



DIY Or Call A Pro?

When your HVAC system starts acting up, it's natural to want to take a quick look and fix the issue yourself. But when it comes to HVAC equipment, knowing where DIY troubleshooting ends and professional diagnostics should begin is crucial. A little homeowner maintenance can go a long way, but opening the system or attempting repairs, can void your warranty, lead to costly damage, and even create safety risks.

DIY Troubleshooting: One of the most impactful things you can do is checking and replacing the air filter. A dirty or clogged filter restricts airflow, forces the system to work harder, and can cause uneven temperatures throughout the home. Changing the filter every one to three months can keep your system running efficiently.

Sometimes the problem isn't with the HVAC system at all but with incorrect thermostat settings. Check the thermostat is set to the correct mode, verify the temperature is set where you want it, and ensure the device has working batteries — if it isn't hardwired.

Clear away debris that may have accumulated around the outdoor unit. A blocked unit can't breathe properly, leading to performance issues. And indoors, make sure supply and return vents are unobstructed, and that nothing is crowding the air handler.

When to Call for Help: Homeowners should never open up their HVAC system, remove panels, or attempt to repair internal components. They contain sensitive electrical parts, refrigerant lines, and calibrated mechanisms that require certified training to handle correctly. Even a well-intentioned DIY adjustment can cause unintended damage.

More importantly, opening or tampering with the equipment can void manufacturer warranties. That means a single attempt at DIY repair can turn a covered issue into an expensive out-of-pocket repair. For safety and protection alike, all internal diagnostics, repairs, and system adjustments should always be left to licensed professionals.

Knowing where to draw the line helps keep your HVAC system reliable and efficient. Homeowners can and should perform basic troubleshooting steps like air filter changes, thermostat checks, and gentle cleaning around the system. But when the problem goes deeper, calling a trained technician from **WestAIR** is the smartest, safest, and most cost-effective decision.

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Summer 2026



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Special Offers!

Keeping Your Pets Safe And Cool

The long, sunny days of summer can mean spending more time outdoors. It's nice to include our furry companions in the fun, but make sure you're aware of how to keep them safe and cool as summer temperatures rise. Here are a few hot-weather safety tips for pets:

Keep them hydrated. Pets can dehydrate quickly, so have plenty of fresh, clean water available when it's hot outside. Make sure they have a shady retreat, be careful not to over-exercise

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them, and keep them indoors on very hot days.

Limit time on hot asphalt or concrete. Being so close to the ground, your dog’s body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks to a minimum during the hottest days.

Don’t shave their fur. It’s okay to trim longer hair on a dog, but never shave a dog or cat. The layers of their coats protect them from overheating and keep them from getting sunburn.

Help your cat cool off. Gently stroke them with a cool, dampened towel. Matted fur traps heat, so by brushing your cat regularly you’ll help keep your cat cool.

Never leave your pet alone in a parked vehicle. The temperature in a vehicle can climb to 120°F within just 30 minutes. It can overheat even when a window has been left cracked an inch or two.

Be aware of heat stress symptoms. Signs include excessive panting, glazed eyes, a rapid pulse, unsteadiness, a staggering gait, vomiting, or a deep red or purple tongue. Take your pet immediately to a veterinarian — it could save their life.

Nothing spoils a day of fun faster than coming home to discover your AC has stopped working. Make sure you keep up with AC maintenance so you, your pet and your entire family keep comfortably cool. ■



If you have furry friends, you should change air filters every 30–60 days. Pet dander can often trigger allergies, and children and older adults typically feel the biggest negative impact of poor indoor air quality.

Let us help you find the best indoor air quality solution for you and your family.

10 FACTORS AFFECTING HVAC SYSTEM PERFORMANCE



Tip

If your AC is over 10-15 years old or struggling to keep your home cool during hot weather, it may be time to consider a replacement.

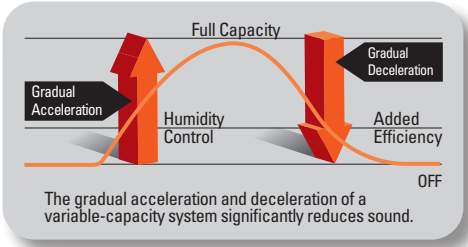
Benefits Of Variable-Capacity AC

A variable-capacity air conditioner delivers the most precise temperature control available. Instead of one or two settings, these systems can adjust their output in tiny increments to match your home’s exact cooling needs at any moment.

A variable-capacity system helps reduce hot and cold spots, providing more consistent, even cooling throughout your home. It also operates so quietly you may not even realize it’s running. Additional benefits include:

- ✓ Less energy consumption
- ✓ Increased efficiency
- ✓ Greater air circulation and filtration
- ✓ Better humidity control

Your home may not be as energy-efficient as it could be. Give us a call if it’s time to upgrade to a higher-efficiency cooling system. ■



Variable-capacity systems slowly circulate air, allowing filters to capture more contaminants.

Question & Answer



There’s no need to put up with uneven cooling — end the suffering! ■

Why is my house hot upstairs and cold downstairs?

This is a common problem that usually results in people cranking down their AC and still not getting the cool temperature they’re looking for. Here’s why this might be happening in your home:

Hot air rises — and cold air sinks. So upper floors have a natural tendency to be warmer than lower levels.

Hot roof. Your roof absorbs a large amount of heat. All that hot air moves through your roof, into the attic and ultimately into the top floor of your house. If you don’t have an attic space to buffer the heat, or your roof isn’t well insulated, this will increase the heat factor upstairs.

Faulty ductwork. Air ducts take cooled air from your HVAC system and distribute it throughout your house. If any ducts were installed poorly or are leaking, then your AC will struggle to get the cool air into your home efficiently.

If you’re worried your AC isn’t working as it should, contact us to determine the best solution for your home. ■

Earth & Atmosphere

Hottest Places On Earth

When summer temperatures reach their peak, you may think it couldn’t get much hotter. But here are a few of the truly hottest places on Earth.

Furnace Creek, Death Valley, USA: Holds the record for the highest officially recorded air temperature on Earth, reaching 134.1°F in July 1913. It frequently hits over 120°F in summer.

Lut Desert, Iran: Satellite data often identifies this as the hottest spot on Earth, with surface temperatures having been recorded in excess of 158°F.

Dalloi, Ethiopia: Known as the hottest inhabited place, with high year-round temperatures averaging around 94°F and regular highs exceeding 120°F.

Kebili, Tunisia: Holds the record for the highest temperature ever recorded in the Eastern Hemisphere, at 131°F.

Flaming Mountains, China: A severe heatwave in June 2024 caused the recorded surface temperature to reach a scorching 167°F. ■



The Sonoran Desert, Mexico/USA is a consistent competitor for the highest surface temperatures in North America.