



Toilet Selection 101

The toilet is the unsung hero in most homes, working diligently until something goes awry. If a replacement is in your future, here are a few things to consider:

Shape. A round bowl is smaller and can fit into compact spaces, like a powder room or half-bath. It also works well for children's bathrooms. Elongated toilets are larger and more comfortable for adults.

Configuration. A one-piece toilet is a contemporary take on toilet design — it's sculpted into a single, seamless unit without any crevices between the tank and the bowl. This one-piece construction prevents dirt and odor buildup. A two-piece toilet is just that. A separate tank and bowl are bolted together when installed.

Flush type. Today's toilets are limited to a rate of 1.6 gallons of water per flush, which has changed the effectiveness of flushing mechanisms and forced a new wave of technological improvements. Gravity-fed toilets use the effect of gravity and a siphon action to empty the bowl. Some, however, are subject to clogging and can be prone to sluggish or incomplete flushing. Pressure-assisted toilets use the pressure from a home's water supply to forcefully flush waste. While they rarely clog, they're louder to operate than a gravity-fed toilet and sometimes require an electrical outlet.

We can help guide you through the decision-making process, so you make the best choice for your home. Call **Edwin Stipe, Inc.** at **877-337-8473** today.

We Appreciate You At Edwin Stipe, Inc.

At the risk of repeating ourselves, we want to make sure you hear us when we say: "Thanks very much for your business! We're honored to have you as a customer at **Edwin Stipe, Inc.**" Thank you for your loyalty and continued support.

We understand that an efficient heating and air conditioning system is an important factor in the quality of life for your family — and for those you welcome into your home. Which is why we set the highest standards when it comes to providing you with the quality products and service. So when your heating and air conditioning system fails you, you can be sure a quality-trained service technician will be there to help each and every time.

Without question, your satisfaction is important to us. After all, we have you to thank for our success. Whether you call us for plumbing, heating or air conditioning needs, we'll work hard to keep you comfortable for years to come.

Sincerely,
Henry Scherer
Owner



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See Back for
Special Offers

'Tis The Season For Replacement

Spring may be in the air, but summer is right around the corner. If you've struggled through the past few summers with aging air conditioning equipment, spring is the perfect time to shop for a new system for a number of reasons.

Weather Spring temperatures typically tend to be mild. So if you have to go without heating or cooling for a whole day while your new system is installed, it'll be a lot more comfortable for you and your family than if you wait until the

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middle of summer. The earlier the better to avoid the rush.

Promotions The spring season is typically one of the periods when manufacturers offer special incentives on complete new systems. So you can often save money by buying your system in spring as opposed to other times of the year.

Repair vs. Replacement This is an ongoing struggle for homeowners. Every time your current system breaks down, you have to decide whether to have it repaired and hope it lasts for another year, or if it makes more sense to replace it with a new system. Air conditioners and heat pumps typically last about 10-12 years. If your equipment is older than this, your equipment is living on borrowed time. You're also missing out on newer features that can enhance your comfort and convenience. Installing a high-efficiency system can offer substantial savings every month in utility costs when compared with older or standard-efficiency systems.

Timing Emergency replacements can be stressful and uncomfortable situations. The last thing you want is to be caught without cooled air in the middle of summer. If you begin the research and replacement process now before summer sets in, you have more time to make the best cooling choice for your home.

Whether you need help in choosing a new cooling system or it's time to schedule a seasonal system tune-up, our team is here for you. ■



Is your home's cooling system performing much less efficiently than it used to? It may be time to consider a new system.

Get To Know MERV

When shopping for an air filter, not only are the dimensions an important factor but also the MERV rating. MERV stands for Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value and is used to identify filtering efficiency. The higher the rating, the more efficient the filter is in trapping more and smaller particles.

How often you change your filter is a big efficiency factor. Interestingly, filters become more efficient at collecting particles as they start to load up with dust and lint — these particles actually increase the filter's ability to hold onto smaller particles. However, the more it loads up, the harder your system has to work, causing stress on the blower motor and compressor.

That's where we come in. We can determine the right filter for your system and recommend how often it should be changed. But remember, seasonal maintenance is the best prevention. ■



The higher the MERV rating, the more effective an air filter will be at removing particles from indoor air.

Tip

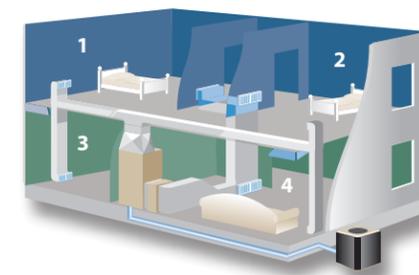
Spring-clean gutters of any debris and make sure downspouts direct water away from your home's foundation.

Even Cooling From Room To Room

When you come home at night and turn on a light switch, do you want lights to turn on in every single room? Not if you care about wasting money on electricity. Similarly, setting one thermostat starts cool air flowing in every room — even if that room is unused.

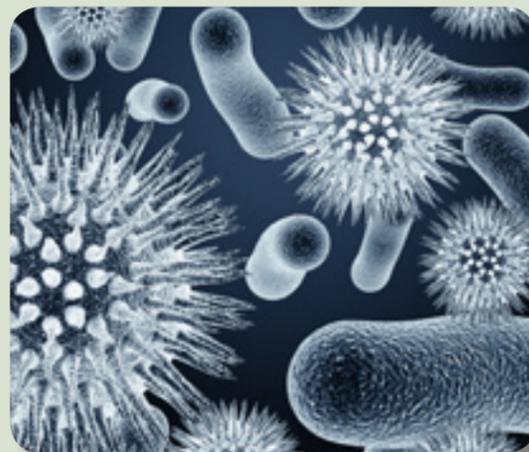
A zoning system lets you control how cooled air is distributed. For example, if your family is watching TV in the living room and you're in the kitchen cooking, you may want more cool air directed into the kitchen. Or you may need to cool your home office all day, but only need to cool an extra bedroom when guests are visiting. A zoning system allows cooling exactly where you want it.

If you're interested in having a zoning system installed in your home, we can determine what fits best with your existing equipment. ■



Designating zones solves the problem of cooling unused areas of your home.

Question & Answer



Floating particles of mold are invisible to the naked eye.

I'm concerned about the health risks of mold inside our home. What can I do?

Mold is a microscopic organism that can grow anywhere on just about any surface. All varieties of mold require the same thing to grow: water or moisture. You're right to be concerned, as mold can cause irritation to the nose or eyes, as well as respiratory issues. Beyond affecting your family's health, mold also possesses an unsavory, musty smell.

It's important to remove any mold you find growing in your home. Bleach, laundry detergent and hydrogen peroxide are common household products that effectively remove mold and mildew. Bleach is best for non-porous surfaces such as porcelain. When you discover mold on wood or other porous surfaces, use laundry detergent or hydrogen peroxide to clean the infected area. Chlorine bleach breaks down wood fibers and alters the color of the wood.

Controlling moisture in your home will assist with controlling mold in your home. Utilizing exhaust fans can help eliminate mold, but regulating the humidity level is also key, and simply done when using a home humidifier. ■

Earth & Atmosphere

The Miracle Of Pollination

Pollination is the method flowering plants depend on to reproduce. This process requires the transfer of pollen from the male structure of a flower to its female structure.

In its simplest form, some flowers self-pollinate. However, this process can create a weakened species whose existence can be threatened by a single environmental event.

Cross-pollinated flowers produce "offspring" through a variety of breeding so they're better able to withstand environmental changes and challenges. Wind is a common crosspollinator, but because this method is so haphazard, large amounts of pollen are required to ensure survival of the species.

Worker honey bees collect pollen and pack it into their hind legs in special pockets known as pollen baskets. As they fly from flower to flower, they're also delivering pollen from one flower to another.

So next time you see a bee going about his business, give it a nod of appreciation! ■



Bees, butterflies and birds help pollinate flowering plants and trees.