

# Heat Loss, Heat Gain, and Equipment Sizing

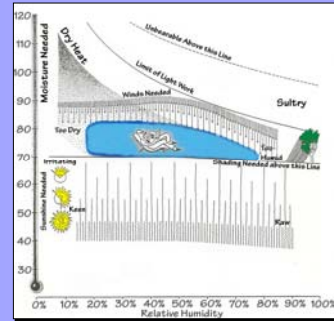
Better Buildings by Design Conference  
2006

Sponsored by Efficiency Vermont

Rick Karg

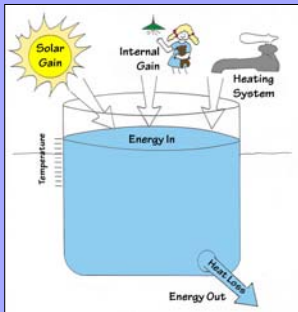
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## Human Comfort Zone



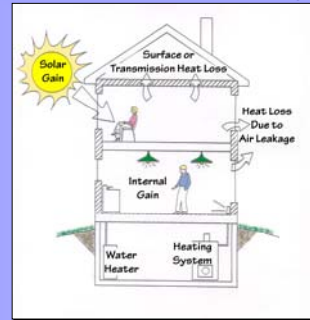
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## Bucket Analogy



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## The Thermal Envelope



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## What We Will Talk About

- The importance of proper sizing.
- Basics of load calculation.
  - Surface heat transfer.
  - Air leakage heat transfer.
- Calculating design loads.
- Sizing conditioning systems.
- Example DHL problem.

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# The Importance of Proper Sizing

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## Problems with Oversizing, Heating

- Over sizing a heating system by more than 1.4 times (140%) can lead to:
  - Loss of seasonal efficiency (AFUE).
  - Higher equipment costs.
  - Comfort problems due to short cycling.
  - Premature degradation of the furnace and/or vent system.

*Specification of Energy-Efficient Installation and Maintenance Practices for Residential HVAC Systems, Karg & Krigger, CEE, 2000.*

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## Problems with Oversizing, Heating

- Study found
  - 1.6 times oversizing in recent new construction.
  - 2.25 times oversizing in older homes.
- This leads to a loss in seasonal efficiency
  - In older atmospheric units of 9 to 15 percent.
  - No good data available for newer units, but probably less significant losses.

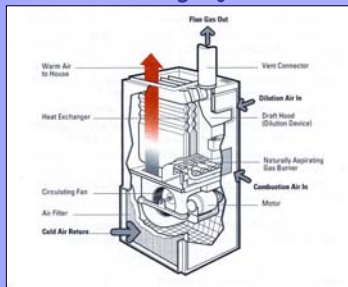
*Improving Residential Gas Furnace and Boiler Installation Practices, Jennifer Thorne, ACEEE, 1998.*

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## Atmospheric Gas Furnace Category I

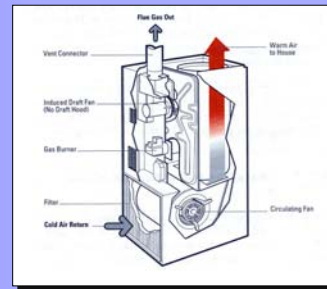


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## Fan-Assisted Category I Mid-Efficiency

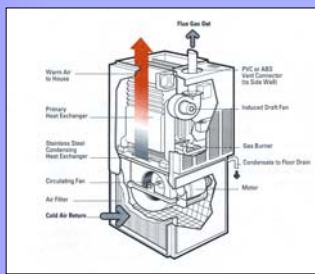


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## High Efficiency Condensing Gas Furnace Category IV



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## Problems with Oversizing, Cooling

- Oversizing a heat pump or air conditioner:
  - Loss of efficiency, both HSPF and SEER.
  - Higher equipment costs.
  - Comfort problems due to short cycling.
    - Cold, but moist – too humid – interior conditions.

*Specification of Energy-Efficient Installation and Maintenance Practices for Residential HVAC Systems, Karg & Krigger, CEE, 2000.*

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## Problems with Oversizing, Cooling

- Study found
  - 50% average oversizing for heat pumps and air conditioners compared to *Manual J*.
  - Some research indicates that *Manual J*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed, leads to oversized heat pumps and air conditioners.
- This leads to a loss in seasonal efficiency of from 2 to 10 percent, depending on the study.


National Energy Savings Potential from Addressing Residential HVAC Installation Problems, Neme, Proctor, and Nadol, EPA, 1999. 13

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## Gas Furnace with Central Air



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## Problems with Undersizing Heating/Cooling

- Inadequate heating or cooling capacity.
  - This is unusual.

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## Residential HVAC Spec

[www.cce1.org/resid/rs-ac/hvac.php3](http://www.cce1.org/resid/rs-ac/hvac.php3)

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## Replacing Steam Boilers – **Caution!**

- When replacing a steam boiler, the new boiler must be sized for the distribution system, not for the house.

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# Basics of Load Calculation

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## Heat Transfer Definitions - 1

- **Heat energy:**
  - Molecular motion, the lowest form of energy.
- **Temperature:**
  - Assignment of a value to the degree of molecular motion.
- **Absolute zero:**
  - The temperature at which molecular motion ceases (-460°F).

## Heat Transfer Definitions - 2

- **Temperature difference:**
  - Difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, often referred to as  $\Delta T$  ("delta T").
- **British Thermal Unit (BTU):**
  - The amount of thermal energy required to increase the temperature of one pound of water by one Fahrenheit degree. For the rest of the world, 1 Btu = 1055 Joules.

## Heat Transfer Definitions - 3

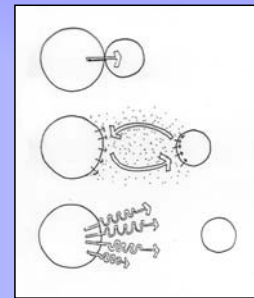
- **Internal heat gain:**
  - Heat gain from people and appliances that give off heat to the indoor environment.
- **Surface or transmission heat transfer:**
  - Heat transfer through solid building surfaces, including ceilings/roofs, walls, floors, windows, and doors.
- **Air leakage heat transfer:**
  - Results from infiltration and exfiltration.

## Means of Heat Transfer

Conduction

Convection

Radiation



## Transmission or Surface Heat Transfer

## Transmission or Surface Heat Transfer is Dependent Upon

- Temperature difference between the indoors and outdoors.
- Heat transfer rate through surfaces (R-values or U-values). Surfaces include ceilings/roofs, walls, floors, windows, & doors.
- The size of the surfaces, in ft<sup>2</sup>.

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Temperature difference = 60°F

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Heat Transfer from hot to cold, or high energy to low energy.

Temperature difference = 60°F

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Conduction

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Temperature difference = 60°F

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Ghost draft

Convection

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Temperature difference = 60°F

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Radiation

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Temperature difference = 60°F

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### Heat Transfer Through a Wall

Radiation

Heat transfer

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

Temperature difference = 60°F

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## Heat Transfer Through a Wall

**Heat transfer**

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

**Heat Transfer without insulation**

Temperature difference = 60°F

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## Heat Transfer Through a Wall

**Heat transfer**

- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation

**Heat Transfer with insulation**

Temperature difference = 60°F

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## Surface Heat Transfer

	R
Interior Surface	.68
3/8" Gypsum Board	.32
3 1/2" Blanket Insulation (vapor barrier on warm side)	11.00
3/8" Plywood	.47
Bevel Siding	.81
Exterior Surface	.17
<b>Overall R</b>	<b>13.45</b>

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## Surface Heat Transfer

- R-value is the resistance to heat transfer through a building surface. Surfaces include ceilings/roofs, walls, floors, windows, & doors.
- U-value is the heat transfer through a building surface.
- $R=1/U$
- $U=1/R$
- R-values may be added together, U-values may not.

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## Heat Transfer Equations, Surface

Heat Loss =  $\frac{\text{Area} \times \text{Temp. Difference}}{\text{R-value}}$

Heat Loss = Area x Temp. Difference x U-factor

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## Taking Care of Business in Vermont

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# The Driving Forces of Air Leakage

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## What Causes Air-Leakage?

Fluid Flow Through a Hole

$$P_1 - P_2 = \Delta P$$

**Must have:**

1. Hole.
2. Pressure difference.

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**Drivers can be:**

1. Wind.
2. Stack effect.
3. Mechanical forces.

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## Wind-Driven Air Leakage

**Factors:**

- Wind speed.
- Leakage area.

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## Stack-Effect Air Leakage

Cold weather only

**Factors:**

- Temp. difference.
- Leakage area.
- Effective height.

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## Mechanically-Driven Air Leakage

**Factors:**

- Leakage area.
- Exhaust fan CFM.
- Heating system.

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# Heat Transfer Due to Air Leakage

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## Heat Transfer Due to Air Leakage is Dependent Upon:

- Temperature difference between the indoors and outdoors.
- Cubic feet of air leakage through the house for a given time period. The important part of the house is the above grade volume within the thermal envelope.

## Heat Transfer Equation, Air Leakage

$$\text{Heat Loss} = \text{Volume} \times \text{ACH} \times \frac{0.0182 \text{ Btu}}{\text{ft}^3, \text{hr}, \text{F}^\circ} \times \text{Temp. Difference}$$

# Calculating Design Loads

## Calculating Heat Loss Heating

- To calculate heat transfer in a house, let's say heat loss, we must calculate the surface heat loss through all surfaces of the thermal boundary; and
- Calculate the heat loss resulting from air leakage through the thermal envelope (above grade only).
- Solar gain and internal gain are not losses in this case.

## Calculating Heat Gain Cooling

- To calculate heat gain in a house we must calculate the surface heat gain through all surfaces of the thermal boundary; and
- Calculate the heat gain resulting from air leakage through the thermal envelope (above grade only).
- Solar gain and internal gain are loads in this case, so they must be considered.

## Preparation

- Building measurement.
  - Determine thermal envelope boundaries.
  - Measure heat transfer surfaces to nearest 0.5 foot.
  - Make drawing.
- Determine design weather conditions.
- Determine the R-values and U-factors.




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## Design Temperature, Heating


- The design temperature difference.
  - The outdoor design temperature (-7°F for Burlington),
  - Is subtracted from the indoor design temperature (70°F everywhere),
  - To get the design temperature difference,  $\Delta T$ .

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# Sizing Conditioning Systems


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## Sizing Heating Systems

- Calculate Design Heat Load (DHL) using method based on Manual J, *Residential Load Calculation*.
- Multiply DHL by proper sizing multiplier to find heating system *output*.
- Find appropriate unit in GAMA directory or other resource of system listings.
- Calculate room heat loss for sizing distribution system.


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## Sizing Cooling Systems

- Calculate Design Cooling Load (DCL) using method based on Manual J, *Residential Load Calculation*.
  - Design sensible load.
  - Design latent load.
- Determine proper Sensible Load Ratio (SLR).
  - $SLR = \text{Sensible load} / \text{Total load}$ .
- Select appropriate cooling system.

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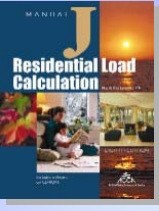
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## Residential Load Calculation for Heating/Cooling System Sizing

- Manual J, 8<sup>th</sup> edition (\$79.95 member/\$125.95 non-member).

**Air Conditioning Contractors of America**  
 2800 Shirlington Road, Suite 300  
 Arlington, VA 22206  
[www.acca.org](http://www.acca.org)

**Order by Phone:**  
 888-290-2220 or  
 703-575-4477



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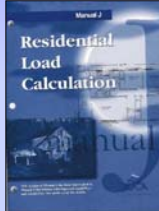
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## Residential Load Calculation for Heating/Cooling System Sizing

- Manual J, 7<sup>th</sup> edition (\$29.95/\$48.95).

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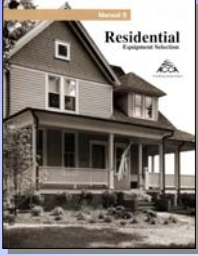
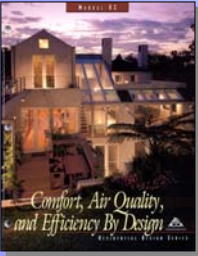
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## Other ACCA Manuals for Sizing

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## Sizing Software



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## Sizing Multipliers

- Heating
  - Gas: 1.0 – 1.1 times DHL.
  - Oil: 1.1 – 1.2 times DHL.
  - Heat pump (heating only): 0.75 – 1.15 times DHL.
- Cooling
  - Sensible cooling: 1.0 – 1.15 times Design Sensible Load (DSL).
  - Latent cooling capacity: 1.0 times Design Latent Load (DLL).

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## GAMA Directory Sample

Page 18 SECTION 1 - GAS FURNACES October 2002

Model Number	Config- ation	Foot Notes	Heat Cap MBTU/H	Eff Input MBTU/H	Eff %	AFUE %	Model Number	Config- ation	Foot Notes	Heat Cap MBTU/H	Eff Input MBTU/H	Eff %	AFUE %
<b>AMERICAN STD. INC., UNITARY PRODUCTS GROUP</b>							#ADC120C9608*						
Trade Name: Freedom 80 Single Stage							DH13,4,7						
NATURAL OR PROPANE GAS							NON-WEATHERIZED						
#ADD140C9608*							DH13,3,7						
Additional Features							7. The 12th character in the model number shall be a number from 0 to 9.						
Trade Name: Freedom 90 Two Stage							NATURAL OR PROPANE GAS						
NATURAL OR PROPANE GAS							NON-WEATHERIZED						
#ADY060R924P*							DH13,3,7						
#ADY060R924C*							U H13,3,7						
#ADY060R930*							DH13,3,7						
#ADY060R930*							U H13,3,7						
#ADY060R930*							DH13,3,7						
#ADY060R930*							U H13,3,7						

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Consumers' Directory of Certified Efficiency Ratings for Heating and Water Heating Equipment  
[www.gamanet.org](http://www.gamanet.org) and then look under "product certification" and then "product directories"

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# Example Design Heat Load Problem

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