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Smart Thermostats: Controlling your home with new technology



Setting your programmable thermostat can be a daunting task. As a homeowner you are expected to read huge manuals and configure what seems like endless settings. The task is so confusing many homeowners only utilize the most basic settings and often lose out on valuable savings. This has become such an issue that the EPA's energy star rating has been stripped from many thermostat manufacturers.

Why is it so important for me to control my thermostat?

According to one study, 90% of homeowners do not program their thermostats properly. This is extremely concerning when you consider the thermostat on your wall controls 50% of your homes energy bill. Much of the energy controlled by your thermostat is wasted when the heat or air conditioning stays on in an unoccupied home. Proper thermostat configuration can be generated into huge savings. In fact, some new thermostats, labeled as Smart

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Fun Winter Activities

Don't let winter be boring for you and your family! Cold and dark days can make people spend a lot of time inside. LeBlanc Heating has come up with a few indoor activities to keep morale high and fun levels through the roof.

Have a fashion show!

Get everyone to dress up in the silliest clothes they can find, and then make a show out of it, complete with announcements, twirls, music, and poses. The winner is the family member who manages to stay in character the whole way through.

Build a fort!

Everyone loves a rainy day fort, so get some boxes, cushions, blankets and pillows together in the living room and see how big and comfortable a structure you can build! Bonus tip – the best forts contain entire mattresses and have signs on the door.

Spice up a board game!

Play a family favorite board game, but make it so that the loser has to do something useful, like dishes, or silly, like sing a song in front of everyone. You'll be amazed how much more energy the kids will put into the game when there's something, no matter how small, at stake!

Plan a bake-off!

Think up some great cakes, cupcakes, cookies or muffins, and get everyone together to bake them, preferably as messily as possible! Then you can all try each one, and decide whose idea came out the best. Really though, with cake, everyone's the winner.

Have an indoor picnic!

Get a blanket, get some nice finger food, dress up in shorts, t-shirts and sunglasses and have a summer's day picnic in the middle of the living room! The best part of this is no wasps.



\$ 129 Oil Furnace Tune-Up
 Expires 4/1/2013. One coupon per customer.
 May not be combined with any other offer. Must be completed before expiration date.

\$ 89 Gas Furnace Tune-Up
 Expires 4/1/2013. One coupon per customer.
 May not be combined with any other offer. Must be completed before expiration date.

Ginger Cookies - www.allrecipes.com

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup margarine, softened
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water

- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2 tablespoons white sugar



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Sift together the flour, ginger, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, and salt. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, cream together the margarine and 1 cup sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, then stir in the water and molasses. Gradually stir the sifted ingredients into the molasses mixture. Shape dough into walnut sized balls, and roll them in the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar. Place the cookies 2 inches apart onto an ungreased cookie sheet, and flatten slightly.
3. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven. Allow cookies to cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container.

Smart Thermostats

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Thermostats can save homeowners up to 20% on their energy consumption.

What is a Smart Thermostat?

Imagine a thermostat that was intelligent enough to program itself. Such a device would only exist in homes of the future, right? Not necessarily, there is a new breed of thermostat entering the HVAC market place that does just that. In fact, LeBlanc Heating sells multiple brands of these so called Smart Thermostats.

The Nest

The Nest pictured above is a stunning, sleek and modern thermostat. Developed by the same guy who created the iPod, the Nest is every bit as smart as it is beautiful. The Nest exploits sophisticated algorithms and sensors to determine energy saving tactics. It senses patterns such as work schedules and modulates temperatures accordingly. The true beauty of this thermostat is found in its simplicity, you won't find sophisticated manuals with pages of settings. Instead the Nest monitors your lifestyle for one week; it records when you turn it up and when you turn it down. It takes what you have taught it and creates a personalized schedule for your home. Eventually, you will hardly need to touch your thermostat. Nest will use "Nest Sense" to decipher your temperature needs. If that isn't enough to satisfy your inner nerd, the Nest is wireless and internet equipped. What does that mean for you? Well for starters you can control your Nest from anywhere in the world. You can log into your thermostat from your computer or your phone to adjust temperatures or analyze your energy history and savings. LeBlanc Heating sells Nest online at LeBlancHVAC.com/store.

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Did you know?

- Ancient Rome had amazing ancient heating systems which used furnaces and ducts to heat the floors and walls!
- People started using huge industrial blast furnaces to melt metal as early as the 14th century.
- Upgrading to an energy-efficient furnace could save you up to 25% of your heating expenses!
- Some thermostats can now be operated remotely by your smart phone thus allowing you to adjust temperatures when no one's around!
- A little bit of research into passive heating by using the sun and some well-positioned windows could save you huge amounts off your heating bills!
- HVAC stands for Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning.

Sudoku Challenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | | 3 | | 5 | | | 7 |
| | | 5 | 9 | | | 3 | 8 | |
| | | | 8 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 2 |
| 2 | | 9 | | | 4 | 7 | | 8 |
| 6 | | 8 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| 1 | | 4 | | | 7 | 6 | | 9 |
| | | | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| | | 6 | 5 | | | 1 | 4 | |
| | 2 | | 4 | | 9 | | | 6 |

Find the answer here leblanchvac.com/sudoku

2012 - 2013 Tax Credits

The Federal Government reinstated the 2011 tax credits for HVAC equipment purchased in 2012 or new equipment installed in 2013. For more information call us at 603-623-0412 or read more at www.LeBlancHVAC.com.

Happy New Year 2013

TAX
CREDITS

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About LeBlanc Heating



At LeBlanc Heating we strive to provide the best products and services to our customers at affordable prices.

We offer the following services:

- HVAC Maintenance
- HVAC Troubleshooting
- A/C Installations
- Furnace Installations
- Boiler Installations
- Water Heater Installations

We are happy to help with installation, maintenance, and repairs. Contact us today to find out how you can have a more comfortable home tomorrow!

www.LeBlancHVAC.com or 603-623-0412

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Smart Thermostats

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Honeywell

Honeywell also stepped into this growing market. The Honeywell Prestige smart thermostat comes with an HD display, the ability to control multiple devices such as humidifiers and dehumidifiers. Prestige is equipped with seven day programming, and all the goodies that come with the other systems. Why not get something that's easy to use, visually appealing and operable from anywhere?

LeBlanc Heating both sells and installs all makes of Smart thermostats so if you discover a brand which we have not listed don't hesitate to give us a call!

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