

Are Your Utility Bills Too Hot to Handle?

The duct work may be damaged, disconnected or leaking!

Duct work plays a critical role in a properly functioning heating and cooling system. The duct work supplies air to the heating and cooling system for temperature conditioning and filtering and then delivers that warm or cool air to work spaces, lobbies, and bathrooms.

Duct work can become damaged, disconnected or leaky over time. It's easy to fix. To ensure your duct work is not undermining your heating and cooling system, look for:

- Damaged, dented and poorly connected ducts.
- Cobwebs that may have formed near a joint in the duct work, signaling air flow and a leak.
- Tangled or crushed flexi duct.
- Registers, ducts and grills that rattle, signaling they're not attached firmly to duct work connections.
- Ducts that lack insulation and are located in unconditioned spaces like unfinished attics and basements.

To ensure your duct work is performing well, take the following steps:

Complete Routine Maintenance

- Vacuum air duct supply and return units.
- Change filters used by the heating unit at least every three months. Do so more often if filters are dirty sooner than three months.



Seal Duct Work Joints and Connection Points

- Apply mastic paste evenly over and around all seams and joints in your duct work. Use a gloved hand, brush, trowel or caulking gun. Mastic should cover approximately 2 to 3 inches on either side of each seam.
- For larger gaps, use mesh tape to build a bridge before applying mastic seal. We recommend UL 181A for field-assembled duct board or galvanized steel and UL 181B for flex duct systems.

Insulate the Outside of Ducts

- Use duct insulation that is rated with an R-value of 6 or higher.

Get a Professional to Complete a Duct Blaster Test

Contact your electric or gas utility about testing your duct work for leaks and testing your entire HVAC system for combustion safety.

