



How to maintain Room ACs

A 10-step guide for consumers

Timely maintenance of your AC is essential for its well-functioning! You can use the following schedule to time your AC servicing every year:











10 Simple steps



technicians need to follow while servicing your AC.



Measure current, voltage, and earthing at the start of every service.











Clean the AC filter with a vacuum cleaner or wash it with water and let it dry.















Clean the condenser coils using a metal brush and a suction pump.



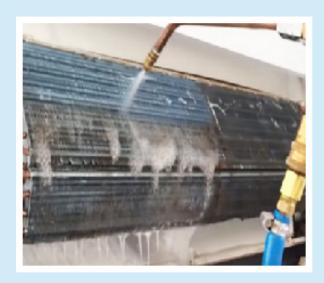




In addition to the above, at least once a year, a proper cleaning agent should be used to clean the condenser coil.





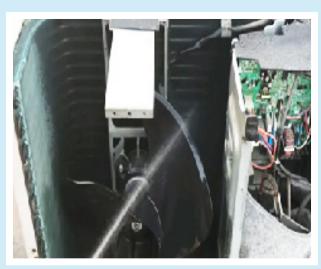




For the outdoor unit of your AC, clean fan blades and check for any damage. For very old ACs, lubricate the fan motors/ bearings.









After cleaning and drying the outdoor unit, examine suction pipe insulation and replace, if needed.

The suction line of a typical split AC is labelled in the image below.

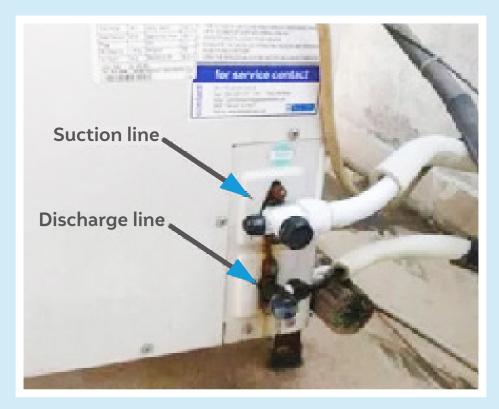


Image source: (Karhana 2017)



Inspect refrigerant gas, lubricant, and oil levels.

Do a leak test to check for refrigerant gas
leakage points using a soap bubble test.

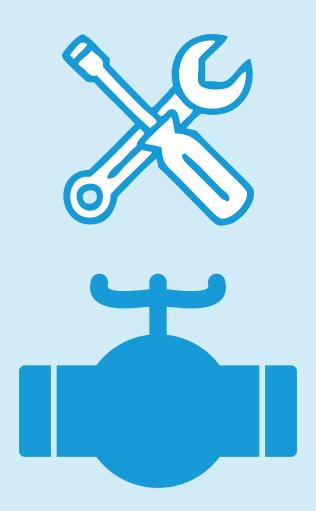






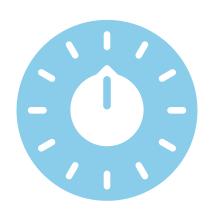


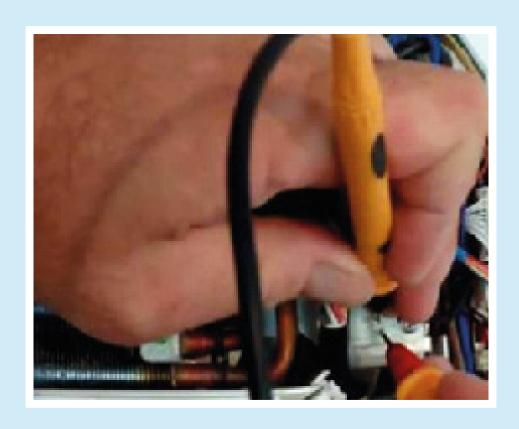
Ensure that all 2-way and 3-way service valves are properly capped.





Check thermostat for proper functioning.

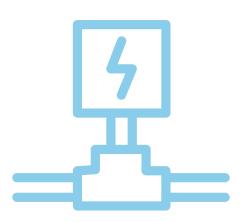






Check all wiring and electrical connections.

Also, check the capacitors for proper values of capacitance.



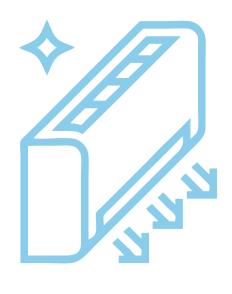








At the end of the servicing, check for proper values of current, voltage, and earthing of the AC.









Sources: GIZ 2013; correspondence with Mr Sukhwinder Singh Sohel

All images, unless specified otherwise, have been compiled by Mr Sukhwinder Singh Sohel

Note:

This is a part of an ongoing study on servicing practices in Indian households.

For any further information please email us at shikha.bhasin@ceew.in

References

GIZ. 2013. Good Practices in Installation and Servicing of Room Air Conditioners - RAC Technicians Handbook. Germany: GIZ GmbH.

Karhana, Kanishk. 2017. "How Is AC Gas Filling Done? The Complete Guide". *Ideas by Mr Right* (blog). September 26. https://www.mrright.in/ideas/appliances/ac/how-is-ac-gas-filling-done/.

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