FREE HOMEOWNER GUIDE

# 10 Questions to Ask Before Replacing Your Heating System

A buyer's checklist for Oklahoma homeowners comparing furnaces, heat pumps and dual fuel systems.

A new heating system is one of the larger purchases most homeowners make, and the quote that looks cheapest isn't always the best value. The right questions help you compare contractors fairly and avoid surprises after install day.

Take this checklist to every estimate. Write the answers in the notes space so you can compare them side by side.

## 1 Did you do a load calculation for my home?

Sizing a system by square footage alone often leads to equipment that is too big or too small. A load calculation looks at insulation, windows, ceiling height and duct layout.

- [ ] Ask whether a Manual J or similar load calculation was done
- [ ] Ask for the result in writing

## 2 Furnace, heat pump or dual fuel: which fits my house and why?

In Oklahoma, all three work. The right one depends on whether you have gas service, your ductwork and your utility rates.

- [ ] Ask for running cost estimates for each option
- [ ] Ask how each handles single-digit cold snaps

## 3 What efficiency rating is this equipment?

Furnaces are rated by AFUE, heat pumps by HSPF2 for heating and SEER2 for cooling. Higher numbers cost more up front and less to run.

- [ ] AFUE (furnace)
- [ ] HSPF2 and SEER2 (heat pump)

## 4 Will you inspect and fix my ductwork?

A new system connected to leaky or undersized ducts won't perform as rated. Many OKC homes have attic ducts that need sealing or repair.

- [ ] Ask whether ducts were inspected
- [ ] Ask what duct work is included in the price

## 5 What exactly is included in the quote?

Compare line by line: equipment, thermostat, pad, line set, permits, haul-away of old equipment and any electrical or gas work.

- [ ] Get a written, itemized quote
- [ ] Confirm permit fees are included

## 6 Who registers the warranty, and what does it cover?

Many manufacturers offer a 10-year parts warranty when the equipment is registered on time. Labor coverage is separate and varies by contractor.

- [ ] Parts warranty length
- [ ] Labor warranty length
- [ ] Who handles registration

## 7 Are you licensed and insured in Oklahoma?

Oklahoma requires a mechanical contractor license for HVAC work. Ask for the license number and verify it.

- [ ] License number
- [ ] Proof of insurance

## 8 Will a permit and inspection be pulled?

Permits protect you. An inspection confirms the gas, electrical and venting work meets code.

- [ ] Permit included
- [ ] Inspection scheduled

## 9 How long will the install take, and what will you need from me?

Most straightforward replacements take a day. Ask about access to the attic, garage or closet, and whether you'll be without heat overnight.

- [ ] Install date and time frame
- [ ] Access needed

## 10 What maintenance will this system need?

Every system needs filter changes and a yearly check. Ask what the contractor recommends and what the warranty requires.

- [ ] Filter size and change schedule
- [ ] Recommended tune-up schedule

## When to call a licensed technician

- Your furnace is 15 to 20 years old or older.
- A technician found a cracked heat exchanger.
- You've paid for several repairs in the last two years.
- Some rooms never get comfortable no matter what you try.

## My notes

Write down anything you want a technician to check, plus your system details.

**Furnace or heat pump brand** _____

**Model number** _____

**Approximate age** _____

**Filter size** _____

**Last tune-up date** _____

## Need a hand with your heating?

Oklahoma Climate Solutions is a family-owned heating and air company based in Moore, serving Oklahoma City, Edmond, Norman, Midwest City, Yukon and nearby towns. We repair, maintain and install furnaces, heat pumps and air conditioners, and we give free estimates on new systems.

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