

20 Minute Test



For

# Low Heat Output/Short Cycling

This assumes the heater is set on the correct heater range

## **Short Cycle Test**

This is a simple test that verifies if your ducting system has adequate air flow to prevent your Heater Coil from short cycling, ultimately causing a reduced heat output (*Fan will continue to run even if the heater coil is cycling on over temp*).

- Turn your thermostat up to 82 F degrees and clamp your <u>Amp Meter around only</u> <u>one</u> of the high voltage wires coming out of the breakers, that feed the CheapHeat Controller.
- Note current reading, reading should be as follows:
  - 1800 Watt setting = 14.5 to 15 amps @ 120 VAC 3750 Watt setting = 14.5 to 15 amps @ 240 VAC 5000 Watts setting = 19.5 to 20 amps @ 240 VAC
- During this test you need to watch the amp meter for a full 20 minutes to make sure that the current reading stays constant (*you may need to open the windows and door to keep the thermostat from shutting off during this test*).
- If at any time during this test <u>while the thermostat is calling for heat</u> the meter reading drops out. That is an indication that you have an airflow related problem causing the system to short cycle, which will result in substantial loss in heating capacity.

### Note:

1. Make sure all of the outside storage compartment doors are closed. This is to make sure the furnace it NOT sucking in outside air, which will through off the test.

2. Be sure you have the correct voltage coming out of the breakers that feed the controller. If you have 120 VAC Test Black to White, if you have 240 VAC. Test Red to Black (*Testing one lead to ground will not give you the correct reading*).

## Possible cause of Short cycling

1. Duct work related problem:

- Check ductwork for holes, leaks, blockages or tears.
  - Torn or leaking ductwork will allow hot air to short cycle back through the return air causing the high temp safety switch to short cycle reducing the output temperature.
  - Blockage in duct work or <u>not enough duct work</u> will cause a reduced air flow across the heater coil causing in a high temperature short cycle by the high temp safety switch, resulting in a lower output temperature of the overall system.
- 2. Not enough ductwork:
- Ductwork minimums specs must be follow as shown in the installation manual (Spec's shown below).
  - The CheapHeat system is a UL listed device we are have safeties in place that will not allow any part of our ductwork to exceed very specific surface

temperatures. Because of that if the ducting minimums are not followed the system ail short cycle on high temperature lock out reducing output temperatures.

- 3. Fan Motor Problem:
- Furnace blower motor running slow or below full load amp draw (*verify blower amps on motor sticker*), this can happen for one of three reasons.
  - The first reason of a restriction in airflow, contrary to popular belief closing off registers will NOT increase airflow to the other registers. The fan will only move so much air as you restrict the air flow all that happens is the fan blade caveats. Which reduces the load o the motor ultimately reducing the current draw (amp load).
  - The second reason is slow blower motor this is usually an internal problem with the motor, on 12 volt direct current motors this is defective brushed, **not uncommon on new motors** (results in low current).
  - The third reason is dried out bearings, this usually happens on a blower that is 1 year or older and will ultimately result in a failed blower motor.

### **Important Note:**

- Since Gas Furnaces are <u>not</u> UL Listed, they are not held to the same high temperature reset standard. In fact, most gas furnaces operated at as much as a 100 F degree higher reset temperature. Because of this when blower motors start to fail due to bad bearings, the problem doesn't show its self as soon as it does on a UL Listed product. There higher reset point can also cover up overheating caused by leaking or restricted duct work.
- 2. Low blower motor amps are caused by one of two issues, airflow restriction or bad brushes.
- **3.** Do not include 2" ducts in minimum ducting requirements (*it takes 4-2' ducts to equal the air flow of one 4" duct*).

#### VERTICAL MOUNTED FURNACES REQUIRE AUTO TEMP LIMIT UPGRADE TO 200°F

(Contact RV Comfort Systems LLC for correct Auto Temp Limit upgrade part)

Max Air Temperature 155° F, Max Static 1.0 in.									
Heat Range Configuration		Max Total CFM	Min # Supply Runs	Single 4" Round Duct			Average all 4" Round Ducts Combined		
	Min Total CFM			Max Length Supply Runs	Max 45° Bends	Max 90° Bends	Max Avg. Length of Runs	Max 45° Bends	Max 90° Bends
1800 Watt	120	300	3	25 Ft	2	1	15 Ft	6	3
3750 Watts	180	400	5	25 ft	2	1	15 Ft	10	5
5000 Watts	240	500	6	25 ft	2	1	15 Ft	12	6

# Air Flow Specifications 4" Round Duct

#### **Air Flow Specifications Rectangle Duct**

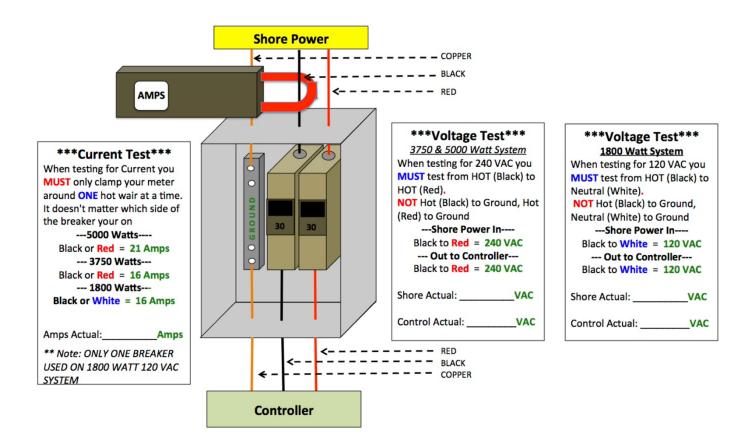
28 Ga. Sheet Metal

Heat Range Configuration	Min Total CFM	Max Total CFM	Min Sq. in Supply Side Trunk line	Min # 4x8 Supply Registers	Min # 4X10 Supply Registers	Min # 2 1/4x10 Supply Registers	Min # 2 1/4x12 Supply Registers
1800 Watts	120	300	40	3	2	3	3
3750 Watts	180	400	60	4	3	5	5
5000 Watts	240	500	80	5	4	6	6

\*\*Gas Furnace motors are Direct Current motors and require a special meter designed to test DC current to make these amperage test on the blower motor.

Atwood/Dometic							
Model	Motor Watts	Current	Voltage				
8516	55	4.6 amps	12.5 VDC				
8520	55	4.6 amps	12.5 VDC				
8525	91	7.6 amps	12.5 VDC				
8531	91	7.6 amps	12.5 VDC				
8535	118	9.8 amps	12.5 VDC				
8935	132	11.0 amps	12.5 VDC				
8940	132	11.0 amps	12.5 VDC				
8900-2450	86/202	7.2/16.8 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFMD/DFMD-16	50	4.2 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFMD/DFMD-20	50	4.2 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFMD/DFMD-25	90	7.5 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFMD/DFMD-30	90	7.5 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFMD/DFMD-35	132	11.1 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFLD/DFLD-35	150	12.5 amps	12.5 VDC				
AFLD/DFLD-40	150	12.5 amps	12.5 VDC				

Suburban						
Model	Motor diameter	Current	Voltage			
SF Series - 20 Mbtu	2.5"	6.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 20 Mbtu	3.0"	8.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 25 Mbtu	2.5"	6.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 25 Mbtu	3.0"	8.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series -30 Mbtu	2.5"	6.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 30 Mbtu	3.0"	6.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 35 Mbtu	2.5	8.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 35 Mbtu	3.0"	9.4 amps	12.5 VDC			
SF Series - 42 Mbtu	3.0"	11.5 amps	12.5 VDC			
SH Series - 35 Mbtu	3.0"	8.2 amps	12.5 VDC			
SH Series - 42 Mbtu	3.0"	10.6 amps	12.5 VDC			
SHD Series - 25/42 Mbtu 3.0" 8.8/12.0 amps 12.5 VDC						
Current draw should be within 5% of factory spec's 10% loss in current = 15% loss in air flow 20% loss in current = 30% loss in air flow						



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