



My Go-2-Guy Handyman Services

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Furnace Filters

I know some of our long-term clients might be wondering, haven't we seen this before? Yes you have, in October 2017 to be exact I even went back and found a spelling error. This time however will be more in depth. We will talk about the different kinds of filters, re-useable, disposable, name brand and knock off so that you can make the best decision for your home.

First things first, you need to know where your filter is in your furnace. The air filter is usually located in the return air duct or blower compartment before the return air reaches the air handler and is redistributed. Unfortunately they are not always easy to find because like Ross always says, "the standard is, there is no standard."

The next step is to find out what size filter your furnace uses. That will be written on the side in big numbers.

Now that we know where the filter is located and the size you need, we can start discussing types and brands of filters.

We will start with our favorite kind of furnace filters, which would be the reusable/washable kind. They are more economical long term and eco friendly.

Washable/Reusable

3. Clean Air Solutions Max

This filter has a certified rating of MERV (Minimum Efficiency Reporting value) 9. MERV9 means it traps particles as small as 1 micron. It's comes in 7 of the most common sizes and has a lifetime warranty. It is also clearly labeled for simple cleaning.

2. Trophy Air Permafoam

This filter as you can imagine is built with foam - 20 PPI polyurethane foam, which is foam specifically used for filtration. That foam is sandwiched between two pieces of corrugated aluminum for strength and reliability. Built to reduce strain on your HVAC system, this filter allows air to pass through smoother than any other filter, while still catching those nasty dust mites.

1. Electrostatic 6-Stage

This filter is from Buy Filters Online and comes in an extensive selection of sizes to allow for a nice snug fit for optimal filtration. Built to last with a sturdy metal frame this filter uses electrostatic energy to lure particles into its trap. This particular filter is said to be able to remove tobacco smoke, reduce dusting. In fact this is the one we use in our home.

Disposable Filters

3. Filtrete Ultra Allergen Reduction

This filter attracts and removes a whole mess of different particles from the air. It's incredibly effective at catching large particles like mold spores and dust. It even catches smoke, smog, pet dander and other common allergens. Unfortunately like the other 2 filters in this category they catch so much that you will need to replace them more frequently than the recommended 3 month time period.

2. Filtrete Allergen Defense Micro Particle Reduction

This filter uses unique 3M technology, meaning it contains activated carbon, for both filtration and odor reduction for even the strongest of smells such as cleaning chemicals, pets, cooking, tobacco smoke and mildew. This filter is the most likely to last 3 months out of the top 3 but will fill up quickly in a busy highly polluted house.

1. Nordic Pure MERV 12 Pleated AC Furnace Filter

This bad boy is the best disposable filter for your money and if you have allergies or pets, this filter is the smart choice. It pulls dirt in like a magnet, thanks to its electrostatic filter. It is Hypoallergenic and antimicrobial which helps prevent mold growth and remove virus carriers. At MERV12 is the best of all the filters at removing contaminants.

Conclusion

In the end whether you choose to go with Washable/Reusable or go the Disposable route, you can't really go wrong with any of these 6 options.

Note: We did not add pricing to this ratings as prices vary do to size of the filters. But in general Washable/Reusable filters run between \$100 and \$200 and disposables generally run between \$20 and \$60.