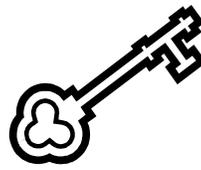


ZONING, your



to

COMFORT & ENERGY SAVINGS!



Today's homes and offices require special consideration in order to maintain uniform comfort throughout. Ideally, there should be no more than a 2°F temperature difference between any two rooms or areas at any given time according to the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA).

Would you buy an electric or gas stove with only one on-off thermostat switch for all the top burners plus the oven? The answer is obviously no. What a waste of energy it would be if the oven came on just to fry an egg. Even your stove has zoning.



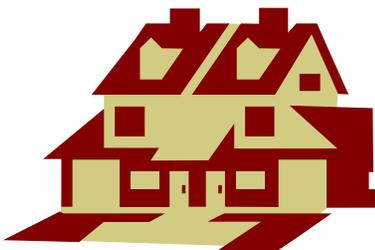
Would you like to live in a house where one light switch controlled all the lights in your home? Sure, you could jump out of bed in the middle of the night, stumble toward the hallway where the whole-house light switch is located right next to your one and only thermostat. Controlling your lights, one switch at a time is another type of zoning.



The shower does not flow and the lawn sprinkler does not water your lawn every time the faucet is turned on in the kitchen sink. What a waste of water that would be. Besides, your yard would become a swamp. Water flow is another example of zoning.



In rambling floor plans, there is a greater chance that the sun or wind will likely cause some rooms to become too hot or too cold. Rooms on the sunny side of a house will need more cooling than those on the shady side. In fact, rooms getting full sun in the morning may be in the shade in the afternoon and vice versa. A single thermostat located near the center of a house has no clue which rooms are in the sun or the shade. Consequently, with only one thermostat, heating



and cooling is delivered everywhere at the same time. It makes more sense to deliver the heating or cooling only to the rooms that are in need. Don't forget, when you overheat or overcool rooms that are already comfortable, you are wasting costly energy. Zoning, which allows multiple thermostats with one central heating/cooling, creates better comfort while saving energy.

In multi-story homes, where two or more levels are connected by a stairwell or balcony, there is a tendency for the upper levels to be warmer, summer and winter. Warm air is lighter than cold air and seeks a higher level. On the other hand, cold air, which is heavier than warm air, tends to sink to the lower levels. Having at least one thermostat on each level is the only way comfort can be achieved. With zoning, two thermostats no longer require you to purchase a second HVAC unit.



There are literally thousands of existing two-story homes that have only one thermostat. Typically, the thermostat is placed on the first floor without regard to heating and cooling requirements on the second floor. In the summer, the upper level will need more cooling...more run-time. If there is only one thermostat and it is located downstairs, upstairs gets short changed. The thermostat downstairs, for example, may only tell the air conditioner to operate 20 minutes per hour on a hot day while upstairs may really need 40 minutes of run-time. That's because the downstairs thermostat has no clue what the temperature is upstairs. Upstairs gets a little warmer each hour during the day and the thermostat that is responsible for maintaining comfort doesn't even know about it. By late in the day, the temperature upstairs may be unbearably hot. If you compensate by setting the thermostat downstairs lower in order to get some sleep upstairs at night, it will be freezing downstairs when it's time for coffee the next morning.



Bonus rooms over a garage have accounted for more zoning systems being sold than perhaps any other reason. Adding a separate heating/cooling system for such a small area does not make economic sense. And it is a fact that without some type of thermostat control, the temperature will be absolutely unbearable, particularly in the summer. Zoning is the least expensive and best option. Just like a two-story house, at least two thermostats are necessary if comfort is desired. Having two separate heating/cooling systems is one answer, but zoning is the most economical way to achieve the results you want. All that is really needed is two thermostats, not two separate heating/cooling units.

Zoning not only makes more sense from a comfort standpoint, but it saves energy as well. Delivering more heating to rooms that are already too warm or more cooling to rooms that are already too cool is a waste of precious energy.

Some homes are practically impossible to keep within the ACCA's ideal 2°F room to room differential or maximum allowable 4°F temperature differential without zoning. For example, the southwest side of the house needs more of the total cooling capacity on a sunny summer afternoon. However, during a sunny winter afternoon, that same southwest exposure will require less of the total heat capacity due to the warming effect of the direct sun.

Many like to sleep in a master bedroom suite that is cooler than the rest of the house. With zoning, just set the master bedroom thermostat to the temperature you like. Other thermostats in the house can be set higher, thereby saving energy and preventing other family members from being too cold.

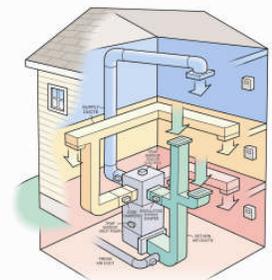


Florida rooms, typically rooms with glass on three walls, are more and more popular. Not only will zoning allow you to maintain a comfortable temperature in this room with many windows, but it will allow the windows to be opened on mild days. By installing a supply and return zone damper, you can completely isolate the Florida room from the duct system and allow the windows to be opened on mild days without wasting energy.



In a home where friends and business associates are entertained frequently, the thermostat in the rooms used for entertaining can be set lower without freezing the kids in their rooms. A thermostat in the kitchen area will help keep it comfortable when a turkey is in the oven or a big meal is being prepared.

Zoning should be considered when you are planning to build a new home. But, if you are having trouble regulating or balancing the temperature in your existing home (bonus room too hot or too hot on the second floor upstairs, etc.), zoning can be easily added to most existing heating and cooling systems.



If given a choice, most homeowners will choose zoning.

Better comfort.....less energy costs.

Zoning makes sense in more ways than one.



115-9 Hinton Avenue, Wilmington, NC 28403

Phone 910-452-0740 toll free 888-267-0740 fax 910-395-8271

www.comfortsolutionsinc.com