

Answering Your Questions

about

Heat Pumps



Can a heat pump reduce home energy use and lower heating bills?

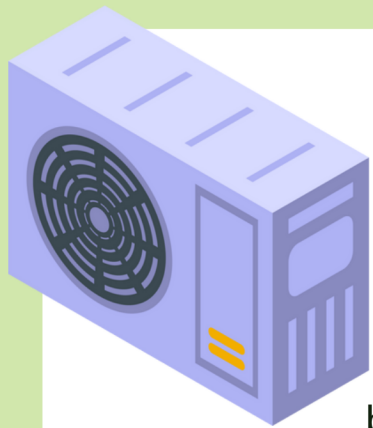
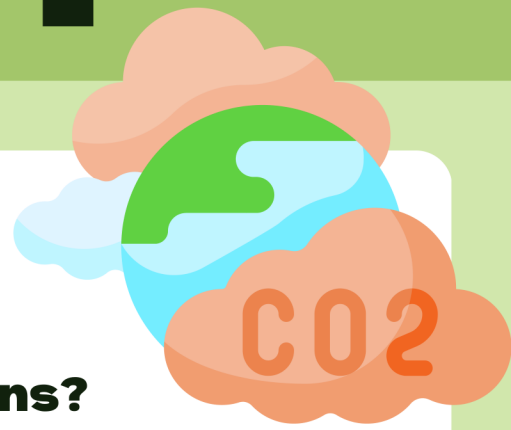
Heat pumps exchange heat with the outdoors, which is more efficient than producing heat. So in most BC homes, switching over to a heat pump can reduce home energy consumption and bills.

<https://emrlibrary.gov.yk.ca/ebooks/cold-climate-air-source-heat-pumps-2022.pdf>

Can a heat pump reduce a household's carbon emissions?

Heat pumps can lower carbon emissions by replacing carbon-producing heating methods such as gas furnaces, and by increasing the overall energy efficiency of the home.

<https://www.bchydro.com/powersmart/residential/tips-technologies/heat-pumps.html>



Do heat pumps need a backup heat source?

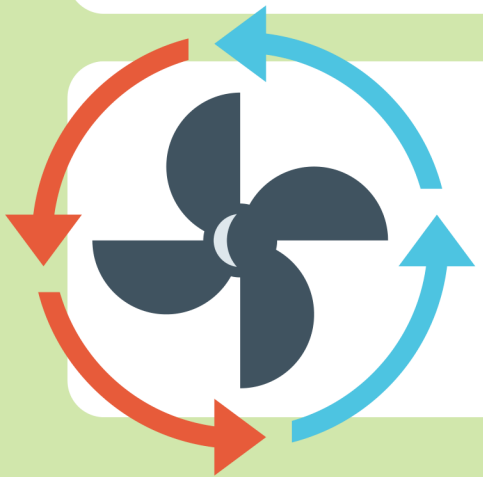
In most parts of BC, a backup heater won't be necessary, but in the coldest climates you may need an emergency backup. You may be able to use your old electric baseboard heaters or gas furnace as the backup.

<https://www.betterhomesbc.ca/products/what-is-a-cold-climate-heat-pump/>

Do heat pumps work even in cold winters, like in Northern B.C.?

Cold climate air-source heat pumps are built to work efficiently down to -25°C . In the coldest climates of BC, a backup may be required. Ground-source heat pumps work in temperatures below -30°C . Consult with an expert to decide what type and size of heat pump is best for your home and climate.

<https://www.betterhomesbc.ca/products/what-is-a-cold-climate-heat-pump/> ;
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/heat-pump-faq-1.6824634>



Can heat pumps provide both heating and cooling?

Air source heat pumps can heat and cool a home as required. They can switch from heating in the winter to cooling in the summer to maintain a comfortable inside temperature. Homes with a heat pump don't need an air conditioner.

Do you have more questions?

Ask an Energy Specialist:

"Ask an Energy Specialist" offers short-term guidance (3-18 hours) for Indigenous communities from an Energy Specialist. This program from Fraser Basin Council is intended to help with energy-efficiency planning and implementation.

epedersen@fraserbasin.ca

Contact the CleanBC Indigenous Community Energy Coach Program:

The Province of B.C. offers free energy coaching services to support Indigenous communities wanting to take advantage of the CleanBC Indigenous Community Heat Pump Incentive and related energy efficiency offers.

ICEC@coach.betterhomesbc.ca

