



# Ductless Air Conditioner Buying Guide

AIR MARKETING  
GROUP LLC

## Terms to Know:

**Heat Pump:** The term heat pump in relation to ductless air conditioners is a unit that provides both cooling and heating in relatively the same amount of BTU's.

**Inverter:** Ductless air conditioners with inverter technology vary the cooling provided according to the requirements of the space. Unlike a typical compressor that would run on or off, inverters have a compressor speed control that gives you a capacity range in order to optimize the efficiency of the ductless air conditioners. Another word for this is modulating.

**BTU:** A BTU is the amount of energy it takes to increase one pound of water one degree F. Ductless Air Conditioners use BTU's as a measurement of how much cooling and/or heating a specific unit can provide.

**SEER:** SEER stands for Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio. This number tells you how energy efficient the model of ductless air conditioner you purchase will be. The higher the SEER rating the more energy efficient the unit. SEER is only for rating residential equipment.

**EER:** EER stands for Energy Efficiency Ratio. It is essentially the same rating as SEER but is used for commercial/industrial equipment. The higher the EER the more energy efficient your unit.

**Condensing Unit:** A condensing unit is the outdoor section of a ductless air conditioning system. It is where the heat is rejected from the space, bringing down the temperature of the room where you have the indoor unit located. Remember, an air conditioner does not cool the space, it removes the heat from the space and the resulting air is then cooler.

**High-Wall or Wall Mounted Unit:** Indoor unit (evaporator) that is mounted on the wall on hidden brackets. These are the most common ductless air conditioners you will find.

**4-Way Ceiling Cassette:** Indoor unit (evaporator) that mounts in the ceiling (most commonly a drop tile ceiling) but are still ductless and have discharge air going in all 4 directions. This unit is meant to be put in the center of a large one room space for optimal cooling.

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**Condensing Unit**



**High Wall Indoor**



**4 Way  
Ceiling Cassette**



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**Above-Ceiling (Slim Duct):** An Above-Ceiling mounted evaporator is just what it sounds like. It sits in your ceiling and is actually ducted to and from the space in order to provide cooling. This unit is best suited for someone that does not want to see the evaporator (indoor unit) unit but still wants the ease of installation of the ductless air conditioner instead of a central air conditioning system.

**Floor Mounted:** A Floor Mounted evaporator is mostly used in commercial applications due to its large size and cooling capability 48,000 BTU's. It is a larger unit that looks like a locker that sits on the floor and can be recessed into a wall for space saving. This ductless air conditioner is not recommended for residential applications except in exceptionally rare cases.

**1-Way Ceiling Cassette:** 1-Way Cassette refers to the type of indoor evaporators that mount on the ceiling and have a single directional discharge. This ductless air conditioner can be used in applications with tight spaces and wall or in ceiling options can't be used.

**Line set:** In order to connect the indoor unit (evaporator) to the outdoor unit (condenser) a line set is needed. A line set supplied from the mini-split manufacturer is normally comprised of the copper lines, control wiring and power wiring needed to connect the evaporator to the condenser. The most common lengths available are 25 and 50 feet.

**Condensate pump:** All air conditioning units remove moisture while cooling the space. This moisture in the form of water must be removed. Most indoor units (the evaporator) use a gravity drain to accomplish this. In the event that you may not be able to drain your unit with a gravity line it sometime is necessary to use a condensate pump (condensate is the water) to accomplish this. Most times a mini condensate pump can be added to the indoor unit.

**Wired or wireless controller:** Most ductless units come with a wireless remote control that operates just like your TV wireless remote control. Most ducted units come with a wired remote control that mounts on the wall and is directly wired to the indoor unit (evaporator). The temperature sensor for both types of controllers is always factory installed in the indoor unit, because of this where the controller is placed does not matter.

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## Floor Standing



## Multi-Zone System



## 1 Way Ceiling Cassette



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## Terms to Know:

**Electrical information:** Most systems are 208/1/60. Most homes will have this electric available. Some units are available in 115/1/60, all home will have this electric available.

You will need to double check with your installer to confirm which electric you have available.

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## Slim Duct



## Wired Remote Controller



## 1 Way Ceiling Cassette



## Wireless Remote Controller