer was practiced by wealthy Europeans in the early 1600s,[¹⁵] and became popular in Europe and the Americas towards the end of the 1600s.[¹²⁹] This

practice was replaced by mechanical compression-cycle icemakers.

Evaporative cooling

[edit]

Main article: Evaporative cooler



An evaporative cooler

In dry, hot climates, the evaporative cooling effect may be used by placing water at the air intake, such that the draft draws air over water and then into the house. For this reason, it is sometimes said that the fountain, in the architecture of hot, arid climates, is like the fireplace in the architecture of cold climates.[11] Evaporative cooling also makes the air more humid, which can be beneficial in a dry desert climate.[130]

Evaporative coolers tend to feel as if they are not working during times of high humidity, when there is not much dry air with which the coolers can work to make the air as cool as possible for dwelling occupants. Unlike other types of air conditioners, evaporative coolers rely on the outside air to be channeled through cooler pads that cool the air before it reaches the inside of a house through its air duct system; this cooled outside air must be allowed to push the warmer air within the house out through an exhaust opening such as an open door or window.[131]

See also

[edit]

- Air filter
- o Air purifier
- Cleanroom
- Crankcase heater
- Energy recovery ventilation
- Indoor air quality
- Particulates

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Wikiversity has learning resources about Refrigeration and air conditioning

- U.S. patent 808,897 Carrier's original patent
- U.S. patent 1,172,429
- o U.S. patent 2,363,294
- o Scientific American, "Artificial Cold", 28 August 1880, p. 138
- o Scientific American, "The Presidential Cold Air Machine", 6 August 1881, p. 84
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Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning

- Air changes per hour
- o Bake-out
- Building envelope
- Convection
- Dilution
- Domestic energy consumption
- Enthalpy
- Fluid dynamics
- Gas compressor
- Heat pump and refrigeration cycle
- Heat transfer
- Humidity
- Infiltration
- Latent heat
- Noise control
- Outgassing
- Particulates
- Psychrometrics
- Sensible heat
- Stack effect
- Thermal comfort
- Thermal destratification
- Thermal mass
- Thermodynamics
- Vapour pressure of water

Fundamental concepts

- Absorption-compression heat pump
- Absorption refrigerator
- Air barrier
- Air conditioning
- o Antifreeze
- Automobile air conditioning
- Autonomous building
- Building insulation materials
- Central heating
- Central solar heating
- o Chilled beam
- Chilled water
- Constant air volume (CAV)
- Coolant
- Cross ventilation
- Dedicated outdoor air system (DOAS)
- Deep water source cooling
- Demand controlled ventilation (DCV)
- Displacement ventilation
- District cooling
- District heating
- Electric heating
- Energy recovery ventilation (ERV)
- Firestop
- o Forced-air
- Forced-air gas
- Free cooling
- Heat recovery ventilation (HRV)
- Hybrid heat

Technology

- Hydronics
- Ice storage air conditioning
- Kitchen ventilation
- Mixed-mode ventilation
- Microgeneration
- Passive cooling
- Passive daytime radiative cooling
- o Passive house
- Passive ventilation
- Radiant heating and cooling
- Radiant cooling
- Radiant heating
- Radon mitigation
- Refrigeration
- Renewable heat
- Room air distribution
- Solar air heat
- Solar combisystem
- Solar cooling

- Air conditioner inverter
- Air door
- o Air filter
- Air handler
- o Air ionizer
- Air-mixing plenum
- o Air purifier
- Air source heat pump
- Attic fan
- o Automatic balancing valve
- o Back boiler
- Barrier pipe
- Blast damper
- o Boiler
- o Centrifugal fan
- Ceramic heater
- o Chiller
- Condensate pump
- Condenser
- Condensing boiler
- Convection heater
- Compressor
- o Cooling tower
- Damper
- Dehumidifier
- Duct
- Economizer
- Electrostatic precipitator
- Evaporative cooler
- Evaporator
- Exhaust hood
- Expansion tank
- o Fan
- o Fan coil unit
- o Fan filter unit
- o Fan heater
- Fire damper
- o Fireplace
- Fireplace insert
- o Freeze stat
- Flue
- Freon
- Fume hood
- Furnace
- Gas compressor
- Gas heater
- Gasoline heater
- Grease duct

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- Air flow meter
- Aquastat
- o BACnet
- Blower door
- Building automation
- Carbon dioxide sensor
- Clean air delivery rate (CADR)
- Control valve
- Gas detector
- Home energy monitor
- Humidistat
- HVAC control system
- Infrared thermometer
- Intelligent buildings
- LonWorks
- Minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV)
- Normal temperature and pressure (NTP)
- OpenTherm
- Programmable communicating thermostat
- Programmable thermostat
- Psychrometrics
- Room temperature
- Smart thermostat
- Standard temperature and pressure (STP)
- Thermographic camera
- Thermostat
- Thermostatic radiator valve
- Architectural acoustics
- Architectural engineering
- Architectural technologist
- Building services engineering
- Building information modeling (BIM)
- Deep energy retrofit
- Duct cleaning
- Duct leakage testing
- Environmental engineering
- Hydronic balancing
- Kitchen exhaust cleaning
- Mechanical engineering
- Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing
- Mold growth, assessment, and remediation
- Refrigerant reclamation
- Testing, adjusting, balancing

Professions, trades, and services

Measurement

and control

- AHRI AMCA
- o ASHRAE
- ASTM International
- o BRE

Industry organizations

- o BSRIA
- CIBSE
- o Institute of Refrigeration
- o IIR
- o LEED
- SMACNA
- o UMC
- Indoor air quality (IAQ)

Health and safety

- Passive smoking
- Sick building syndrome (SBS)
- Volatile organic compound (VOC)
- ASHRAE Handbook
- o Building science
- Fireproofing
- See also
- o Glossary of HVAC terms
- Warm Spaces
- World Refrigeration Day
- o Template:Home automation
- Template:Solar energy

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Home appliances

- Air conditioner
- Air fryer
- o Air ioniser
- Air purifier
- Barbecue grill
- Blender
 - Immersion blender
- Bread machine
- Bug zapper
- Coffee percolator
- Clothes dryer
 - o combo
- Clothes iron
- o Coffeemaker
- o Dehumidifier
- Dishwasher
 - drying cabinet
- Domestic robot
 - comparison
- Deep fryer
- Electric blanket
- o Electric drill
- Electric kettle
- o Electric knife
- Electric water boiler
- Electric heater
- Electric shaver
- Electric toothbrush
- Epilator
- Espresso machine
- Evaporative cooler
- Food processor
- ∘ Fan
 - o attic
 - o bladeless
 - ceiling
 - o Fan heater
 - o window

Types

- Freezer
- Garbage disposer
- Hair dryer
- Hair iron
- Humidifier
- Icemaker
- Ice cream maker
- Induction cooker
- Instant hot water dispenser
- Juicer

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See also

- o Appliance plug
- Appliance recycling
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Roof shapes

Roofs

- Arched roof
- o Barrel roof
- Board roof
- o Bochka roof
- Bow roof
- o Butterfly roof
- Clerestory
- o Conical roof
- Dome
- Flat roof
- o Gable roof
- o Gablet roof
- Gambrel roof
- Half-hipped roof
- Hip roof
- o Onion dome
- Mansard roof
- Pavilion roof
- o Rhombic roof
- o Ridged roof
- o Saddle roof
- Sawtooth roof
- Shed roof
- o Tented roof

Cross-gabled roof

Image not found or type unknown

- o Air conditioning unit
- o Attic
- Catslide
- Chimney
- o Collar beam
- Dormer
- Eaves
- Flashing
- o Gable
- o Green roof
- Gutter
- Hanging beam
- Joist
- Lightning rod
- ∘ Loft
- Purlin
- Rafter
- Ridge vent
- Roof batten
- Roof garden
- Roofline
- o Roof ridge
- Roof sheeting
- Roof tiles
- Roof truss
- o Roof window
- Skylight
- o Soffit
- o Solar panels
- o Spire
- Weathervane
- Wind brace

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Roof elements

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Electronics

- Analogue electronics
- Digital electronics
- Electronic engineering
- Instrumentation
- Microelectronics

Branches

- Optoelectronics
- Power electronics
- Printed electronics
- Semiconductor
- Schematic capture
- Thermal management
- o 2020s in computing
- Atomtronics
- Bioelectronics
- o List of emerging electronics
- o Failure of electronic components
- Flexible electronics

Advanced topics

- Low-power electronics
- Molecular electronics
- Nanoelectronics
- Organic electronics
- Photonics
- Piezotronics
- Quantum electronics
- o Spintronics

- Air conditioner
- Central heating
- o Clothes dryer
- Computer/Notebook
- Camera
- Dishwasher
- o Freezer
- Home robot
- Home cinema
- Home theater PC
- Information technology
- Cooker

Electronic

equipment

- Microwave oven
- o Mobile phone
- Networking hardware
- o Portable media player
- Radio
- Refrigerator
- o Robotic vacuum cleaner
- Tablet
- o Telephone
- Television
- Water heater
- Video game console
- Washing machine

- Audio equipment
- Automotive electronics
- Avionics
- Control system
- Data acquisition
- e-book
- e-health
- o Electromagnetic warfare
- Electronics industry
- o Embedded system
- Home appliance
- Home automation
- Integrated circuit

Applications

- Home appliance
 - Consumer electronics
 - Major appliance
 - o Small appliance
- Marine electronics
- Microwave technology
- Military electronics
- Multimedia
- Nuclear electronics
- Open-source hardware
- o Radar and Radio navigation
- Radio electronics
- Terahertz technology
- Wired and Wireless Communications

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About Royal Supply South

Things To Do in Arapahoe County

Photo

Four Mile Historic Park 4.6 (882) Photo

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Aurora Reservoir

4.6 (1770)

Photo

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Cherry Creek State Park

4.6 (9044)

Photo

Cherry Creek Valley Ecological Park
4.7 (484)
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Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum
4.7 (5324)
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4.6 (393)

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Driving Directions From The Aurora Highlands North Sculpture to Royal Supply South

Mobile Home Furnace Installation			
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Mobile Home Hvac Service			
Mobile home supply store			
Reviews for Royal Supply South			
Assessing Long Term Effects of Poor Air QualityView GBP			

Frequently Asked Questions

How does poor air quality impact mobile home HVAC systems over the long term?

Poor air quality can lead to the accumulation of dust, pollutants, and particulates in HVAC systems, reducing their efficiency and lifespan. Over time, this can cause increased energy consumption, more frequent repairs, and potentially costly replacements.

What are the health implications for residents living in mobile homes with compromised HVAC systems due to poor air quality?

Residents may experience respiratory issues, allergies, or exacerbated asthma symptoms due to circulating pollutants. Long-term exposure can increase the risk of chronic health

conditions such as cardiovascular diseases.

What measures can be taken to mitigate the effects of poor air quality on mobile home HVAC systems?

Regular maintenance including filter replacement, duct cleaning, and using high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters can help. Additionally, installing air purifiers and ensuring proper ventilation will improve indoor air quality.

How does geographical location affect the severity of poor air quality impacts on mobile home HVAC systems?

Areas with higher pollution levels or frequent wildfires pose a greater risk. Coastal regions might face challenges from humidity leading to mold growth. Understanding local environmental factors is crucial for effective system maintenance and protection.

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