



## HOW TO SHOP FOR A HEAT PUMP CONTRACTOR

A heat pump is the most advanced and efficient heating and cooling system available today. With more than 55 percent of annual household energy expenses attributed to heating and cooling, energy experts recommend heat pumps because they are the most economical way to keep your home comfortable year-round.

### SELECT A LOCAL CONTRACTOR

Many contractors charge an initial trip fee, and if your home is located far from their office, that trip fee could be substantial. Also, in the event that your equipment would need repairs, hiring a contractor close to you will increase the likelihood they can respond quickly.

### GET A MINIMUM OF THREE BIDS

Pick three or four contractors to meet for estimates and further discussion. A contractor should be able to answer your questions satisfactorily and in a manner that puts you at ease. Compare services and warranties when considering price. Your lowest bid may not always be the best value.

### COMPARE EQUIPMENT

**Size (in tons)** - The size, or tonnage of a unit, measures the unit's ability to cool a home at 12,000 BTUs per hour. The size of your home is also a factor in determining the size of the unit that will work most efficiently for you. An undersized unit will have to work twice as hard and won't operate as efficiently.

**SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating)** - The higher the SEER, the more efficient the unit is. United Power and Tri-State G&T currently require a 13 SEER minimum to qualify for our rebates.

To qualify for an IRS tax credit, the federal government requires a 15 SEER and a 9 HSPF minimum.

**HSPF (Heating Seasonal Performance Factor)** - HSPF is the ratio of the estimated seasonal heating output. Typically, the higher the SEER is, the higher the HSPF will be.

**Warranties** - Compare labor and parts warranties. Warranties on parts can vary between the compressor, coils, fans and controls.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

How long will it take the contractor to begin the job, complete the job and leave the premises in a clean and orderly appearance?

If you are replacing an old air conditioner or heat pump unit, will the contractor reclaim the existing refrigerant and be responsible for removing and properly disposing of old equipment?

### REBATES

Combine United Power's substantial heat pump rebates with federal tax credits and energy savings and your heat pump will easily pay for itself. Learn more at [UnitedPower.com/Rebates](http://UnitedPower.com/Rebates).

For more information about heat pumps and rebates, contact United Power's Energy Management Experts at 303-659-0551.