

How to Heat Any Space, Indoors or Outdoors

January 25, 2019

You never know what you are going to get with an Alberta winter. Sometimes, we have a delightfully mild season, and we don't have to worry too hard about the temperature. Other times, we are told we can't be outside for more than 10 minutes. Usually, it's a random combination of both. This week alone is bouncing around between -20 degrees and +10 degrees Celsius. As we watch our cars get buried in the falling snow (which will probably melt in the next 48 hours) let's talk about different ways to keep your living areas, inside and outside, warm this winter.

Fireplace

It's always a little bit of a shame to see a beautiful fireplace that doesn't get used. Whether it is indoors or outdoors, a fireplace not only adds heat, but also a lovely ambience. It's relaxing and sometimes downright mesmerizing. And if you have a wood burning fireplace, you get the added bonus of that amazing smell we all miss throughout the winter.



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Furnace

Let's be honest... there is so much information about furnaces that we could probably go on forever about them. We won't get into all the specifics but there are some things you should know about making the most of using your furnace to heat your home:

1. Keep your filter clean – check the filter regularly (about once a month) and replace it when it has visibly dirt, hair, and debris on it. Otherwise, your furnace will be working harder for less payoff.
2. Use other methods of heating – whether you let the sun shine through the windows, turn on your fireplace, or maybe do some extra baking, let your furnace have a break while something else does the heating for a while
3. Use a programmable thermostat – your home doesn't need to be perfectly warm all the time. Having your furnace run while you are at work all day is a waste of energy and money, especially considering how inexpensive and easy it is to install a newer thermostat.

Heater

Gas or electric, hanging or standing, the effect of a heater on your outdoor living space is huge. In fact, ladies... If you design a deck for your husband complete with a TV for entertainment, BBQ for cooking, and a heater and/or fireplace to keep him warm, you might just never see him again.

At Ultimate, we love our outdoor living spaces, and have a very strong preference for hanging gas heaters. They work quickly, and they work very well. There's something so great about sitting outside on a fall or even winter night and still being nice and cozy.



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Radiant Flooring

What better way to wake up in the morning than to step onto the freezing floor of your bathroom! We're kidding... We prefer to keep our feet warm and use good ol' coffee to perk us up. Carpet is getting less and less popular every day, but sometimes laminate or tile can be chilly. The solution: in floor heating. Not only does it keep your toes nice and warm, it helps keep your home at a consistent temperature so your furnace doesn't have to work overtime on particularly cold days.



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