

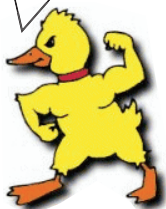
GOT DUST ?

ARE MY DUCTS DIRTY?

Believe it or not even newly constructed homes require air duct cleaning. Debris from construction can severely restrict or reduce the efficiency of your new system. For older homes, the industry recommends a maintenance schedule of every 3 to 5 years to have your ducts cleaned. An easy way for you to inspect your own vents is to remove a register and look down them with a flashlight and a mirror. Looking down an older home’s cold air return can be scary.

SO BEWARE

You actually breathe that stuff.



If so, you may be a candidate to have your home or business’ air ducts cleaned. While many people have just found out about the benefits of air duct cleaning in the past few years, air duct cleaning has actually existed since the 1950’s. With the increased awareness of Indoor Air Quality and the air we breathe, air duct cleaning has grown popular among homeowners and business owners concerned about their health and environment.

With growing public demand, more companies are now offering air duct cleaning. Some companies specialize in the field of air duct cleaning, while others provide it as a “sideline” to their main business. Some companies provide excellent service, while others leave a lot to be desired. Consider the following points when you are evaluating your home or business’ needs regarding air duct cleaning.

Who should I hire to do the work?

Duct cleaning is an uncommon service for most people, one that you use once every 3-5 years, to maybe only once in the lifetime of owning your home. Duct cleaning companies have a wide range in their pricing. One can cost twice as much as another, and sometimes more. How can this be? The answer is simple: Some companies don’t do the job they are hired to do!

Many ducts are hidden in walls and ceilings and are hard to access and even harder for the customer to inspect. Our crews routinely come across homeowners who have been stung by disreputable contractors who simply didn’t do the work. So how do you know if you are going to get a good job?

BE SENSIBLE ABOUT PRICING

Everyone wants a good deal, but the old adage “you get what you pay for” typically prevails. If you receive bids of 400, \$300, and \$120, obviously you are probably not going to get the same job at \$120 that you would at \$300 or \$400. Consider a company sending one man

to do the job costs far less than a company sending two technicians. A two man crew is recommended to protect floors and walls when bringing in equipment, hoses, and to double check that all areas have been thoroughly cleaned.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Make a call to your local **Better Business Bureau** Office. You can get a free detailed message from the **BBB** about the company’s history.

Is the company a member of the **National Air Duct Cleaning Association (NADCA)** and are they certified?

NADCA also has a very cool web site with lots of useful information. (www.NADCA.com)

Membership and Certification usually shows that a company is dedicated to the industry and takes a professional attitude towards their work.

LISTEN TO THE CONTRACTOR

Do they sound knowledgeable? How long have they been in business? Do they sound honest and of high integrity or does something “just not sound right?” Are they just carpet cleaners, pressure washers, furnace or aluminum siding salesmen in disguise? Do they have add-ons? Is everything included? Some companies charge extra for cleaning cold air returns, for access openings, or a separate sanitizing per-vent charge. A low introductory price can change quickly with several add-ons. Listen and/or watch for the fine print, and **get your estimate in writing!!** A reputable company should have no problem sending you a company brochure with an exact estimate attached. Keep in mind that a firm specializing in the air duct cleaning trade typically has superior equipment and training over those that do it as a “sideline.”



THEY'RE HERE

See who shows up and evaluate their personnel and equipment. Don't expect pristine white shirts and a bow tie. They should have uniforms, professional looking trucks, and equipment. Beware of an old pickup truck with a couple of shop-vacs and a leaf blower. (I've seen it — they're out there!) If you feel uncomfortable with the personnel or the equipment, kindly tell them that you need to reschedule or cancel the job. Save yourself the time, money, and aggravation.

You don't have to observe the technicians' every move, but watch what they do. Workmen moving diligently, popping off registers, moving furniture away from the registers, and generally looking like they know what they are doing is usually a sign that they are experienced. One man spending the majority of the time in the truck, or not going to each register is a sign things are not going as they should.

THEY'RE GONE



Keep in mind that the average residence should take two men about 3 hours. If they are “finished” in 45 minutes you should question what was really done. The air duct cleaning technicians should leave your house in clean condition with all furniture moved back. Your job now is to maintain a schedule of changing or cleaning your furnace filter on a regular basis (typically every 2-3 months). Also consider using a pleated type filter, as they do a much better job of trapping dust and contaminants than the popular blue 79 cent throwaway filters. Schedule regular maintenance checks on your system prior to the heating season and again prior to the summer. Don't throw away the dust rag completely. While a professional company can indeed remove 10-15 pounds from a system, dust can enter the home from our clothing, pets, and a variety of other sources. Dust levels should be reduced, but can not be realistically eliminated.

Use these guidelines to find a quality company at a fair price.

MIGHTY air DUCTS

The staff of **Mighty air Ducts** would like to thank all of our customers for allowing us to celebrate our 10th anniversary. For further information or for a personalized quote on air duct cleaning, please call us at **440-232-9450** or Toll-Free at **1-888-4 MIGHTY.**

Visit
us at



www.mightyducts.com