

CHANGING HVAC AIR FILTERS

So, Cragman, you have a super simple task this time. But just because it is super simple, does not mean it isn't essential. Filters are not just about improving air quality and reducing allergens, although this is a great reason to have them. But also, if filters are not replaced the results can be disastrous. You can destroy your HVAC unit. So, this simple piece of maintenance can save you a lot of money. Added to that, if you have major damage, and it is determined that the root cause was due to lack of maintenance, your insurance company may not even pay for the costs.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Inspect the filters around your house, replace if necessary. Make a note on the calendar for one to three months to remind you of the next change.

LEVEL K

PERIOD 8

TASK 3

So, let's look at this important exercise.

1. First, turn off your HVAC system at the thermostat.
2. Then, locate the air grills around your house. These will be gratings set in walls or ceilings, probably 12" square or larger. Also, some HVAC units have filters right at the intake.
3. Now, open these grills and take a look at the filter. These should be changed at least every three months. But if you have animals or activities that affect air quality, it could be as little as one month between changes. If you see nothing but a thick layer of grey lint, it's safe to say it has been too long.
4. Before removing anything, make sure you have the correct size of replacement filter. There are a lot of different sizes and the prices vary from around a dollar upwards to twenty dollars.
5. To change, simply remove the filter and dispose of it properly. Be gentle manipulating it and carrying it. That dust is nasty, and if you are allergic to household dust ... good luck. Don't breathe!
6. It's not a bad idea to vacuum the grill and the area around where the filter seats.
7. Now, put the new filter in place. Take note of the arrow indicating air flow. It is important to position this so it points out of the room and into the duct work.
8. Close the grate up and your work is done, for a month or three.

