

What Is The Most Efficient Way To Heat My Home?

The least expensive way to heat a home is with a heat pump and backup electric furnace. This can be either a conventional air to air heat pump system or a geothermal heat pump system. With an air to air system we remove heat from the outside air and transfer the heat to the home. With a geothermal system we remove heat from the ground and transfer the heat to your home. Both systems use electric heat for the supplementary, auxiliary heat source.

A heat pump is also the air-conditioner and will cool your home for the same cost as an air-conditioner of the same Seer (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) rating.

The Trane XL16, 16 Seer, two-stage heat pump and variable speed air-handler (electric furnace) will heat and cool your home for approximately the same cost as a good quality geothermal system. The installed cost of a geothermal system will be around \$3000-\$4000 more than the installed cost of a Trane XL16 heat pump system and provide no additional comfort to you in your home. Because of this, we choose not to install geothermal heat pump systems for our customers.

If you want to consider an XL16 heat pump system with auxiliary electric heat you will need to have an electrical panel in your home rated at 150 to 200 amps of power. You'll also need around \$8500. ☺

Common Questions

How do I know what size I need?

To properly determine the size of furnace or heat pump needed for your home it is necessary to measure the home taking into consideration the insulation values in the walls, ceiling and floors along with the area and type of glass in the home. Then a computerized load analysis can be run to determine the heating & cooling load of the home along with required airflow through the duct system.

Which system is right for me?

Everyone is different and has special needs to consider when choosing a new home comfort system. Trane has ten indoor units and ten outdoor units to choose from making possible at least 100 different combinations of equipment, not to mention air cleaners, humidifiers, air purifiers and zoning control systems—it can be overwhelming! Our Comfort Consultants will ask you several questions to determine your specific needs and help guide you in the right direction.

How can I pay for my new system?

We accept cash, check, Visa & MasterCard or can set you up through CEFUCU with 105 days same as cash or an installment loan with 12-48 months of payments. We also work with American General Finance and have several same as cash and financing options available to us. With this many options We're sure we can find a payment plan to match your needs and budget.



1322 N. Brookview Farms Lane
Metamora, Il. 61548

Peoria • Washington • Pekin
682-1300 • 444-2255 • 346-4800

Comfort-Specialists.com
E-Mail Comfort@Mtco.com



Dual Fuel Heating Systems! Hybrid Heating



Dual Fuel Heating:

- Consists of a gas furnace inside and a heat pump outside.
- The heat pump uses electricity.
- An average homeowner using natural gas can save \$400 in annual heating costs.
- An average homeowner using L.P. gas can save \$1000 in annual heating costs.
- You'll invest an additional \$900-\$1000 for a heat pump vs. a traditional air-conditioner.
- You do the math! ☺

What Is A Dual Fuel System?

A dual fuel system consists of a gas furnace inside and a heat pump outside. When the temperatures are warmer outside, above 35 degrees, the heat pump will run and heat your home. When it's colder outside, below 30 degrees, the heat pump will shut off and the gas furnace will take over and heat your home. You will be using both gas and electricity to heat the home in the winter. This is a much more efficient way to heat than with just a gas furnace alone.

What Is A Heat Pump?

A heat pump starts out as an air-conditioner. We add a few more components to allow the unit to not only cool your home in the summer, but heat your home in the winter. If you had a window air-conditioner, took it out of the window and turned it around, then turned it on, you'd have a heat pump. With a heat pump we are actually cooling the air outside (removing the heat from the air) and transferring the heat inside (rejecting the heat from the air.) That's just the opposite of the way we air-condition your home in the summer. It's much cheaper to transfer heat than it is to create heat by burning gas or using electric resistance heating elements. Up to 4 times cheaper!

Is The System Automatic?

Yes, the system is automatic. We install a communicating, digital, touch-screen thermostat in your home, along with a communication module that we mount by your gas furnace. An outdoor air sensor, located in the heat pump outside, connects to this communicating system. We tell the thermostat at what temperature outside we want the system to switch (change over) from the heat pump to the gas furnace.



All you do is set your home thermostat to the temperature you want the home to be. The rest is automatic. The heat pump is big enough to totally cool the home in the summer but only big enough to heat the home in the winter down to around 30 degrees outside. The heat pump is still efficient, but runs out of capacity. We set the changeover point slightly above the system "balance point", which is typically 30 degrees. You won't notice any difference between this type of system and a conventional gas furnace only. The temperatures in your home will be nice and even.

Any Other Advantages?

Yes! If your gas furnace quits when it's below 30 degrees outside you can lower the system changeover set point and the heat pump will come on to give you temporary heating. It's like having two heating systems. In the future, based on gas and electric rates, you can set the changeover point accordingly to take advantage of the most cost effective means to heat your home. You'll also notice less temperature swings and more even temperatures in your home.

How Much Can I Save?

Based on an average home in Peoria, IL using Cilco's 2009 rate schedule operational costs are as follows:

Description	Heating Cost Nat. @ \$1.40 / Therm	Heating Cost Lp. @ \$2.75 / Gal
60% Furnace	\$ 2639	\$ 5243
80% Furnace	\$ 1662	\$ 3276
93% Furnace	\$ 1424	\$ 2792
80% w/ 14 Seer Heat Pump	\$ 1121	\$ 1996
93% w/ 14 Seer Heat Pump	\$ 994	\$ 1745
Electric Heat w/ 16 Seer Ht Pump	\$ 513	\$ 513
Geothermal Heating System	\$ 513	\$ 513

Above table is based on a home with a 65,000 Btu/Hr heating load & 36000 Btu/Hr cooling load. Electric rates are based on Cilco's 2009 Rates. Updated 12/08/2008.