

PRINCIPAL EXHAUST FANS

Principal exhaust fans are a required component of all new homes built in Alberta and this requirement is enforced by building inspectors since September 1, 1998. The principal exhaust fan is a general exhaust fan, which is normally located centrally in a house either in the hallway or bathroom. It is electrically interlocked with the furnace fan.

Using the principal exhaust fan:

- There is a programmable control installed to control the off-on cycles of the principal exhaust fan. The programmable feature of this control allows you to adjust the program to suit your needs. When control is in the “on mode” the system provides a supply of fresh air from outdoors via the fresh air intake pipe and eliminates stale air to the outdoors via the principal exhaust fan.
- Turning the control switch to the unoccupied, “off” position shuts down both the principal exhaust fan AND the furnace fan. The operating of this unit does not interfere with the heating cycle of the furnace.
- The system is designed to provide better indoor air quality and control the build-up of humidity. Your home is constructed and furnished with a lot of man-made material that will continue to off gas long after possession.
- The system **SHOULD** be in operation at all times, especially when the house is occupied as people normally add some measure of moisture and contaminants to the indoors via cooking, showers, baths, laundry and even breathing.
- Construction techniques have evolved over time to produce a tighter more energy efficient home. This tighter better sealed structure requires more ventilation than homes of days gone by as most of the air leaks that contributed to the overall ventilation have been eliminated.