

# R22 REFRIGERANT

Over the past several decades, one of the most commonly used refrigerants in heating and cooling systems in the United States became illegal to import or manufacture as of January 1, 2020. R22 refrigerant, or R22 Freon, is used in a number of AC systems built before 2010.



**Why was R22 banned?** It was discovered that the chemicals that make up R22 are detrimental to the ozone layer.

**If my system runs on R22, what should I do? What are my R22 Replacement options?** There is no need to replace your existing system if it is operating normally, but if you find that it needs servicing, you have a few options:

- Continue using R22: R22 can still be used to service existing air conditioners, but supplies will be very limited and more expensive as the refrigerant is harder to source.
- Install a new system: To save money on future repairs and do your part for the environment, consider replacing your air conditioner sooner rather than later, especially if the equipment is already ten years old. Newer systems use acceptable refrigerants, such as R410a, and have the added benefit of increasing the resale value of your home.

**Can R410A be used in an R22 air conditioner?** No. R22-charged units are not compatible with R-410 refrigerant. Using the wrong refrigerant can result in failure of your air conditioning system.

**Benefits of Replacing Your R22 System** If your system is old or you are running low on R22, you may be worried about having to replace it. However, you can see the following benefits when you purchase a new air conditioning system:

- Improved system performance
- Better indoor air quality
- Lower operating costs
- Increased efficiency
- More environmental friendliness