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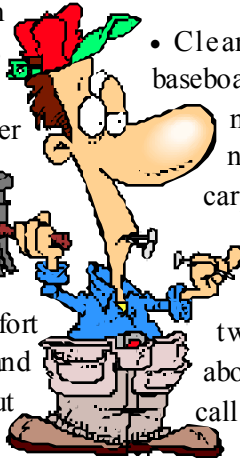
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Heating Info for Do It Yourselfers

Heating and cooling your home uses more energy and drains more energy dollars than any other system in your home. Typically, 44% of your utility bill goes for heating and cooling. No matter what kind of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning system you have in your house, you can save money and increase comfort by properly maintaining and upgrading your equipment. But remember, an energy-efficient furnace alone will not have as great an impact on your energy bills as using the whole-house approach. By combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with appropriate insulation, weather proofing, and thermostat settings, you can cut your energy bills in half.



Heating Tips

- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable.
- Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as needed.
- Clean warm air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
- Bleed trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season; if in doubt about how to perform this task, call a professional.
- Place heat-resistant radiator reflectors between exterior walls and the radiators.
- Use kitchen, bath, and other ventilating fans wisely; in just 1 hour, these fans can pull out a houseful of warmed or cooled air. Turn fans off as soon as they have done the job.
- Keep draperies and shades open on south-facing windows during the heating season to allow sunlight to enter your home; close them at night

to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.

- Close an unoccupied room that is isolated from the rest of the house, such as in a corner, and turn down the thermostat or turn off the heating for that room or zone. However, do not turn the heating off if it adversely affects the rest of your system. For example, if you heat your house with a heat pump, do not close the vents – closing the vents could harm the heat pump.
- Select energy-efficient equipment when you buy new heating equipment. Your contractor should be able to give you energy fact sheets for different types, models, and designs to help you compare energy usage. Look for the ENERGY STAR® label. The ENERGY STAR® is a program of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designed to help consumers identify energy-efficient appliances and products.

Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in his shoes. That way if he gets angry, he'll be a mile away and barefoot.

Household Heating Systems

Although there are several different types of fuels available to heat our homes, about half of us use natural gas.

7 things you should never say in a job Interview

By Kaitlin Madden, CareerBuilder Writer

You dry cleaned your suit. You have a dozen copies of your résumé, just in case. You arrived early -- but not *too* early. You silenced your cell phone. You made small talk with the receptionist, and you're pretty sure the two of you will be best friends one day. Now, you're about to confidently head into an interview for a job you're dying to land.

Don't ruin it all by saying any of the following to your interviewer.

1. "My last boss was an idiot"

No matter how terrible your last boss was, or how glad you are to be free of your previous company, keep it to yourself. Not only will you look immature and negative if you start griping, but you also never know whom your interviewer is connected to. Your interviewer and your former boss may be old fraternity brothers, for all you know.

Do not gossip or speak badly about anyone you've worked with or for, even if they're currently serving time in state prison for what they did. Remember, it's all a test. Be graceful and polite; you could be talking about [his or her] brother-in-law.

2. "Yes." "Yes." "Yes." "No."

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ADDRESS	BED/BATH	SQ. FT.	LISTED PRICE
8027 Kingswood Drive	2/2	1628	\$ 174,900
2236 Shaw Street	4/2	1617	\$ 129,900
8650 Adamstown Way	4/3	2590	\$ 242,900
9887 Tarzo Way	4/3	1905	\$ 214,900
2420 Rock Dove Way	4-5/3	2549	\$ 254,900

You shouldn't be using one-word answers. An interview is your time to convince the employer that you have the qualifications for the job. Even if the questions don't seem open-ended, answer them as if they are. You don't need to drone on and on, but use every chance you get to prove why you're the right person for the job.

You want to use as much color and detail as possible when describing your background, experience and your professional journey, but without being long-winded because, in reality, it's about your skill set and your valuable experience and expertise. Be specific: Use names, dates and places.

3. "Let me tell you what I think about religion and politics ..."

Like a first date, an interview is no time to bring up religion or politics. If these touchy subjects can spark heated debates among even the closest of friends, imagine what kind of argument you could get into with a stranger.

When being interviewed for a job, deciding what to say and what to keep to yourself has always been challenging. Unless you're going for a job as a pastor or rabbi, it's best to steer clear of religious tenets. Ditto for politics; unless it's a key part of the job, it's best to avoid sharing political opinions.

4. "Of course I know HTML coding/ my way around China/ the nuances of quantitative behavioral finance!"

An interview is not the place to embellish your work or personal experience. If an interviewer asks you about something you don't have experience with, fess up and tell him how willing and able you are to learn new things. If you claim to be something you're not, chances are you'll be found out sooner or later, maybe not during the interview process, but when you find yourself lost in the middle of China a few months after landing the job, your gig will be up.

5. "Hey man, do you want to grab a drink after this?"

No matter how well you hit it off with your interviewer or how great your conversation goes, your interviewer is not your friend -- even if you find out you're both getting married on the same day or you're both obsessed with college football. The relationship is still a professional one, so resist the urge to spill too many personal or off-topic details, or to start calling your interviewer "buddy," "girl," "hon" or "man."

6. "Hah ahaaa! AAAAAha aah ahaaa!"

OK, so someone cracked a joke. It's probable that in the duration of your professional career, you'll come across an interviewer with a good sense of humor. It's even OK to laugh at a joke made during the interview. Just don't *die* laughing. No one looks professional with cackle-induced teary eyes, teeth and gums a-blazing.

7. "I mean, I'm not THAT great"

Now is not the time for modesty, false or otherwise. While you don't want to come across like a used-car salesman, you are there to sell yourself. Know in your bones you have an awesome product, and don't be afraid to sell it.