

# Check Furnace And Save Money

Because most people don't have money to burn, it pays to check both your heating system and your heating habits when remodeling in order to get maximum efficiency and economy. A well-maintained system is your first step. Some of these other tips may help too.

• Insulation is your best safeguard, as it helps keep heat in winter and out in summer. Insulation of the roof alone results in significant savings.

• The attic is often an escape hatch for heat. Insulate and weather-strip the door or scuttlehead covering leading to it.

• Make sure each fireplace has a damper and that it is closed when not in use.

• If you open your bedroom windows at night, see that the doors are kept closed and that they fit snugly.

• If the thermostat is located in the room you're ventilating, turn it down as far as it will go. Otherwise, your

burner or furnace will work at full speed trying to heat your backyard.

• Don't choke off the heat by blocking registers or radiators with drapes or furniture.

• WHEN A ROOM is not in use, close the radiator or register and shut the inside door.

• If you have a warm air system, keep the filters clean. Once a month, brush gently or tap the dirt from them over a newspaper. If yours is a hot water system, open the air vents about once a month to let any air escape which may have accumulated in the radiators.

• Set the thermostat back at night. Turning it down 10 degrees will save you close to 25% on fuel bills.

• Compare the cost of fuels before you buy or remodel. A simple formula is to divide the local, current price of a ton of anthracite coal by 180. For gas divide the local price for 100,000 cubic feet by 714. Compare with the local price for a gallon of fuel oil. If you look up your past bills and find out

how much fuel your house uses a year, you can easily estimate comparative savings in your annual fuel bill.

• Going away for a day or two? Lower the thermostat to 55 degrees for an empty house. The same lowering at night regularly can save you 15% of your heating bill.

• Turn off the heat and close off rooms not in use. Coolness can't hurt unused rooms, so shut their doors.

• Don't let your heat "run away." Overheating, then cooling off by opening windows is wasteful.

• Don't place upholstered furniture, drapes, or rugs where they block the flow of room heat from outlets such as radiators or registers. Arrange these so there is clear, even circulation of warmth.

• Raise the humidity and you'll feel warmer, more comfortable even at lower than usual temperatures.

• Close outside doors promptly. Heat pours out during those wide-open-door good-byes. Teach children quick entrances and quick exits.

• Tune up your heating plant before the cold weather season so that controls, burners heads and motors will be in top shape.

• CHECK THE LOCATION of the reset button. Sometimes the burner will not start, just as your car won't if the ignition is turned off. A push of the reset button restarts the cycle on the burner and can save you the inconvenience of a needless service call.

• Make certain the master switch leading to the burner is on and that a fuse does not need replacement. Be sure the house thermostat is set and working.

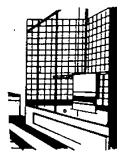
• Make sure the ducts or pipes that carry heat are well insulated if they pass through a crawl space or the garage. • Storm windows and doors are as important as adequate insulation in conserving heat. Weatherstripping windows and doors help also.

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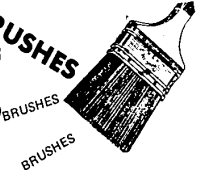
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