

Air Conditioning Repair Tips

- Research company background and licensing. Licensing information should be displayed on all repair trucks, paperwork and marketing pieces. Visit www.bbbhouston.org for the Business Review of any AC service company you plan to hire to learn more about its reputation and history of complaints. Ask if the company and its employees are licensed and insured. Also check the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) <http://www.license.state.tx.us>
- Compare prices and service packages. Get at least three estimates for any air conditioning repair or maintenance work. All bids should be in writing and should provide a full description of the services to be provided and the materials to be used.
- Review warranty coverage. Find out if the company offers any type of warranty or guarantee and make certain you understand the terms and conditions of the coverage. Also, be sure to check the warranty on your current air conditioning unit to determine whether any repairs or replacements may be covered.
- Ask about energy efficiency. Many new air conditioning units are manufactured to be significantly more energy efficient than others, which may qualify them as tax credits. Make sure you get the necessary paperwork to cash in on those savings.
- Is the repair vehicle in good condition? This could be a reflection on the type of company that is doing the repair work.
- Are the salespeople commissioned? If so, their motivation will probably be to get you to spend as much as possible.
- When something is offered for "Free", make sure that there are no strings attached.
- As always, if the deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Maintenance

- Disposable filters need to be changed monthly.
- Keep drain lines clean. Clorox or algae tablets are often used but check with your A/C technician first.
- Do a Fall checkup and a Spring checkup.
- Make sure dryer exhaust is pointed away from unit, the lint can cause problems.
- Keep grass and other shrubbery trimmed back from around the condensing unit.

and.....always check out an Air Conditioning and Heating Service Provider with the BBB at www.bbbhouston.org!