

The Smart Choice

Chilly Maine nights often call for extra warmth in your home. You can avoid turning up the furnace and raising the temperature of your *whole* house by using electric heat to provide you with the extra warmth you need, right where you need it.

Use an energy-efficient, portable electric space heater to heat a room or area. It is an easy, economical way to stay warm and comfortable while saving on your overall heating costs.

Here are some examples where using electric heat can lower your overall energy costs:

- **Cold rooms.** Got a room, maybe one with lots of windows or a northern exposure, where the central heating system never seems to catch up with the chill? Plug in the electric space heater!
- **Quick warm-ups.** Electric space heat is just the ticket for chasing the drafts from the bathroom — or any other small space — on those cold Maine mornings. Turn it on and get that cozy, warm feeling.
- **Cold-sensitive family members.** When one person is cold, and everybody else is comfortable, an efficient portable space heater can take the temperature up a notch in just one part of the room.

Did you know that a portable electric heater is the energy-efficient alternative to turning up the furnace? It's true! Electric heat is an inexpensive way to add extra heat to selected areas of your home. Read on to learn why electric heat is a smart choice.

- **Living spaces.** Maybe everyone's in the den, and it feels a bit cold, but you don't want to turn up the thermostat and waste heat in other empty rooms. An electric space heater will warm up the family without burning through your budget.

- **Work spaces.** Anyone who spends time in an unheated garage, cellar, barn, or storage space will welcome the comfort provided by an electric space heater. Choose a style and size to fit the space.

- **Unheated areas.** If you have upper floors or additions without central heating, an electric space heater can be an affordable alternative to costly heating system installation. Passive convective or fan-forced convective units work well in larger areas (see our helpful table on the back of this page).



“Sometimes just a little additional focused warmth from a small quiet electric heater can really improve your comfort without driving up your heating bills. By not having to set up your furnace thermostat, a small electric heater can pay back its cost in just a couple of months.”

— *Jim Dulley, Mechanical Engineer*
nationally-syndicated writer on home energy use

Features to look for:

- adjustable thermostat
- auto-safety shutoff system
- tip-over switch
- variable heat settings
- “cool-touch” housing
- energy efficient
- no exposed heating elements
- child-resistant controls

Why electric space heaters?

- fast, focused heat
- inexpensive to purchase
- clean — no flame, no fumes
- save money and energy by adding heat only where you need it
- no wood to carry or fuel to add — just plug it in

Safety tips:

- Choose models that have automatic safety switches that turn off the heater if it is tipped over accidentally.
- Do not overload circuits.
- Never leave the heater unattended and never leave the house or go to bed without turning off the heater. Always turn off and unplug the heater when it's not being used.
- Keep the cord and heater away from high traffic areas.
- Never use electric space heaters with an extension cord.
- Read and follow all manufacturers' instructions.

Electric Heat For Extra Warmth!

Safe — no flame, combustion or fumes in your home.
Manageable heating costs.
Affordable — extra warmth for just pennies an hour.
Responsive — adds the extra heat you need in minutes, fast!
Temperature control — heat what you need, when you need it.

Comfortable — adds the extra heat you need just where you need it.
Home warmth made easy.
Options — variable settings and thermostatically-controlled features.
Inexpensive to operate!
Convenient — just plug it in and flick the switch.
Easy to use — and portable, too!

What is the right size for me?

Absent of other heating sources, a 1,500-watt portable electric heater can heat a room that's about 150 square feet. Some heaters have variable settings so they can be set for 600, 900, 1,200 or 1,500-watts — giving you control over the amount of heat you want.

Electric baseboard heaters are typically 250 watts per foot, so the average 6-foot heater is 1,500-watts — the same as most portables.

Tip:

If the area that needs extra heat is smaller than the heated area controlled by your thermostat, using electric heat to boost the temperature is generally less expensive and uses less energy than using your oil furnace.

Types	How It Works	Advantages & Applications
Fan-Forced Convective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceramic disc heater • Toe-kick heaters • Any heater using a fan 	Heats the air, using a fan to circulate it	Provides fast heating of an entire room or space, especially one that only needs heat some of the time
Passive Convective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable radiator shaped unit • Baseboard heater 	Heats the air through natural air circulation	Provides slow, constant, even heating of a room; good for warming up a cold room or space
Radiant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quartz heaters • Coil heater • Parabolic heaters 	Heats people and objects	Provides heat to objects without heating the air — good for adding quick heat to one part of a room or for increasing the comfort level if one is chilled. Can also be used to heat a small room



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