## PURCHASING A SMART THERMOSTAT GOT YOU SCRATCHING YOUR HEAD?





# **Smart thermostats: Comfort. Connection. Choice.**

Smart thermostats make life easier in many different ways. They connect people to their home environments, whether or not they are actually at home. Most allow for control through mobile apps. Others are intuitive based on your personal living habits. And still others allow you to customize your settings, room by room.

**Smart thermostats have come a long way over the years**, and the rapid level of innovation has given birth to a seemingly overwhelming amount of choices for consumers. Consider these capabilities when shopping for your next thermostat.

### **Compatibility**

Start by making sure the smart thermostat model is compatible with your HVAC system. Although furnaces typically have 24-volt wiring schemes with red, white, green, yellow and blue indicators, some don't. In addition, some smart thermostats require a common wire to power up. As such, it's best to get to know your HVAC system prior to shopping, so you don't get in over your head.





#### **Geek chic**

Next, think about what you really want in a smart thermostat. If you like to "nerd out," there's a thermostat for that – one with graphs of indoor/outdoor temperature lined up with heating and cooling cycles, humidity readings and building analytics. Oh my. If your ambitions are meek instead of geek, save some dough and get one that simply syncs to your smartphone.



You're an in-and-out and on-the-go person. Your schedule is different every day, or you happen to own a building with irregular use in certain areas. If that's the case, you may benefit from occupancy sensing.





### Creature of comfort (and control)

Geo-fencing is another occupancy feature that uses the Geo-position of your smart phone to determine the occupancy of your home or building. That way, when you leave the vicinity (at a distance you choose), the temperature will moderate to an energy efficient setting. As you begin to come back, so does the comfort.



For those with a predictable schedule or businesses with regular hours, a learning thermostat may be right for you. It literally learns your schedule, so you don't have to program. Or if you prefer more control, you can schedule your connected thermostat program from your computer.





## It's a Match!

Whatever your style, there's sure to be a thermostat for you. If not, it's surely in development. In fact, how about a smart home personal assistant that will change the thermostat when you tell it you're cold? Don't worry... it's in the works!

WANT TO DISCUSS HOW THESE NEW TECHNOLOGIES CAN FIT INTO YOUR PROGRAMS?

