

CHOOSING A HOME HEATING SYSTEM

Homeowners have many options for home heating systems and the benefits of making the right choices can last for decades. Choices include fuel type, technology, efficiency and distribution system. Other considerations include aesthetics, maintenance, and non-heating functions. This brochure is intended to give homeowners information on the costs and features of a variety of popular whole-house heating systems. Having a heating professional come to your home will give you more precise information, tailored to your home.

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Efficiency Maine

Quick Guide To Home Heating



Typical Annual Home Heating Costs

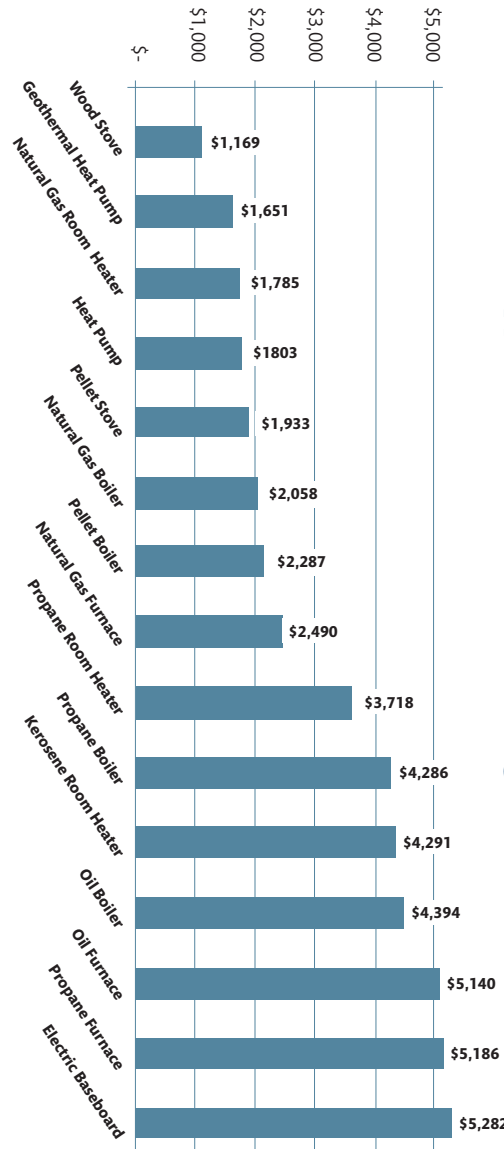


Chart provides a comparison of annual heating costs for the whole house using common system types and fuels. Chart uses recent pricing. Typical efficiency values, and a home heating load equivalent to 820 gallons of oil. Equipment, installation and maintenance costs not included. Comparison chart updated 06/15/2022. See inside or visit efficiencymaine.com for more details.



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WHOLE HOUSE HEATING SYSTEM COMPARISONS

There are many considerations when choosing a new heating system. The following table captures some of the primary ones.

	Natural Gas Boiler/Furnace*	Wood Pellet Boiler/Furnace*	Ductless Heat Pump (whole home)	Ducted Air Source Heat Pump	Geothermal Heat Pump	Oil Boiler/Furnace*	Propane Boiler/Furnace*	Electric Baseboard
Equipment and installation cost	\$4,000 – \$11,000	\$7,800 – \$25,000	\$12,000 – \$14,000	\$17,000 – \$22,500	\$24,300 – \$38,900	\$4,000 – \$11,000	\$4,000 – \$11,000	\$1,800 – \$2,200
Energy cost per year	\$2,000 – \$2,100	\$1,500 – \$2,200	\$2,100 – \$2,900	\$2,700 – \$3,300	\$2,000 – \$2,800	\$4,100 – \$4,300	\$4,400 – \$4,600	\$6,100 – \$6,100
Average 15-year installation, equipment, and energy cost	\$38,250	\$44,150	\$50,500	\$64,750	\$67,600	\$70,500	\$75,000	\$93,500
Monthly maintenance	furnace filter change	ash removal	filter rinse	furnace filter change/rinse	furnace filter change/rinse	furnace filter change	furnace filter change	none
Annual maintenance	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	annual cleaning	none
Visible components (aesthetics)	baseboard, vents or nothing (radiant floor)	baseboard, vents or nothing (radiant floor)	wall/floor units or vents plus outdoor unit	vents and outdoor unit	vents or nothing (radiant floor)	baseboard, vents or nothing (radiant floor)	baseboard, vents or nothing (radiant floor)	baseboard or nothing (radiant floor)
Air Conditioning (AC)	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no
Dehumidification	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no
Air filtering	furnace only	furnace only	yes	yes	yes	furnace only	furnace only	no
In-home combustion	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	no
Fuel ordering or storage	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	no
Fan only cooling	no	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no
Average 15-year CO2 emissions (tons)	100	223/0 (Gross/Net)**	54	66	52	145	119	132

* Does not include costs for fuel tank, chimney or flue. Low end of the cost range does not include cost of radiators or ductwork.

** There are circumstances in which biomass is grown, harvested, and combusted in a carbon-neutral fashion but carbon neutrality may not be an appropriate assumption (Source: EPA Center for Corporate Climate Leadership, January, 2016).

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