

Capacitor Use & Care:

Important Considerations:

Dual Run Capacitors:

Some AC units use a dual run capacitor, which has three terminals (C, HERM, FAN). Ensure you reconnect the wires to the correct terminals.

Professional Help:

If you're unsure about any part of the process, it's best to consult a qualified HVAC technician.

Safety:

Capacitors can hold a dangerous electrical charge, so always exercise caution and turn off the power before working on them.

1. Safety First:

- **Turn off the power:** Disconnect the power to the HVAC system at the circuit breaker.
- **Discharge the capacitor:** If the old capacitor is still in place, discharge it by shorting the terminals with a screwdriver (insulated handle) to prevent electric shock.

2. Identify the Old Capacitor:

- **Locate the capacitor:**

It's typically found inside the outdoor unit (condenser) or sometimes in the furnace or air handler.

- **Note the specifications:**

Look for the microfarad (μF) and voltage ratings on the old capacitor. These values are crucial for selecting the correct replacement.

- **Check for damage:**

Bulging, leaking, or rust on the capacitor can indicate a problem.

- **Document the wiring:**

Take a photo or make a note of how the wires are connected to the old capacitor's terminals (C, HERM, FAN).

3. Install the New Capacitor:

- **Match the specifications:**

Purchase a new capacitor with the same μF and voltage ratings as the old one.

- **Connect the wires:**

Attach the wires to the corresponding terminals (C, HERM, FAN) on the new capacitor. Ensure the connections are secure.

- **Secure the capacitor:**

Place the new capacitor back in its mounting bracket and secure it with the strap.

4. Final Steps:

- **Reconnect the power:** Turn the circuit breaker back on.
- **Test the system:** Turn on the thermostat to cool and verify that the AC unit is working properly.
- **Reinstall the access panel:** Replace the access panel on the AC unit.