



## 3 – TIPS FOR BUYING A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT

Tip #1: Make sure you can actually use it

Don't buy a programmable thermostat until you make sure it can work with your heating/cooling system. Things to keep in mind:

- Type of system you have – AC/furnace combo vs. heat pump
- Number of stages – single-stage vs two-stage
- Wiring – make sure the programmable thermostat you want has as many terminals as you current thermostat.

Tip #2: Make sure it matches you lifestyle

Your life schedule; the natural pattern you have of waking up, going to work, getting home, and going to sleep. These are different for everyone. So you need a programmable thermostat model that can adjust to those changes. Programmable thermostats come in 4 different scheduling models that vary in how many days you can set different temperature schedules:

5-1-1 model: Lets you set 3 different temperature schedules:

- Monday thru Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday

5+2 model: Lets you set 2 different temperature schedules:

- Monday thru Friday (weekdays)
- Saturday and Sunday (weekends)

1 week model – if your life is a predictable as the sun rising, this model is for you. It lets you set only one temperature schedule for Monday thru Sunday.

Tip #3: Remember about zoning

If you have a zoned heating/cooling system, read this please.

Remember that your zoned system has multiple thermostats, one to control each zone. There are programmable thermostats that can act as a master thermostat to control all the thermostats in the house so if you have a zoned system, look for this feature when you're shopping around. That way you don't have to program multiple programmable thermostats.