



Natural Gas Costs Don't Tell The Whole Efficiency Story

Carrier WeatherMaker® Infinity Leads the Industry in Combined Gas, Electrical Energy Efficiency

With the latest average energy costs just released by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the story of escalating utility expenses continues – with the sharpest rise (22 percent) coming in natural gas prices. Since a heating and cooling system can account for 30 to 60 percent of total energy usage in the home, it's more important than ever to understand where your energy dollars are going and which products will help you conserve energy and save money – especially where gas furnaces are concerned.

But most homeowners are unaware that the efficiency ratings on gas furnace labels are calculated without considering a critical factor in overall operating costs – electricity. The AFUE [Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency] percentages – the "miles-per-gallon" rating for gas furnaces – are designed to help consumers compare furnace brands, but the ratings are calculated solely based on natural gas consumption. When the electrical costs of operating the units are added, the overall efficiency picture can change dramatically.

Carrier's [WeatherMaker Infinity](#) furnaces are designed to minimize both natural gas and electricity costs, for true, bottom-line efficiency results. When these two costs are combined, no other manufacturer has lower overall energy consumption in as many applications.



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Industry Leadership

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) requires "EnergyGuide" labels on all furnaces.

The label must include the AFUE rating. Federal law also requires the seller or installer "to make available a fact sheet or directory giving further information about the efficiency and operating cost of this equipment." Consumers are directed to ask for this information. But most don't. As a result, consumers often don't get the benefit of the complete information in the directory published by the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA).

The GAMA Consumers' Directory of Certified Efficiency Ratings for Heating and Water Heating Equipment reports each furnace's AFUE, and also includes information on the units' electricity costs, along with detailed instructions to help you estimate your annual heating requirement and compare the overall operating costs of different models.

Using the latest DOE data and the GAMA efficiency ratings, Carrier leads all other brands, with the lowest total energy consumption in more applications.

ComfortHeat™ Technology

Carrier's WeatherMaker Infinity furnaces use two-stage heating and variable-speed technology to increase efficiency. A patented, intelligent control continuously adjusts the system to precisely match heat delivery to changing conditions in the home, allowing for maximum time in the efficient, low-heat mode. Better combustion allows the system to make the best use of its natural gas fuel, greatly reducing the load on the fan that circulates indoor air. These features account for the Infinity's ability to achieve a high AFUE rating with very low electrical consumption. And the low-speed fan operation makes these units the quietest on the market.

Combining a WeatherMaker Infinity furnace with a Carrier air conditioner, patented [Thermidistat™ Control](#) humidifier and air cleaner gives consumers all the benefits of Carrier's patented [ComfortHeat Technology](#): quiet, year-round, energy-efficient comfort; improved indoor air quality; and dramatic humidity reduction. ComfortHeat systems deliver maximum comfort with reduced energy consumption and lower utility bills. The systems are up to 24 times quieter than standard systems, and can remove up to 30 times more moisture than a standard system.

ComfortHeat systems deliver energy-saving benefits without the trade-off of high electrical costs – running in continuous fan mode year-round for less than \$50 annually. Running the system in continuous fan mode promotes even temperatures throughout the home, delivering "free" heating and cooling because it can circulate air from rooms that are too warm to rooms that are too cool without the need to run heating or cooling.