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7 Common Furnace Problems & How to Fix Them



Your furnace is essential for keeping your home warm during the cold months, but when it breaks down, it can cause major discomfort. **Furnace problems** can range from simple fixes to more serious issues that leave your home cold and your energy bills high. A clogged filter, faulty thermostat, or ignition problems can make it hard to stay warm.

Fortunately, many of these issues are easy to troubleshoot. Fortunately, many of these issues are easy to troubleshoot. Knowing what to check and how to fix it can save you from unnecessary repair costs. If DIY fixes don't work, it may be time to call in a professional.

Now, let's explore the most **common furnace issues** and how to fix them.

What Are the Common Furnace Problems and How Can You Fix Them?

Common **furnace problems** include clogged filters, faulty thermostats, ignition issues, and unusual noises. To fix them, start with simple troubleshooting steps, such as replacing the filter, checking thermostat settings, and inspecting for gas or electrical issues. For more complex problems, such as a faulty blower motor or gas leak, it's best to call an [HVAC and plumbing company](#) in Derry, NH. Regular maintenance can help prevent most furnace issues.

Let's break down the 7 most **common furnace issues** and discuss how to fix them.

1. Clogged Air Filters: The Silent Heater Killer

A clogged air filter restricts airflow, causing your furnace to work harder and resulting in higher energy bills. Replace the filter every 1-3 months to prevent this issue from occurring. Using high-efficiency filters ensures smooth operation, while regular maintenance helps prevent common furnace issues. If problems persist, contact a **furnace repair service in Derry, NH** for further assistance.

Here's how to address it:

- **Replace the filter regularly:** A clogged filter can increase energy bills and lead to overheating. Replace it every 1-3 months to keep your furnace running efficiently.
- **Use high-efficiency filters:** These filters trap more particles, improving air quality and ensuring your furnace runs smoothly.

- **Ensure proper airflow:** Keep the filter area clean to avoid debris buildup, which can obstruct airflow.
- **Schedule regular maintenance:** Professional furnace troubleshooting can catch hidden issues before they become major problems, maintaining long-term efficiency.

By following these steps, you'll keep your furnace running smoothly and prevent unnecessary repairs, which can help you save money on energy bills.

2. Faulty Thermostat: No Heat, No Comfort

[A malfunctioning thermostat](#) can cause your furnace to either not turn on or fail to reach the desired temperature. Since the thermostat controls the furnace's heating cycles, any issues can lead to discomfort and higher energy bills.

Here's how to fix it:

- **Check the settings:** Ensure the thermostat is set to "heat" mode, and the temperature is set higher than the current room temperature.
- **Replace the batteries:** For battery-powered thermostats, replace the batteries to prevent malfunctioning.
- **Clean the sensor:** Dust and debris can affect sensor accuracy. Gently clean it to maintain optimal performance.
- **Upgrade to a smart thermostat:** Smart thermostats offer better control over your heating system, allowing you to optimize energy usage and avoid common issues.

Regular thermostat checks can prevent unnecessary furnace repairs and ensure your home remains comfortable.

3. Tripped Circuit Breaker or Power Loss: Furnace Won't Start

A tripped breaker is a common and straightforward issue that can prevent your furnace from turning on. If your furnace isn't starting, the first thing to check is the circuit breaker. Resetting it may resolve the issue, but if the problem recurs, further **furnace troubleshooting** or professional assistance may be necessary.

Here's how to fix it:

- **Reset the breaker:** Turn the breaker off completely, then back on.
- **Check for overloads:** If the breaker trips again, there may be an underlying electrical issue that requires professional assistance.
- **Inspect the wiring:** Faulty wiring can cause repeated tripping. An expert should address this.

Expert Tip: Furnace troubleshooting can often resolve issues like this, but for persistent problems, it's important to consult a HVAC and plumbing company in Derry, NH, to ensure safety and proper function

4. Pilot Light or Ignition Problems: Furnace Won't Ignite

If your furnace won't ignite, the issue might be a pilot light or ignition problem. Start by relighting the pilot light or inspecting the ignitor. If these steps don't work, a malfunctioning ignitor or gas supply issue might require further **furnace troubleshooting** or professional repair for a lasting solution.

Solution:

- **Check the pilot light:** If it's out, follow the manufacturer's instructions to relight it.
- **Inspect the ignitor:** If the pilot won't light, it could be an ignitor issue that may require replacement.

- **Check the gas supply:** Ensure there's no interruption in the gas supply that could affect ignition.

If the issue persists, it's best to seek professional **furnace repair services in Derry, NH**, to ensure your furnace is properly repaired.

5. Unusual Noises: Furnace Sounds Like It's Struggling

Hearing strange noises, such as banging, squealing, or rattling, from your furnace often indicates underlying issues that require attention. These sounds should not be ignored as they may affect your furnace's performance.

Here's what to do:

- **Squealing noises:** Could be a worn-out blower belt.
- **Banging noises:** May be caused by duct issues or ignition problems.
- **Rattling sounds:** Check for loose parts or components that need tightening.

If the issue continues, professional furnace troubleshooting and repair can prevent further damage to your system.

6. Foul Odors: Is Your Furnace Making a Rotten Egg Smell?

Unusual smells, such as burning or rotten egg odors, coming from your furnace are signs of underlying issues. While some odors may be harmless, a rotten egg smell often indicates a gas leak, which is a serious safety concern. If you detect this odor, turn off the furnace immediately and contact a professional for further inspection.

Solution:

- **Burning smell:** Likely caused by a dirty air filter or malfunctioning blower motor.
- **Rotten egg smell:** Indicates a gas leak, a serious safety hazard that needs immediate action.

- **Turn off the furnace:** If you detect a gas leak, shut off the furnace and contact your gas company or an HVAC professional immediately.

If the odors continue or intensify, it's crucial to have a professional inspect your furnace to address any potential hazards and restore its proper functioning.

7. Blower Motor Problems: No Airflow or Constant Blowing

If your furnace isn't blowing air or the fan is constantly running, the blower motor might be malfunctioning. Addressing this **furnace problem** early can prevent further damage and maintain your furnace's efficiency.

Here's what to do next:

- **Check for blockages:** Ensure no obstructions are blocking airflow in the ducts or vents.
- **Inspect the blower motor:** A failing motor may require repair or replacement.
- **Check the fan belt:** A worn-out fan belt can affect fan performance and needs replacement.

Professional **furnace troubleshooting** ensures long-term efficiency and prevents future issues with the blower motor.

Why Daigle Plumbing is the Leading Furnace Repair Service in Derry, NH

As we've seen, many **furnace problems** can be resolved through simple troubleshooting; however, some issues require expert attention to ensure your system operates efficiently and safely. Persistent furnace issues, such as recurring breakdowns or inefficiency, can lead to increased energy bills and discomfort. Daigle Plumbing offers comprehensive furnace repair services in Derry, NH, ensuring your heating system operates at peak performance.

Why Choose Daigle Plumbing?

- **Experienced Technicians:** Over 40 years of expertise in heating systems.
- **Customer-Centric Approach:** Commitment to transparent pricing and customer satisfaction.
- **Local Presence:** Proudly serving the Derry community with a deep understanding of local needs.

Don't let **furnace problems** disrupt your comfort. [Contact Daigle Plumbing](#) at **603-434-6353** for reliable [furnace repair services](#) in Derry, NH.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What should I do if I smell gas near my furnace?

If you detect a gas odor, immediately turn off the furnace, leave the area, and contact your gas company or a professional HVAC technician for assistance.

2. How can I troubleshoot common furnace issues?

Begin by checking the thermostat settings, replacing dirty air filters, inspecting the pilot light or ignition system, ensuring the circuit breaker is on, and listening for unusual noises.

3. When should I call a professional for furnace repairs?

If basic troubleshooting doesn't resolve the issue, or if you notice gas odors, strange noises, or persistent problems, it's time to consult a professional HVAC technician.

4. How often should I replace my furnace filter?

It's recommended to replace your furnace filter every 1–3 months, depending on the type of filter and usage, to maintain optimal airflow and efficiency.

5. What could cause my furnace to stop producing heat?

Potential causes include a tripped circuit breaker, a dirty air filter, a malfunctioning thermostat, a faulty pilot light or ignition, or issues with the gas supply.

Final Thoughts

Furnace problems can range from simple annoyances to major disruptions that impact your comfort. By understanding the most common issues and knowing when to call in the experts, you can keep your furnace running efficiently throughout the entire winter. Regular maintenance and timely repairs are key to avoiding costly breakdowns. If you encounter furnace issues in Derry, NH, [Daigle Plumbing, Heating & Cooling](#) is here to assist with expert troubleshooting and repairs.

Don't let furnace issues leave you in the cold. Contact Daigle Plumbing at **603-434-6353** today and stay warm and comfortable throughout the season!