

IS A DUCTLESS SYSTEM RIGHT FOR YOU?

Ductless heating and cooling systems distribute warm air more evenly and efficiently than traditional electric heaters. They reduce electric heating costs by 25%–50% while also providing efficient air conditioning. The chart below compares electric heating options for an average single-story 1,500-square-foot home in the Northwest. All numbers are based on adding a single ductless system with a single indoor unit. Results vary based on location, home size, layout, electricity costs and other variables.



DUCTLESS HEAT PUMP



ELECTRIC RESISTANCE HEATING



ELECTRIC FORCED-AIR FURNACE



DUCTED CENTRAL AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP

FEATURES

COMFORT				
Consistent comfort	Best	Poor	Good	Best
Air conditioning included	✓	✗	Some products	✓
Noise level (indoor)	Low - Medium	Low - Medium	Medium	Medium
Noise level (outdoor)	Medium	—	—	Medium - High***
COST				
Utility rebates available (contact your utility for more information)	Up to \$1,500	✗	✗	Maybe
Annual heating costs	\$	\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$
State and federal tax credits (visit dsireusa.org for more information)	\$300–\$1,600	✗	✗	\$300–\$1,425
Typical installation cost	\$\$\$	\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$*	\$\$\$\$\$*
Estimated upgrade cost from electric baseboard, wall or ceiling heat**	\$\$	—	\$\$*	\$\$\$\$\$*
Estimated upgrade cost from electric forced-air furnace**	\$\$	\$	—	\$\$\$\$\$
Energy efficient in open living spaces	Best	Poor	Good	Good
CONVENIENCE				
Flexible, space-saving installation (allows for flexible placement of furniture in home)	✓	✗	✗	✗
Handheld remote control included	✓	✗	✗	✗
No ducting required	✓	✓	✗	✗
Zonal control (heat or cool only the spaces you want to)	✓	✓	✗	✗

*Includes cost to install ductwork in the home. If your home already has ducts installed, installation costs would be significantly reduced.

**Estimated upgrade costs are based on data from utility rebates, our HVAC partners, and state and federal taxes.

***Variable speed central heat pumps are typically quieter than single or two-speed systems.