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# Take energy efficiency to a new level

Residential New Construction Passive House Multi-family buildings with five units or more



PASSIVE HOUSE INCENTIVE STRUCTURE FOR MULTI-FAMILY (5 UNITS OR MORE)				
Incentive Timing	Activity	Incentive Amount	Max Incentive (Per Unit)	Max Incentive (Per Project)
Pre-Construction	Feasibility Study <sup>1</sup>	Up to 100% of Feasibility Study Costs	N/A	\$5,000.00
	Energy Modeling <sup>2</sup>	75% of Energy Modeling Costs (Before 90% Design Drawings)	\$500.00	\$30,000.00
		50% of Energy Modeling Costs (90% Design/50% Construction)	\$250.00	\$15,000.00
Post Construction	Certification <sup>3</sup>	Up to 100% of Certification Costs	\$1,500.00	\$60,000.00

1. Feasibility Study will require documentation in the form of a Feasibility Study report and invoice from the Passive House Consultant

2. Incentives will only be awarded prior to 50% Construction Drawings for Passive House projects. No incentives will be granted after 50% Construction Drawing set.

3. Certification may be either through PHIUS, PHI, or EnerPHit certification offerings.

Next steps you can take...

Contact your Energy Efficiency Representative or

Go to [EnergizeCT.com](https://energizeCT.com) or call 1-877-WISE USE for more details.

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# Heat Pump Design and Installation Best Practices





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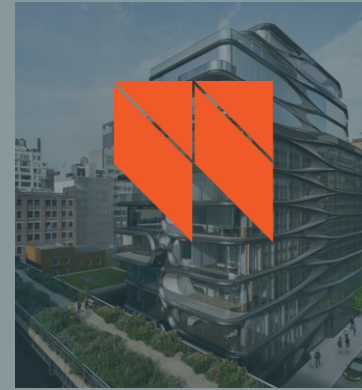
Since 1972, Steven Winter Associates, Inc. has been providing research, consulting, and advisory services to improve the built environment for private and public sector clients.

Our services include:

- Energy Conservation and Management
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- Green Building Certification
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construction

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# New Single Family

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- Can control the loads with good air sealing and insulation
- Match that load with the right sized system
- Do a great job designing and installing to optimize performance





# Existing Single Family

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- Paybacks and ROI's for HPs work well in retrofits
- Especially when the replace delivered fuels like oil or propane



# Passive House MF

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- Heat Pumps in high-performance (Passive House) perform very well when very small capacity equipment is used





# Learning Objectives

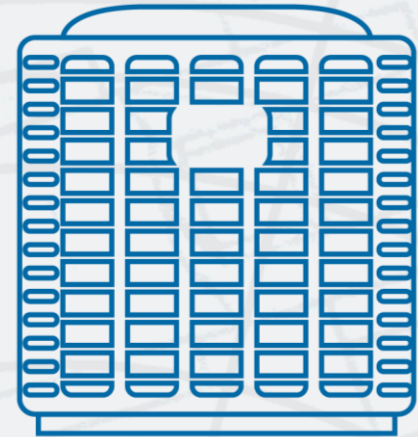
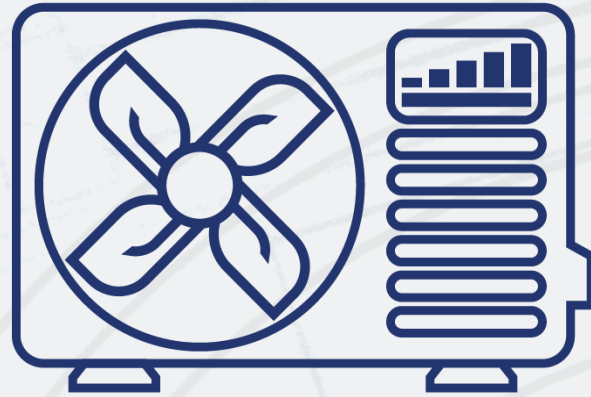
**Understand**  
heat pump  
technology  
and its  
applications

**Determine**  
the most  
appropriate  
system  
configuration

**Recognize**  
the signs of  
a quality  
installation

**Properly**  
commission  
new  
installations

# System Design: Sizing and Selection





# Determine the Requirements

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- As a first step, gather the information that is needed to determine what the most appropriate heat pump option is for a particular home.



# Customer Goals

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- Comfort
- Cost Savings
- Environment

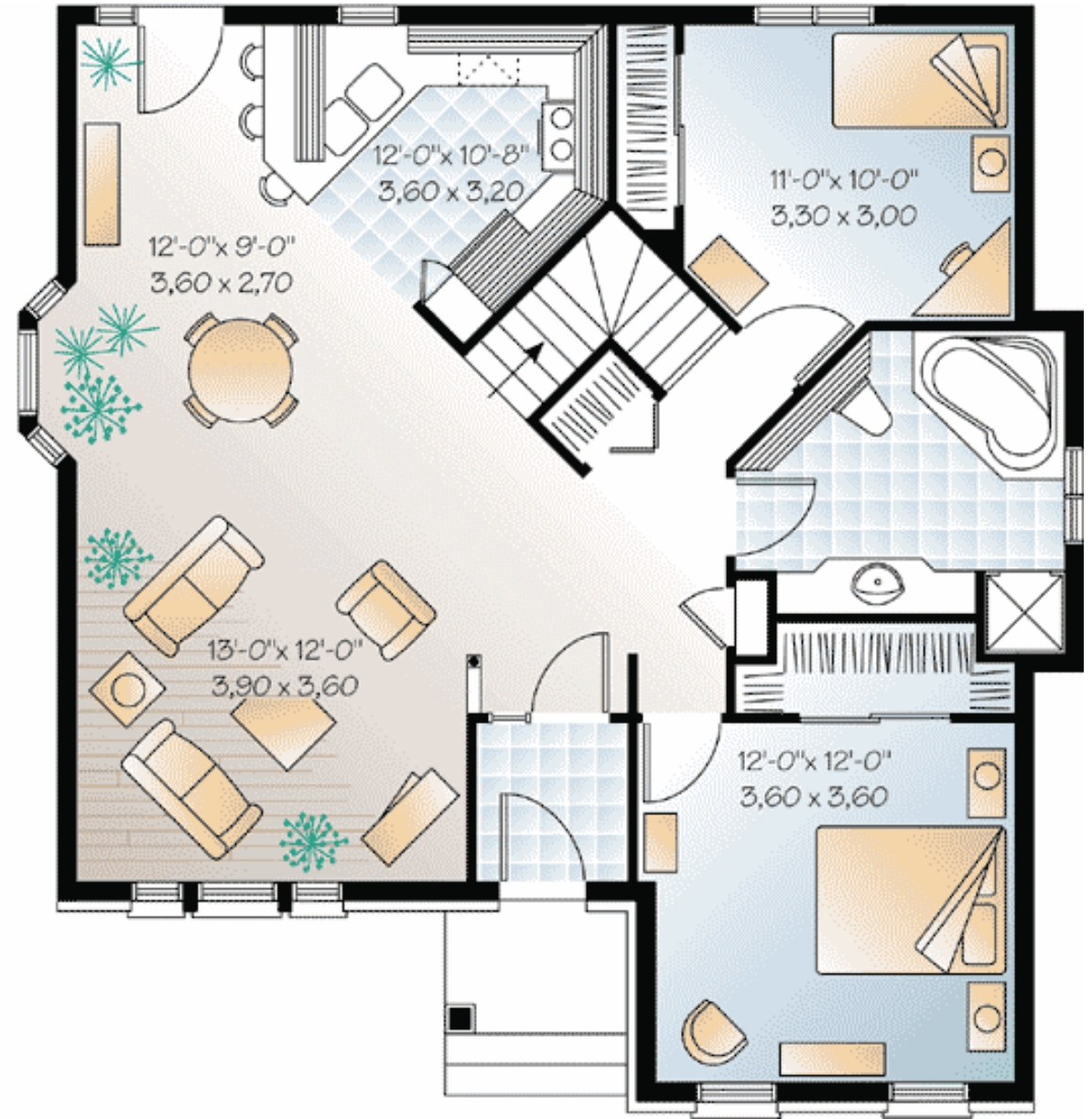




# Home Layout

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- Open Floor Plan
- Compartmentalized



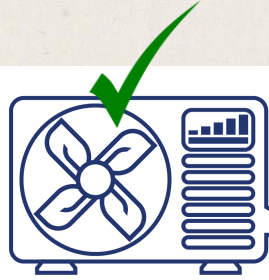
# Proper Sizing is Key



## Too Small

System will not keep the house warm on the coldest days

- Poor comfort, or need for backup heat
- Slow catch up if using thermostat setbacks



## Just Right

- Comfort
- Efficiency
- Durability



## Too Big

System will cycle on and off

- Poor comfort
- Poor energy efficiency
- Poor durability
- More expensive



# Resources

## 1. Guide to Sizing & Selecting ASHPs in Cold Climates

<http://www.neep.org/sites/default/files/Sizing%20%26%20Selecting%20ASHPs%20In%20Cold%20Climates.pdf>

## 2. Guide to Installing ASHPs in Cold Climates

<http://www.neep.org/sites/default/files/Installing%20Air-Source%20Heat%20Pumps%20in%20Cold%20Climates.pdf>

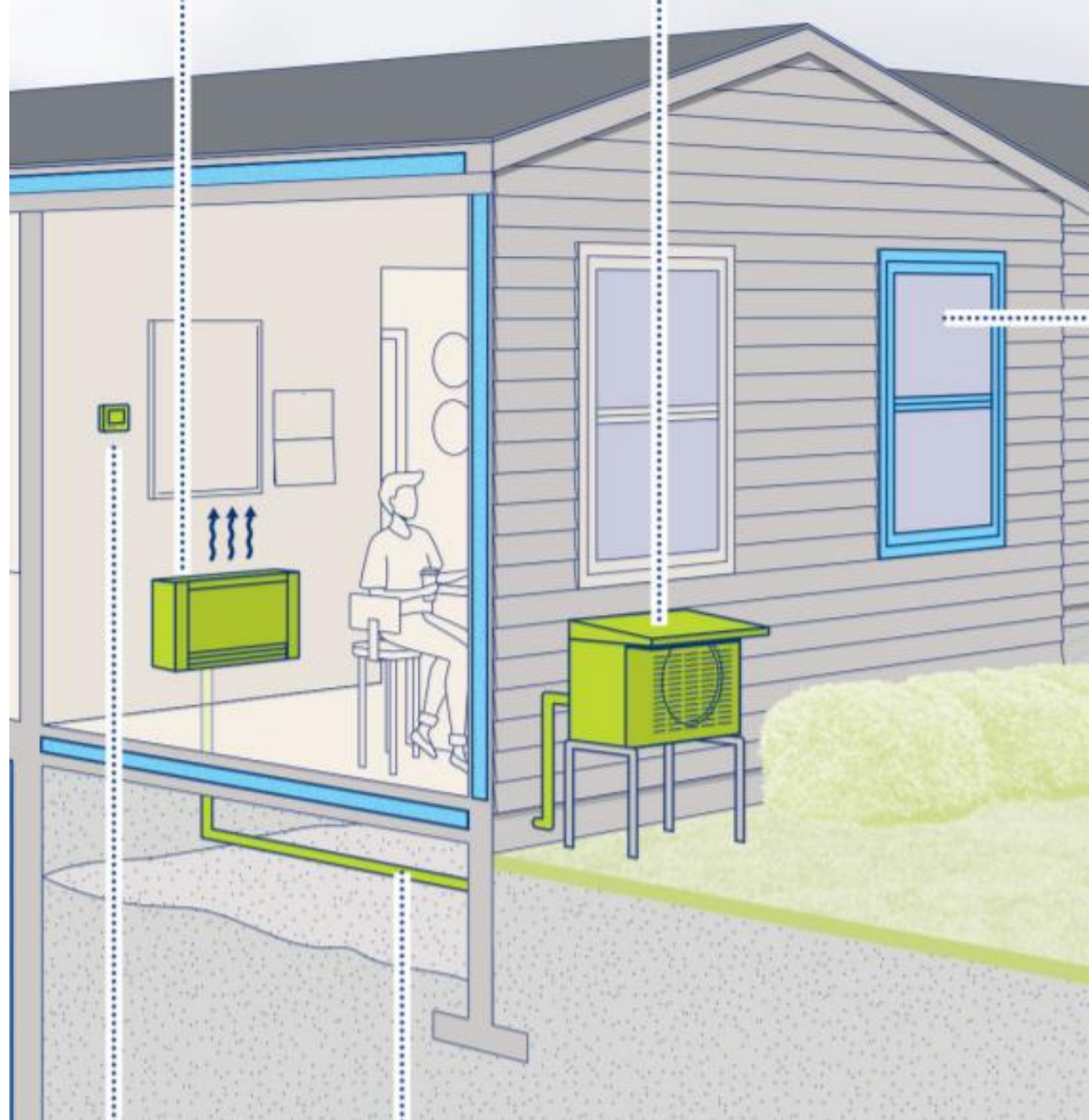
## ACCA

- ACCA Manual J: Residential Load Calculation
- ACCA Manual D: Residential Duct Design
- ACCA Manual T: Air Distribution Basics
- ACCA Manual S: Residential Equipment Selection



## System Types **Mini-Split**

- Smaller decentralized air-source heat pump systems
  - Split and Mini Split <1.5 Tons
- Here are one-to-one systems where you'll have one outdoor unit coupled with one.
- Indoor units are typically small and that indoor unit can be either ductless or ducted.



# System Types **Multi-Split**

- This is again one outdoor unit, but it's connected to multiple indoor units.
- We would have refrigerant piping going from the outdoor unit to a couple of indoor units
  - One outdoor unit
  - 2+ indoor units
  - Ducted, Ductless, or mix
  - 1.5 – 4 tons typ.





# Multi-Zone, Multi-Split

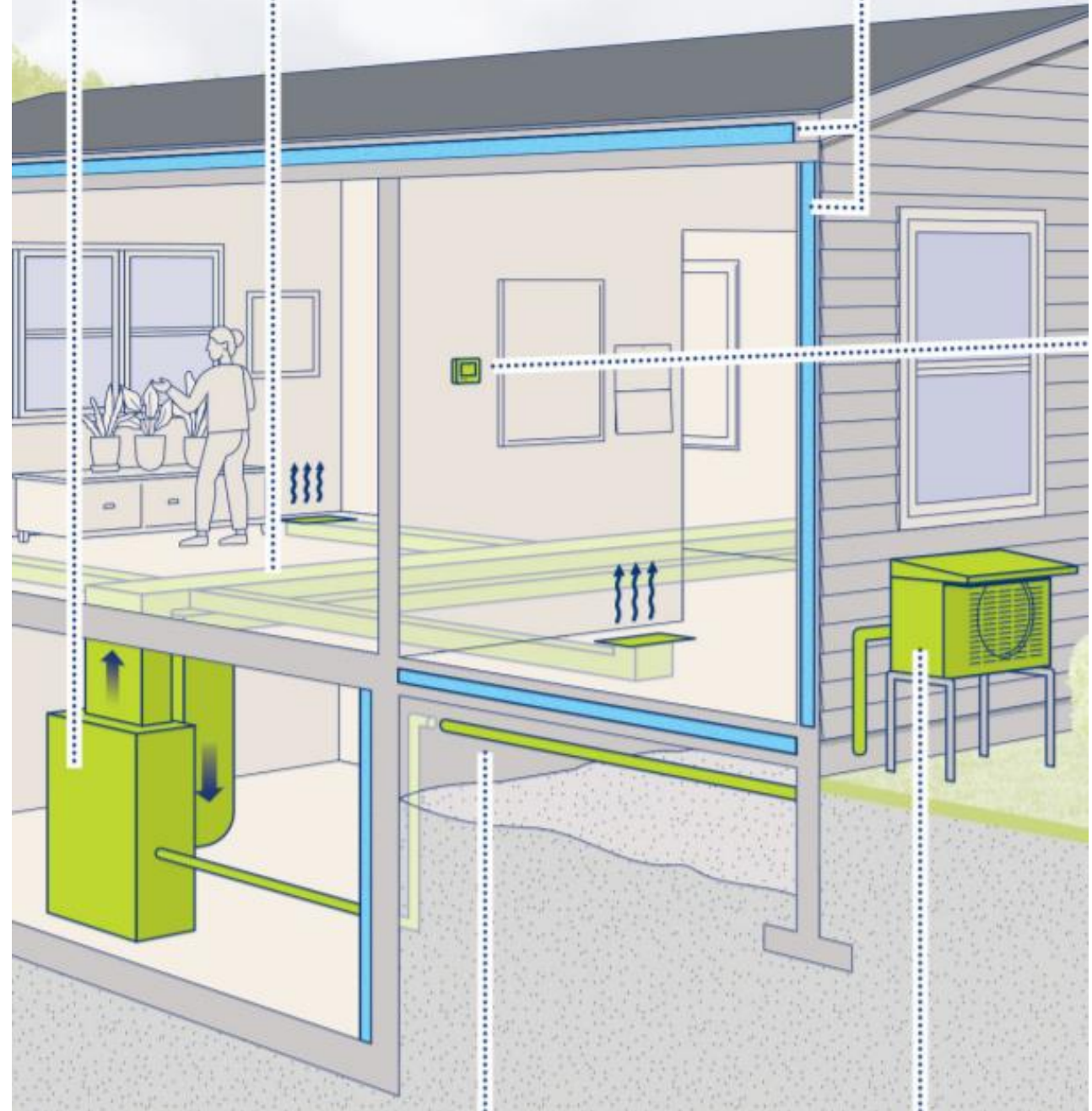
- MA Study: More Fan Coils = Less Efficient!
- **Oversizing** one likely reason
- 1 ductless head/bedroom is oversized!
- At least one mfr acknowledges this:

“The outdoor unit should not be selected based on how many indoor units are desired. If the outdoor unit is oversized just to provide a certain number of indoor units for each of the zones, **overheating**, **humidity** issues and **higher than expected energy** usage can occur.”

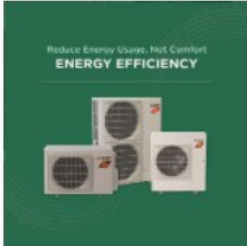
“If an indoor unit nominal capacity is more than 50% higher than the maximum heating or cooling load in a space... **humidity**, **overheating** and higher than expected system **energy usage** can occur. **This space should not have its own indoor unit.**”

# System Types **Central Split**

- One outdoor unit, one central ducted air handler
- More conventional residential A/C system
  - Typ. 2 - 5 tons
  - “Fully ducted”



# Example from NEEP Database



## American Standard / Mitsubishi Electric M-Series H2i

Singlezone Non-ducted Wall Placement

AHRI Cert #: **202373691**

Outdoor Unit #: **NAXSPB18A112AA**

Indoor Unit #: **NAXWPH18A112AA**

🔥 Maximum Heating Capacity (Btu/hr) @5°F: **20,900**

🔥 Rated Heating Capacity (Btu/hr) @47°F: **20,300**

❄️ Rated Cooling Capacity (Btu/hr) @95°F: **17,200**

SEER	21
EER	12.5
HSPF Region IV	11
Energy Star	✓
Variable Capacity	✓
Maintenance Capacity (Max 5°F/Max 47°F)	68%
Maintenance Capacity (Max 5°F/Max 17°F)	86%
Maintenance Capacity (Max 5°F/Rated 47°F)	102%

## Performance Specs

Heating / Cooling	Outdoor Dry Bulb	Indoor Dry Bulb	Unit	Min	Rated	Max
Heating	5°F	70°F	Btu/h	2,696	-	15,400
			kW	0.21	-	2.18
			COP	3.76	-	2.07
Heating	17°F	70°F	Btu/h	2,798	11,500	16,700
			kW	0.2	1.15	2.1
			COP	4.1	2.93	2.33
Heating	47°F	70°F	Btu/h	3,100	18,000	20,000
			kW	0.17	1.28	2.06
			COP	5.34	4.12	2.85
Cooling	82°F	80°F	Btu/h	3,367	-	19,755
			kW	0.15	-	1.4
			COP	6.58	-	4.14
Cooling	95°F	80°F	Btu/h	3,070	18,015	18,015
			kW	0.18	1.44	1.63
			COP	5	3.67	3.24



# Comparing Performance

Two “**one-ton**” ductless heat pumps:

		Outdoor: 47°F		Outdoor: 5°F		Outdoor: -13°F	
	HSPF	Max. Cap	COP	Max. Cap	COP	Max. Cap	COP
HP A	12.5	18,000 Btu/h	4.15	8,051 Btu/h	2.81	NA	NA
HP B	12.5	21,000 Btu/h	2.68	13,600 Btu/h	2.21	9,900 Btu/h	1.81

<https://neep.org/ASHP-Specification>

# Installation Considerations



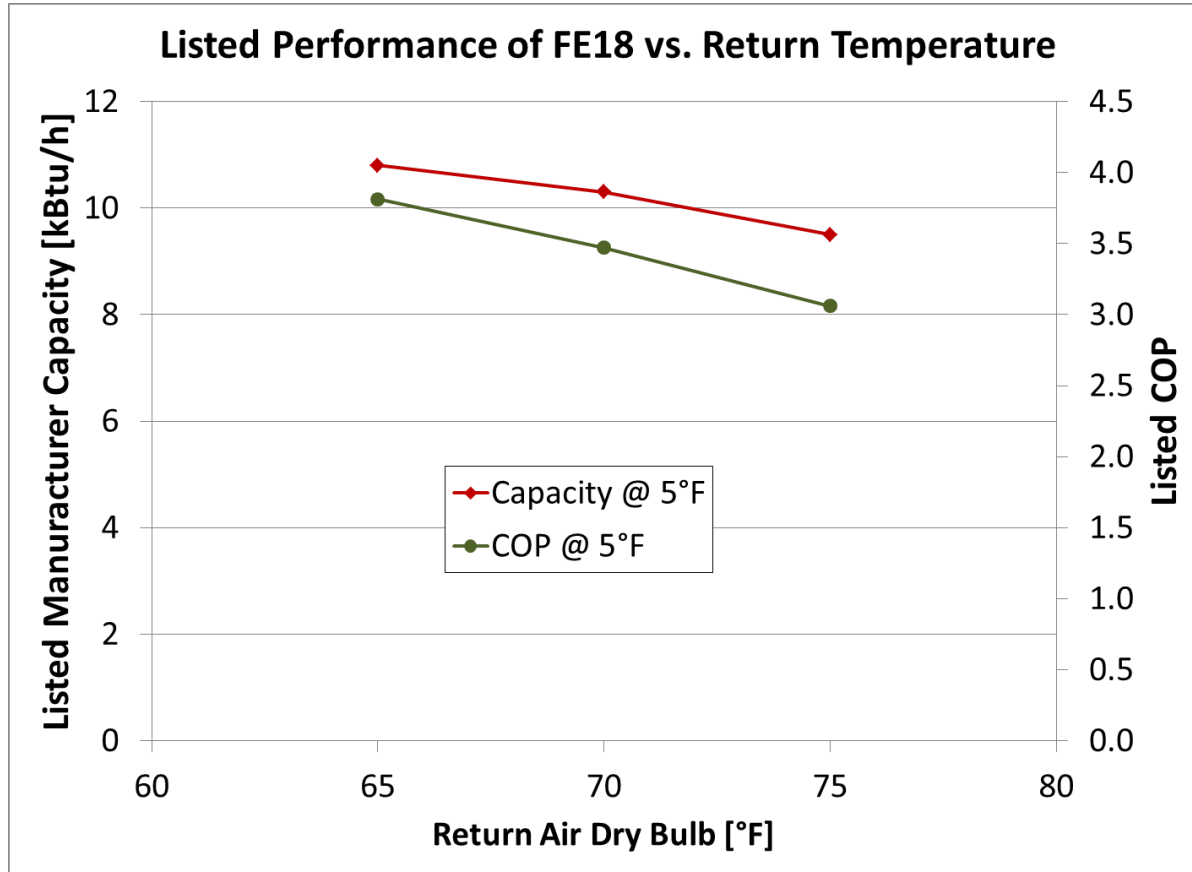
# Indoor Unit

- Placement of the indoor unit serves as a major driver for a system's overall efficacy.
  - The ASHP head must be placed so it can circulate air through the entire conditioned space and can provide a uniform comfort level.





# High Return Temp?



# Indoor Unit

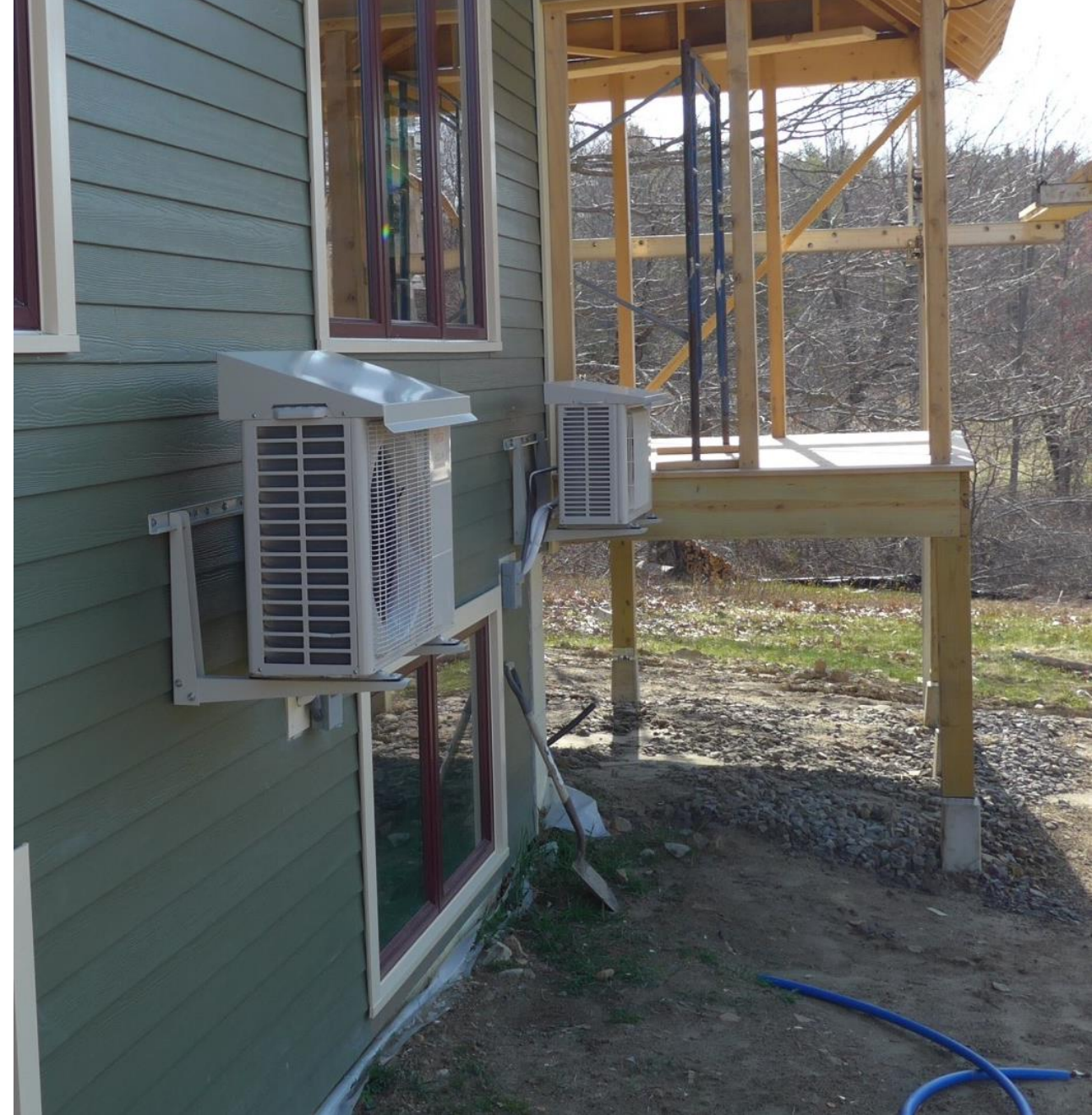
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- Overflow switch is designed to shut off the equipment served in the event that the primary drain becomes restricted.



# Outdoor Unit

- Placement of the outdoor unit is just as critical as the placement of the indoor unit.
  - The ASHP must be placed to allow for unimpeded airflow through the unit (follow manufacturers recommendations)
  - The ASHP must be attached to the bracket and vibration dampers installed.

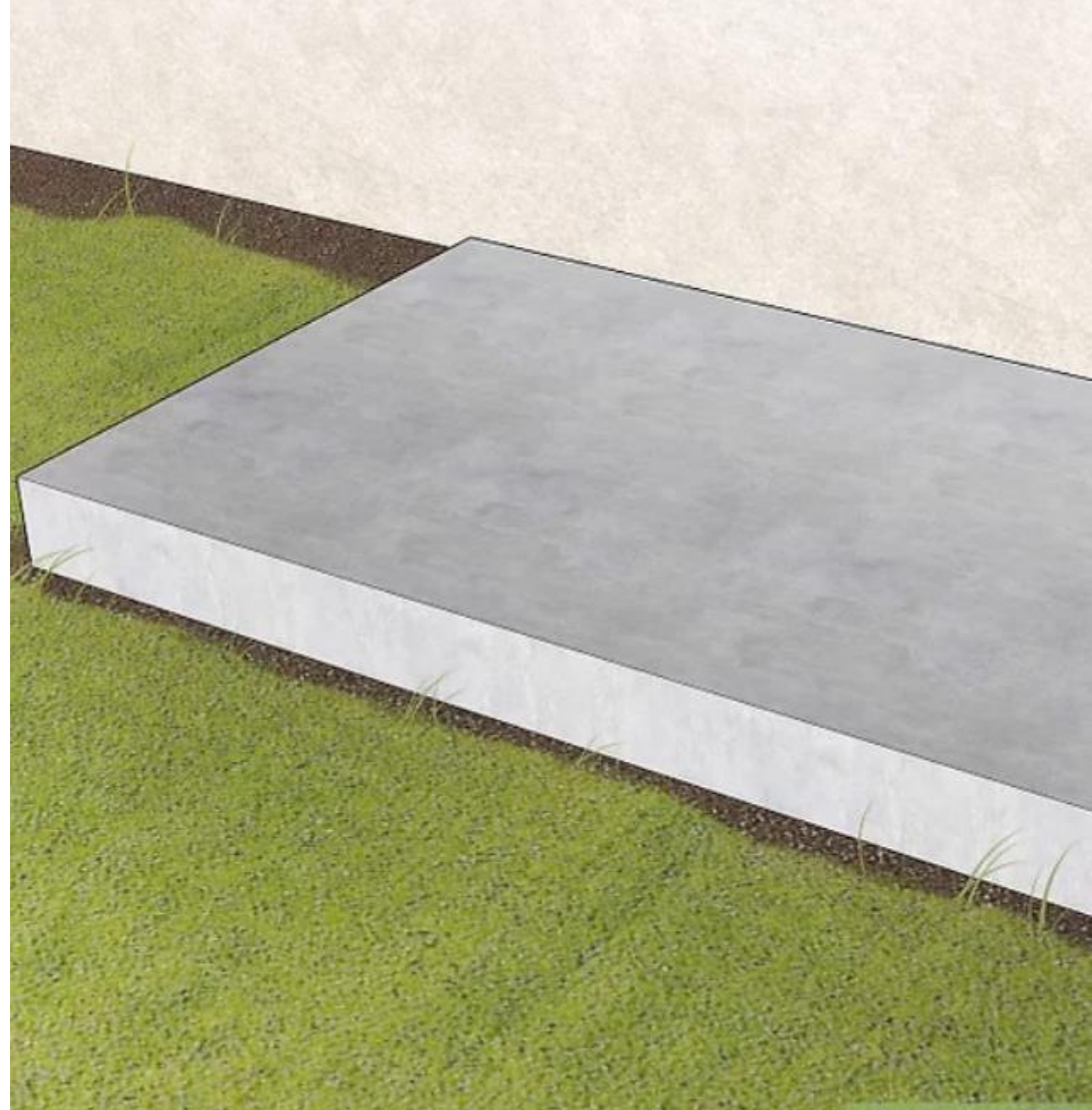




# Outdoor Unit

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- The outdoor unit, whether its being installed on a pad or a wall bracket, needs to be installed level from side to side and back to front.
- If installing a pad be sure to dig down and compress the soil to prevent settling.



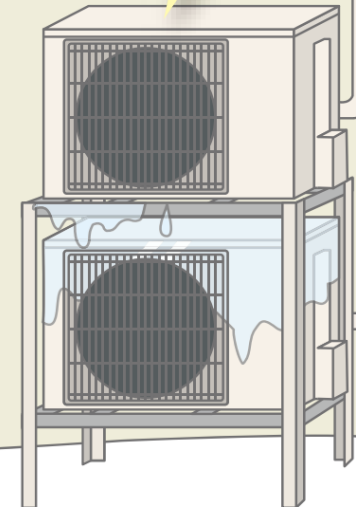
# Stacked Outdoor Units

- The defrost function is designed to remove ice build up on the outdoor unit heat exchanger.
- If installing outdoor units in a stacked configuration, ensure the runoff produced from defrost does not drip down on the units below.



**Wrong  
installation**

Bottom unit  
may freeze.





# Outdoor Unit Placement

- Do not install outdoor units directly under any drip line from the roof or other overhang that would subject the outdoor unit to falling snowmelt or concentrated rain runoff.







## Snow is a Design Consideration

Wrong installation

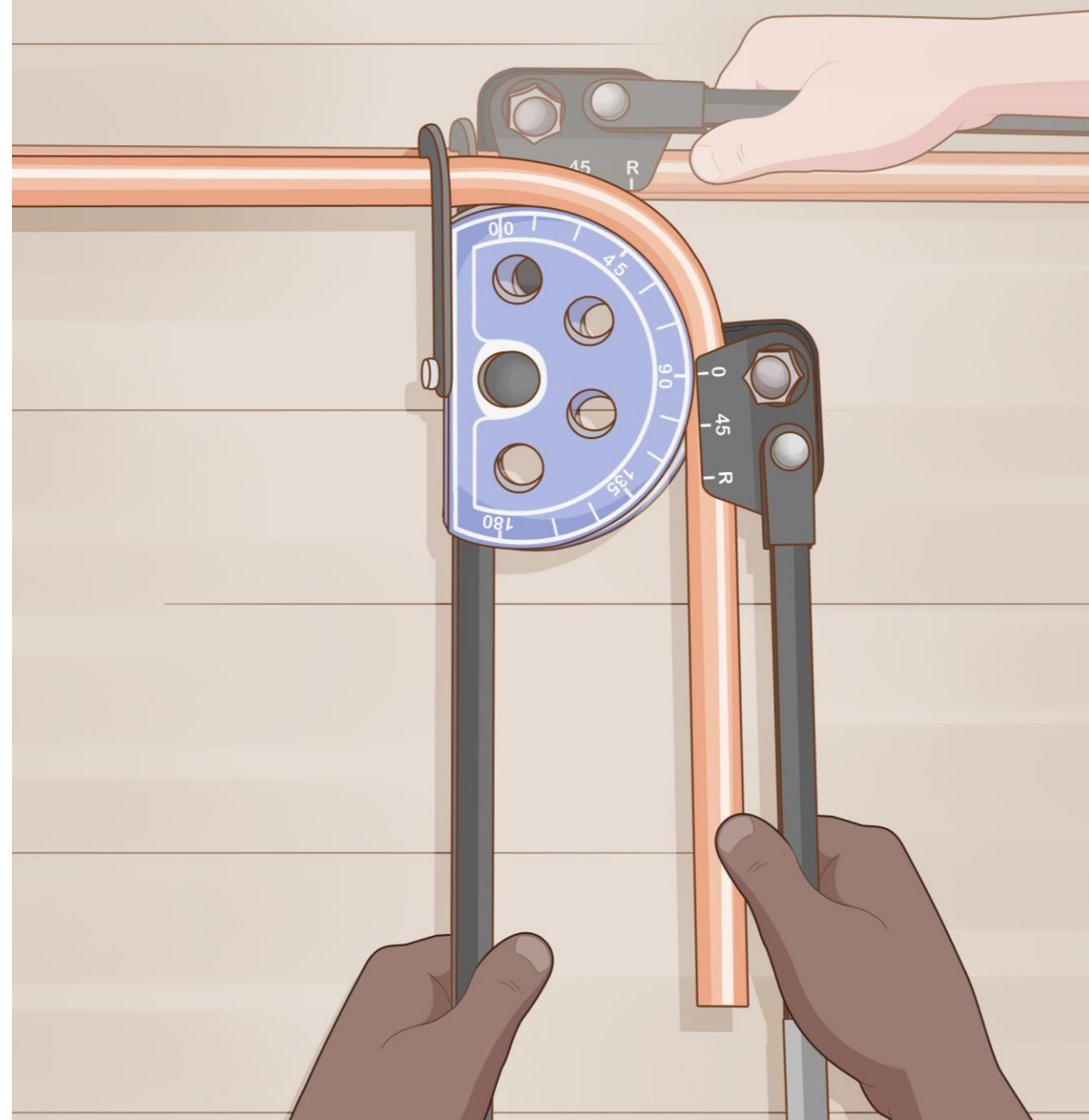


Unit may become buried in snow due to heavy snowfall, snow sliding off the roof or snowdrift.

# Line Set Installation

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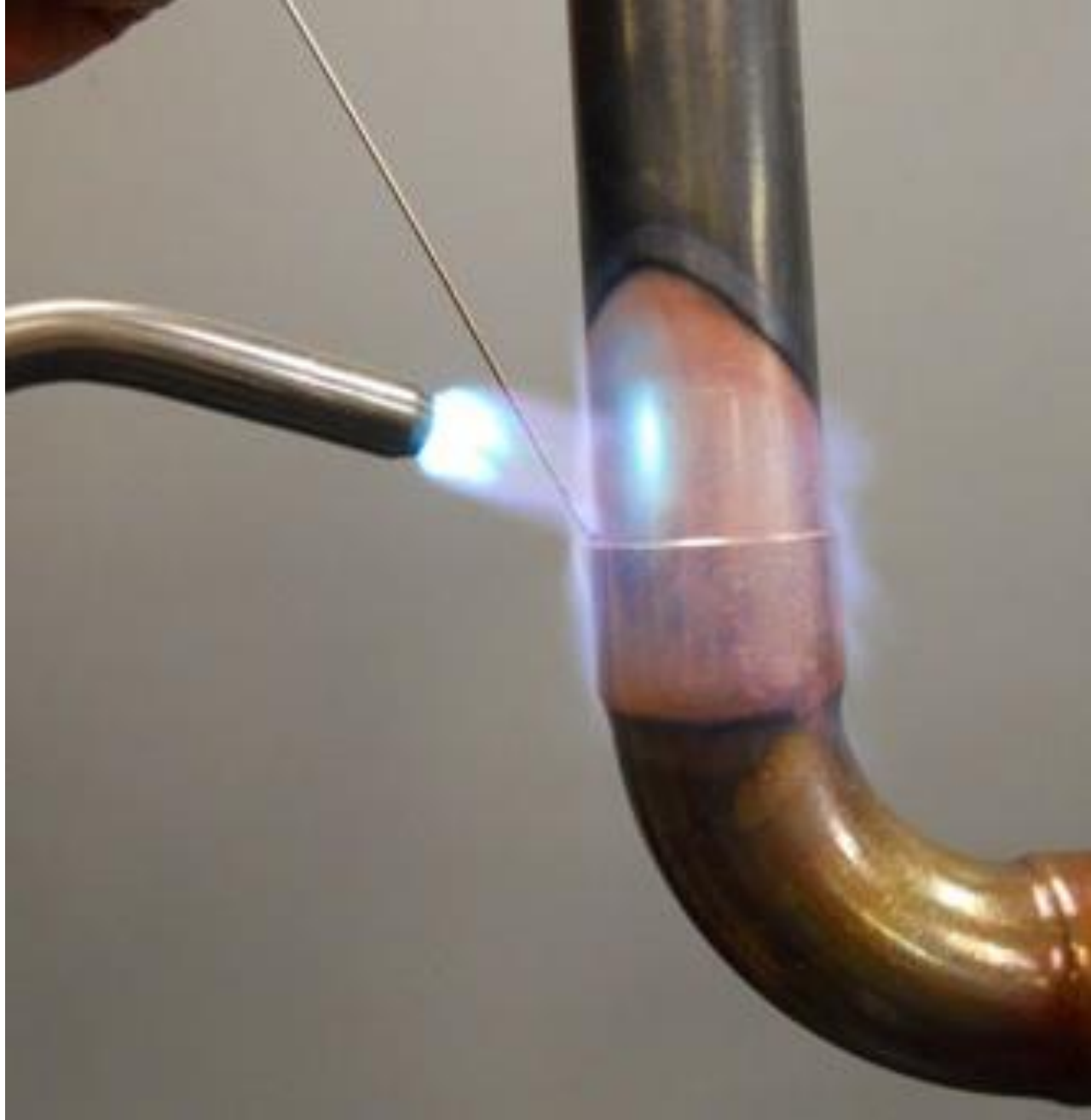
- ACR tubing can be bent easily, preventing the need for additional fittings.
  - Reduce likelihood of refrigerant leaks
- A variety of tubing benders are available.
  - Smaller diameter tubing is easier to bend without a tubing bender.



# Proper Brazing Techniques

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- Improper heating is the primary reason for poorly made joints.
  - The method of heating the joint must get both pieces, the pipe and the fitting to proper temperature before the filler material is applied.





# Proper Brazing Techniques

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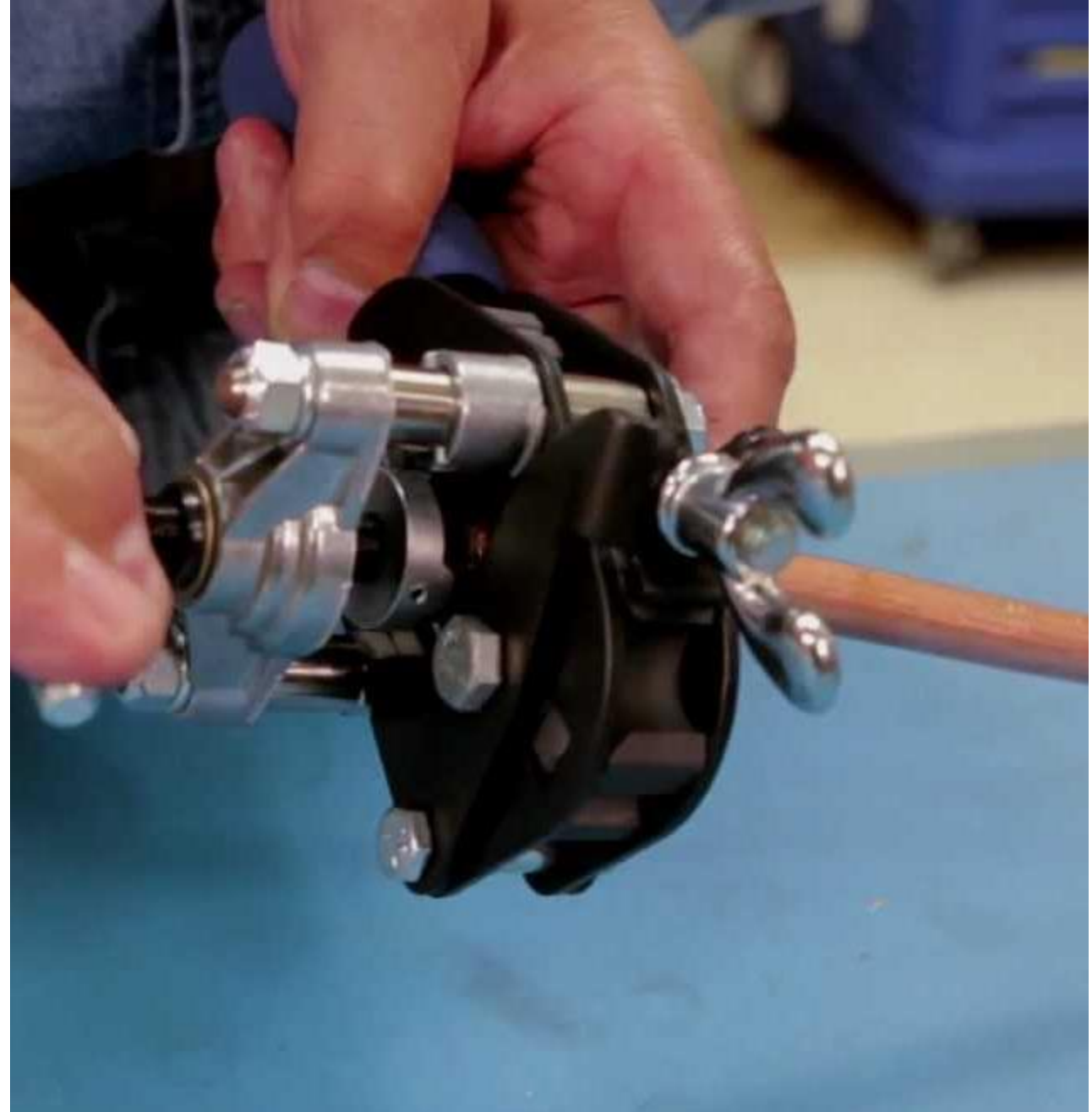
- Purging nitrogen through the copper tubing during brazing.
  - Oxygen in the air combines with copper at high temperature to form a heavy scale (copper oxide).



# Proper Flaring Techniques

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- Flare joints are the primary mechanical connection between the refrigerant line set and the indoor and outdoors units.
- Ensure the flare is made properly and that the flare nut is not overtightened



# Pressure Testing

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- Once you have the refrigerant line set properly installed, we need to make sure there are no leaks
- A pressure test with nitrogen can be performed following manufacturers recommendations





# Line Set Insulation

- Line set insulation must cover the entire line set to avoid condensation and energy loss.
  - Once insulated the outdoor portion of the line set shall be protected to avoid insulation damage and UV degradation.



# Line Set Insulation

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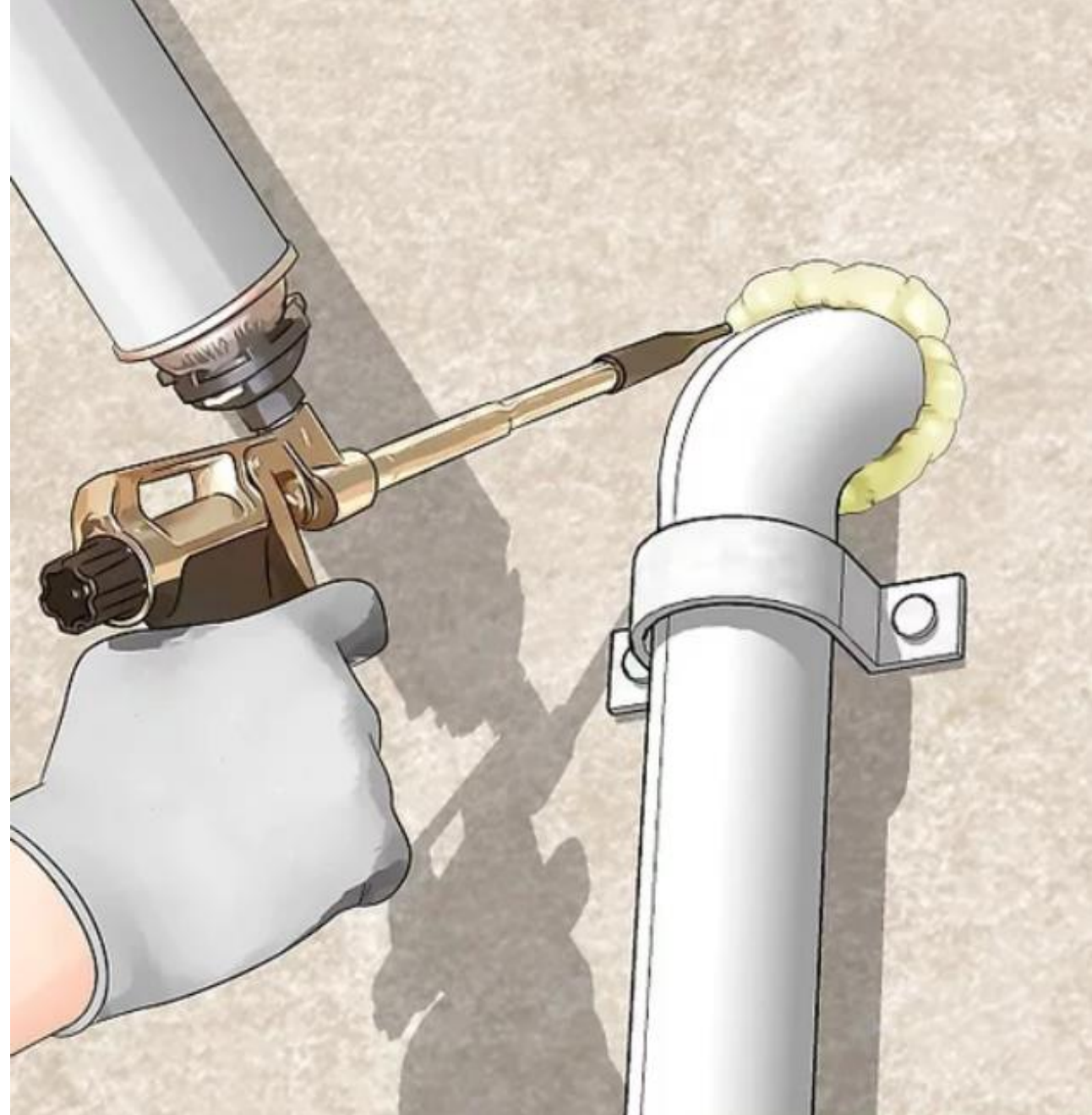
- Once insulated the outdoor portion of the line set shall be protected to avoid insulation damage and UV degradation.



# Line Set Installation

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- Once the line set is installed, seal the openings with an approved sealant to prevent air movement and pest intrusion.
- A line set cover can be installed to protect the line set and help improve aesthetics





# Evacuation

- Micron Scale
- Confirm no leaks
- Confirm no moisture

## Evacuate and Charge

	LotBlock	N-101
	<u>Chk</u>	<u>NA</u> <u>Iss</u>
<b>Evac and Charge</b>		
Confirm test pressure at 95 -100 PSI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Confirm CU connected to the correct Apt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Evacuate to 30" hg and Charge by weight.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0-15Ft          0 lbs-0 ozs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>



## Triple Evacuation

### 1 Pressure/Leak Testing

- Pressure test the system to 600 PSIG
  - System must hold a pressure of 600 PSIG for a minimum of 24 hours

**DON'T Cut Corners !**

### Triple evacuation

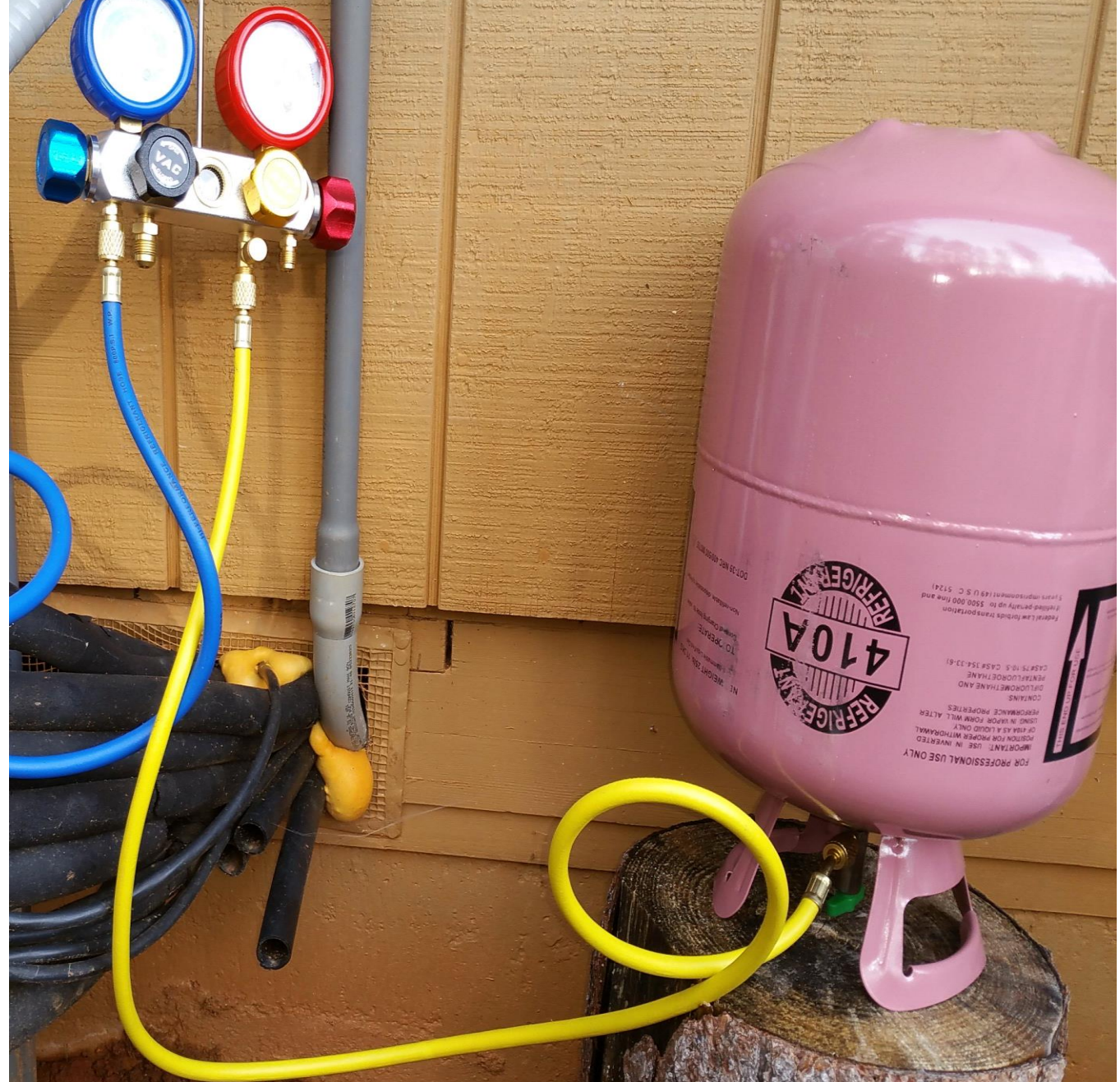
- Evacuate the system to 4,000 microns from both service valves (where available). System manifold gauges must not be used to measure vacuum. A micron gauge must be used at all times
  - Break the vacuum with Nitrogen (N2) into the saturated gas (liquid) service valve to 0 PSIG (use the suction service valve where no liquid valve is available)
- Evacuate the system to 1,500 microns from the suction service valve
  - Break the vacuum with Nitrogen (N2) into the saturated gas (liquid) service valve to 0 PSIG (use the suction service valve where no liquid valve is available)
- Evacuate the system to 500 microns. System must hold the vacuum at 500 microns for a minimum of 1 hour



# Charging

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- We need to determine the volume of refrigerant that needs to be added.
- Measure twice charge once





# Wiring

- Ensure that the overcurrent protection device is labeled, and the correct size based on the manufacture's requirements
- Ensure the conductors are the correct size and compatible with the terminals.





# Wiring

- A disconnect switch needs to be installed at the outdoor unit to allow for service, and the ability to deenergize the unit in the event of an issue.
- The disconnect switch should be located within arms reach of the service panel of the outdoor unit.



# Wiring

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- Install the input power and indoor unit wiring at the terminal block.
  - Firmly tighten the terminal screws and ensure the connections are tightly fastened.
- Ensure the system is properly grounded.

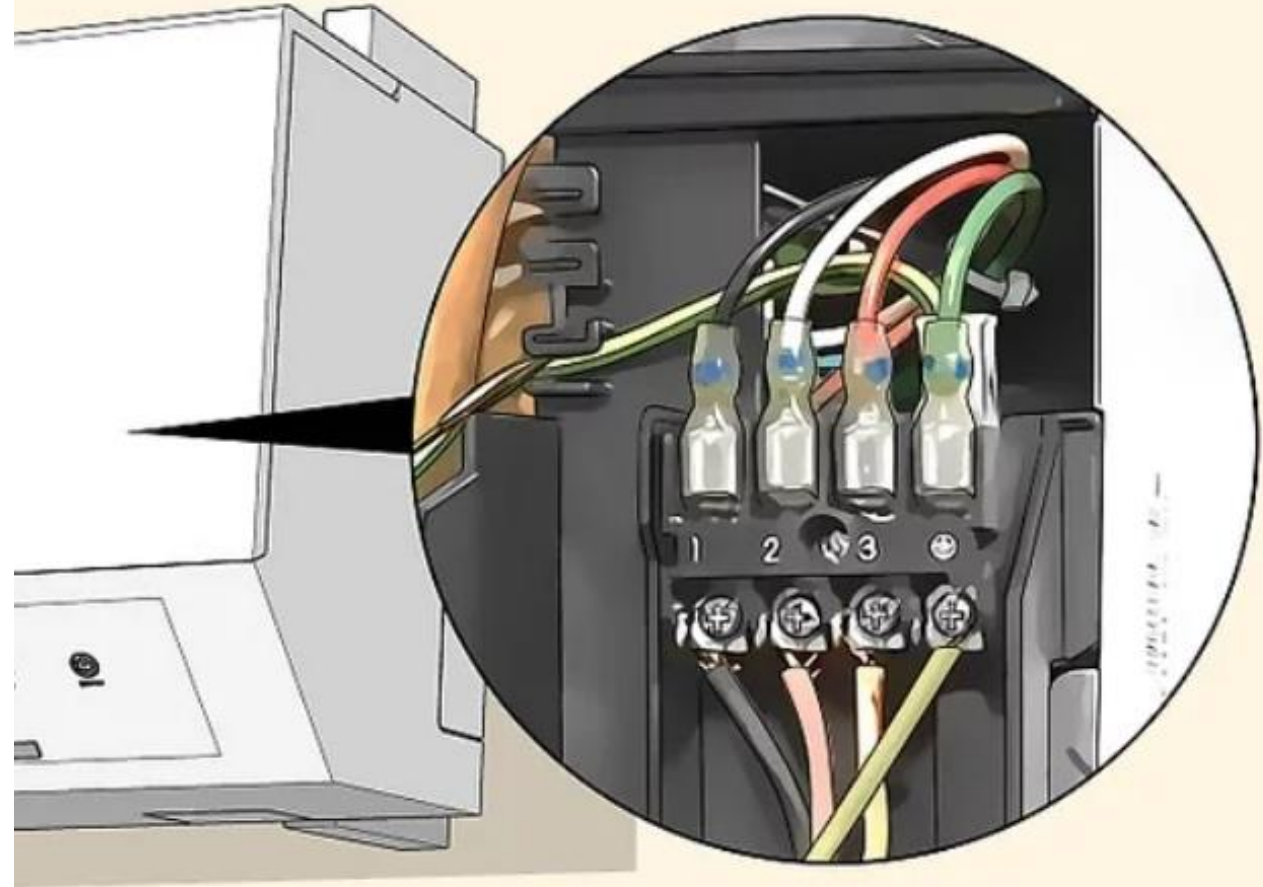


# Wiring

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- The power and communication cable is then connected to the indoor unit(s).
- Ensure that the correct wire is attached to the correct terminal at the terminal block.

Unit	1	2	3	Ground
Outdoor Unit	Black	Red	White	Green
Indoor Unit	Black	Red	White	Green





# Wiring

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- Install 3-pole disconnect switch, in order to deenergize the indoor unit for service or repair.



# Controls

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- Wall-mounted thermostats preferred
  - Instead of remote controls
- Prioritize use of Heat Pump for heating
  - Manually adjust systems
  - Two(+) stage thermostats
  - <https://nyserda.ny.gov/qualified-integrated-controls>
- Dual-fuel systems typ. have built-in controls



# Start-Up

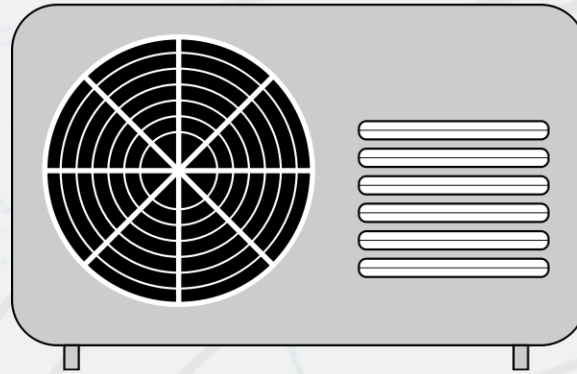
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- Verify proper voltage at outdoor and indoor units.
- Perform heating and cooling mode check.
- Record return and supply temperatures at indoor unit(s)
- Test condensate drains





# Additional Considerations: Challenges and Solutions



# Challenges & Solutions

**Challenge:** ASHP **Capacity** at Cold Temperatures

Possible Solutions:

- Lower the load
- Use multiple ASHPs
- Use ASHPs to meet part of the load
- Some combination



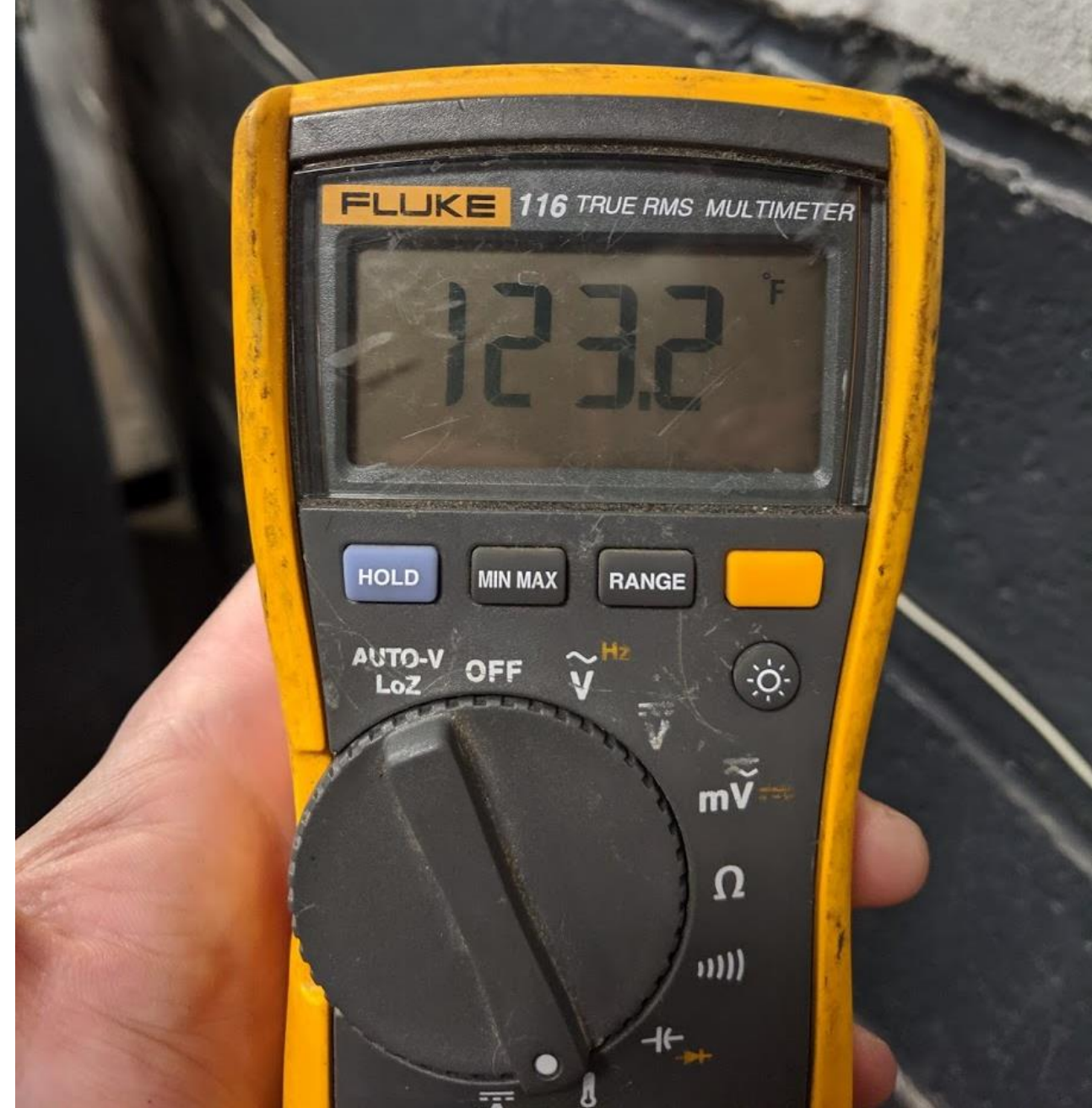
# Challenges & Solutions

## Challenge: **Comfort** Supply Air Temperature

- ASHP supply temp ~90-125°F

## Possible Solutions:

- Lower the load
- Assess room-by-room loads & comfort concerns
- Use ASHPs to meet part of the load
- Some combination





# Central Ducted Challenges & Solutions

**Challenge:** **Air Volume**, Duct Size (Meeting Load)

Air Flow	Supply Temperature	Heat Delivered
60 cfm	150°F	4,800 Btu/h
60 cfm	110°F	2,400 Btu/h

Possible Solutions:

- Lower the load
- Measure pressure/flows before, modify ducts as needed
- Use ASHP for part of the load

# Central Ducted Challenges & Solutions

**Challenge:** **Duct Leakage** and  
Insulation

**Solution:**

- Insulate and seal ducts!

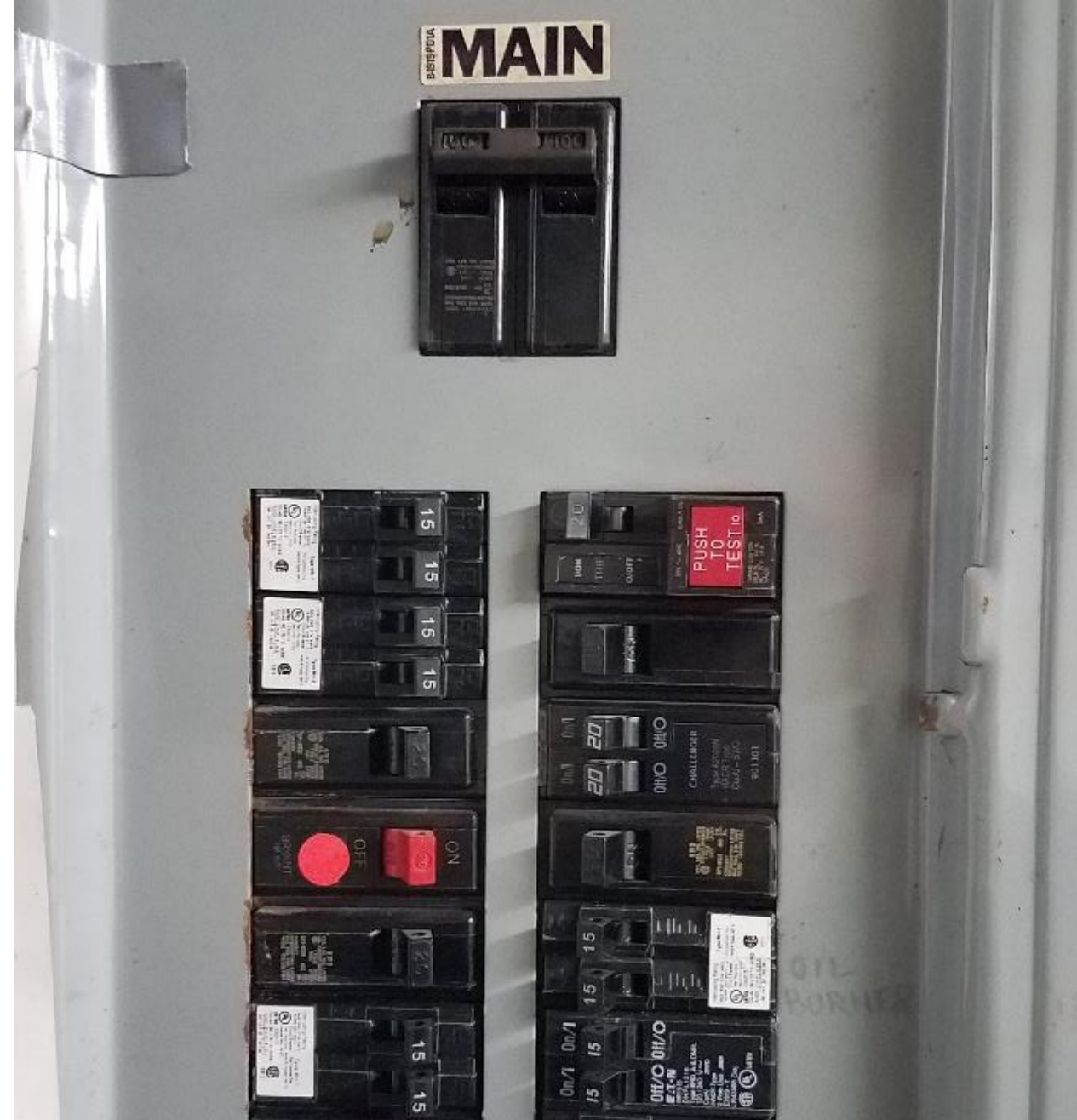


# Challenges & Solutions

- Challenge: **Electrical** Capacity

Solution:

- Upgrade the electrical service
- Install a sub-panel





# In Summary

- Reducing building loads reduces the size of the heat pump, which improved cost effectiveness, performance, and capacity.
- Reduce refrigerant line lengths and make sure piping is protected from damage
- Ensure units are installed at a height that will ensure performance
- Stay up-to-date with new alternatives

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# Thank You

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