

[Article 5 – Furnace Maintenance]

How to maintain a happy furnace

Don't be a stranger to your furnace. Many of the most common problems can be avoided by simply checking in now and then for some routine maintenance. Here are a few tips for keeping your furnace in top working order.

Schedule a professional tune-up

Getting an annual tune-up is the best thing you can do to ensure peak furnace performance and avoid future breakdowns. During the tune-up, a technician will clean your system, inspect for any operational problems, and adjust for optimal efficiency.

I've recently partnered with Focus on Energy to offer my clients a \$125 voucher so you can receive your first tune-up in your new home for free. I can also help connect you with a Focus on Energy [Trade Ally contractor](#) to complete the work.

Clean and replace your air filters

This one's easy to do. Check your air filter regularly to see if it has accumulated dirt, and then clean or replace as needed. A dirty filter makes your furnace work harder, so changing it out every 1–3 months (or as needed based on manufacturer's guidelines) is recommended.

Allow your air registers to breathe

Any time your air registers are closed or blocked by furniture, your furnace has to work extra hard to maintain even temperatures. Make sure all your floor registers are clear and free from obstructions.

Check the pilot light if you have an older furnace

For older furnaces, it's important that the pilot light is burning bright blue. If you see a different color, it's likely burning inefficiently and you'll want to have a technician take a look.

Keep the area around your furnace clean

Sounds simple, but keeping a clear area around your furnace is important both for safety and to allow easy access for you or your technician to perform maintenance or repairs. For example, don't keep a litter box near your furnace. The ammonia fumes from the litter can corrode the furnace's heat exchanger and the odors could circulate through the home. You also never want to store combustibles such as gasoline, paint, and cleaning products near your furnace or water heater.

For more furnace tips and to find certified technicians in your area, visit [Focus on Energy](#).

Facebook post

If you're just moving into your home, you'll want to get to know your furnace right away. Scheduling a tune-up is easy and can prevent headaches later. As a Focus on Energy Ambassador, I can now offer my clients a \$125 voucher to cover the cost of your first tune-up. Get in touch or visit [focusonenergy.com](https://www.focusonenergy.com) to find a contractor. #SaveEnergy2021 @FocusOnEnergy



Instagram post

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