

How to clean and maintain a window type air conditioner

If you're reading this, there's a good chance your window type air conditioner unit is no longer cooling your room just like when it first started out or you just want to learn how to clean and maintain it in order for you to cut back on costly repair expenses, well either way, do we have the solution for you! In this article, you're going to learn steps or ways to properly clean and maintain your air conditioning unit in order for it to serve you for more years to come and to cut back from problems in the near future.

Window type air conditioners offer efficient and convenient means in cooling a room or two in your home. They are what beats the summer heat and they also let us relax in a well cooled environment thanks to them. Properly cleaning and maintaining the unit will not only improve its efficiency but can also reduce energy consumption and prevent costly repairs and downtime, it's important if you want to let your unit serve you for more years to come. Cleaning your unit also promotes to keeping it in good working condition. First of all, you want to make sure that you give your ac unit a good cleaning once a year. One of the most essential parts in a unit is the filter, usually the filter is located at the back of the front panel and you can get it by removing the front panel, note that some units may vary on the filter's location, it's best to look at your unit's manual to know where the filter is located and how to access it, after getting the filter, most professionals recommend to wash the filter. The main thing to do to upkeep your window unit is to clean the filter screen on a regular basis and if you have pets or allergies, you should consider to clean it more frequently. You should wash the filter using a solution of warm water, dish soap or detergent, and white vinegar to remove any molds, for stubborn dirt, a soft bristle brush is also recommended to completely clean the filter. After cleaning the filter, you should shake off excess water and pat the filter with a dry towel, you should completely

air dry your filter before reinstalling it, do not turn on your air conditioner with a wet filter or without a filter as this can lead to problems with the unit's performance. It is also recommended to change your filter if ever the filter is already worn or torn, has holes in it or other damages. If you're unit has a foam filter, you can purchase replacement electrostatic filter material and cut it to accommodate the size of your unit. When filters are dirty, the air flowing through it is expected to be dirtier and dustier thus may pose health problems such as allergies and asthma symptoms, not only does it affect your health but can also affect the unit's evaporator and condenser coils. Next is the coils, which are usually located at the front or back of the unit. Dust and dirt build up over time and will cause your unit to work harder to remove heat thus increasing energy consumption and your monthly electrical bill, to keep your air conditioner unit going strong, you'll want to vacuum the coils thoroughly with a brush attachment or you can also use a soft bristle brush and spray with a house cleaner to remove dirt and dust. Be extra careful to not bend the coil fins and use warm water and white vinegar solution, to also clean the water pan or the base of the unit. Another thorough method which is best for preparation to season or for storage, you remove the unit from its casing and put it outside, you rinse the coils and then apply an all natural cleaner to the coils, rinse off the cleaner and let it sit out to dry. Next up, the cooling fins, the fins on both the evaporator and condenser coils can often times bend which can also affect the unit's performance, you should inspect the fins and repair bent fins by using a fin comb, fin combs can be bought at hardware stores or online. Before combing the fins, you should match the correct end of the air conditioner fin comb to the fin spacing on your coils, then insert your fin comb and pull up to straighten the fins. Leather gloves are recommended to prevent cuts.

According to Eduard Asuncion, air conditioner specialist, maintenance of ac units should be done at least every six months. "Don't wait for a yearly maintenance as the unit's problem/s could likely get worse." he suggested. Not only the filter, evaporator and condenser coils, and

cooling fins need to be checked but there are also many things to consider when cleaning and properly maintaining your unit such as the fan blades, fan motor bearing, thermostat, compressor, and many more, that is where the professionals and people who specialize in air conditioner cleaning come in to service, they help you in identifying what your unit's problem and whether it can be repaired or need to be replaced. Another advice to give to you is that if you have been using the unit for almost five years, chances are the problems keep coming back and with repairs every now and then, it is advisable that you get a new one. Five year old units are more likely to consumer more power which is why the electricity bills tends to be higher. So all in all, it is very important to clean and maintain your ac unit as it can help you to save money and energy, not only to save money and energy but also to extend the life of your unit and to avoid major repairs which costs very expensive compared to when it's just you cleaning and maintaining your unit.