# Call your ARC-licensed technician for an annual check-up

Your air conditioner and fridge should be serviced regularly by an ARC-licensed technician, who will check for blockages and cleanliness. They can also do more extensive check-ups and maintenance work, such as inspecting, cleaning and performance testing, as well as helping you to decide whether it's time to replace your cooling system.

# Why use ARC-licensed technicians?

ARC-licenced technicians have shown themselves to be qualified to do the job. They have met the licensing / authorisation requirements under the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Regulations 1995 and must adhere to an Industry Code of Practice.

Non-licensed technicians have not demonstrated their willingness to adhere to their legal obligations and this may reflect in their services. Using unlicensed technicians may lead to:

- Sub-par service / installation which may mean additional services are required
- Risk of product warranty becoming null and void
- Risk of refrigerant leaking into the atmosphere, which is bad for the environment and bad for the performance of the system





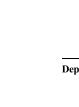


Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water



# REGULAR SERVICING REGULAR SAVINGS







Your air conditioner and refrigerator are not unlike your car – with regular servicing and preventative maintenance they can operate more efficiently, for longer and with optimal performance.

That's why using qualified ARC-licensed technicians to install, service and maintain your cooling systems can save you money in the long run.



# Some regular checks you can do

You can perform some routine checks on your air conditioner or fridge yourself. However other checks will need to be done by ARC-licensed technicians. Ask your licensed technician about the following checks you can do yourself:

#### **Air Conditioner (Split System)**

- Regularly clean or replace your filter
- Keep condenser and evaporator coils clean
- Keep the outdoor unit clear of debris

#### Refrigerators/Freezers

- Keep condenser and evaporator coils clean and clear of obstruction
- Check the temperature

# Tips for better performance

### **Air Conditioner (Split System)**

- Set your air conditioner to 24 or 25 degrees in summer. You can save up to 10% of cooling costs for every one degree that you raise the temperature\*
- Avoid placing appliances that give off heat, such as TVs or lamps, near a thermostat as this will affect performance of the system

### **Refrigerators/Freezers**

- Turn off your second, or unused, refrigerator/freezer, if it is practical to do so
- Regulate your refrigerator's temperature Set your refrigerators to 3°C or 4°C, and freezers down around -15°C to -18°C
- ✓ Try switching off unnecessary displays or internal lighting

# Laws are in place to minimise refrigerant emissions into the atmosphere

If leaked or emitted into the atmosphere, the fluorocarbon refrigerant gas contained in most air conditioners and refrigerators can be extremely harmful to the environment. In particular, it can damage the Ozone Layer and contribute to global warming. The ozone layer protects life on earth by absorbing ultra-violet (UV) radiation from the sun. UV radiation is linked to skin cancer, genetic damage and immune suppression in humans and other living organisms.

1 kg of the commonly used refrigerant gas R410a has the same greenhouse impact as two tonnes of carbon dioxide, which is the equivalent of running a car for six months.

Only ARC-licensed technicians can legally handle and trade fluorocarbon refrigerant in Australia.

### **About the ARC**

The Australian Refrigeration Council Ltd (ARC) administers refrigerant handling licences and refrigerant trading authorisations on behalf of the Australian Government, to qualified professionals in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry.

For more information on managing your air conditioning and refrigeration systems, and ways you can help the environment, visit the ARC consumer website www.lookforthetick.com.au



Ask for the technician's ARC-licence card and look for the tick!

<sup>\*</sup> Source - Department of Energy and Water Supply, Queensland