

### The Temperature Doesn't Feel Right

Does your thermostat say one temperature while your body says another? If you get the sensation that your building temperature is off from your desired setting, that's likely because it is. HVAC thermostats should be calibrated annually to ensure they're delivering accurate readings.

2 HVAC Runs 24/7

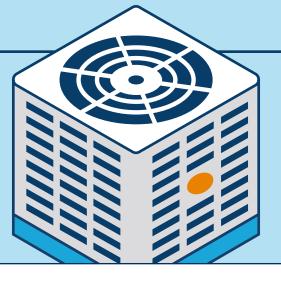
If your indoor temperature falls outside of a certain range, HVAC sensors can automatically run your machine to reach the right temperature. But if your HVAC is always running, a greater mechanical issue may be to blame. Clogged filters, dirty condenser coils, and even a too-small setup for your space can cause your system to struggle.

## **3** Too Much (Or Too Little) Humidity

The best conditions are the ones you barely even notice. Too much humidity can create an uncomfortably muggy environment, while not enough humidity can lead to a stale and dry space. Between sweaty palms and stuffy noses, you don't have to be a facility manager to recognize a problem.



air in your facility is the last thing you want emitting unpleasant odors. But a musty, burning, or generally foul smell can be indicative of a larger issue – as well as a leading cause of a negative occupant experience.



### Top **10** Signs Your HVAC System Needs Maintenance

(Now and From Now On)

Odd noises, suspicious odors, and unexpected changes in temperature don't sound like the qualities of an efficient HVAC system. But warning signs like these can easily go ignored, no matter how loudly they point to a machine in need of maintenance. By spotting these indicators and more, you can address an HVAC system that needs attention. Look for these 10 signs to get the best performance, efficiency, and savings out of your HVAC.



might be at the right temperature, but that won't mean much if air isn't circulating properly. A lack of air flow likely means there's a blockage or damage to the fan or filter, leading to stale air and uncomfortable conditions.

#### Odd Noises

It's not uncommon to recognize a working HVAC by sound (whether it's a low hum or no sound at all). But a rattling, squeaking, or suddenly loud sound isn't ideal. Noises like these may indicate a wobbly or worn-down piece of machinery, like a misaligned belt, a damaged bearing, or simply a loose screw. They can also serve as noisy distractions and productivity killers for your occupants.

# Inconsistent (and Spiking) Bills

A broken HVAC isn't the only thing making facility managers sweat. Inconsistent or unreasonably high energy bills can result from an underperforming HVAC system as inefficient machines consume more resources.

#### Power Fluctuations

Older machines may develop their quirks, but consistently failing to start up shouldn't be one of them. If your HVAC tends to repeatedly start and stop without ever finishing a full cooling cycle (also known as short cycling), a leak and more issues might be to blame. Short cycling can also create additional problems, like a worn-out compressor and greater power usage.

Building Layout Changes
A properly installed HVAC system is
designed to fit the ins and outs of a given
space. If the layout of that space changes, the
flow of air may be unintentionally interrupted,
creating inconsistencies in temperature and

comfort. Consider how interior redesigns may

have limited your HVAC system's output.



if you don't maintain it at all. All it takes is one failed component to compromise your HVAC system. If the only maintenance performed on your system occurs after a failure, your occupants could find themselves stuck in an uncomfortable environment – and find you scrambling for an emergency repair.



Regular maintenance will greatly extend the life of your HVAC system and can help prevent failures. Learn how ABM's professionals can help.