



Furnace Age and Condition Worksheet

Fill this in before you talk to anyone about repairing or replacing.

Step 1: find the facts

Brand

Model number

Serial number

Install date (installer sticker)

Last professional service

The rating plate is a metal or foil label on the side of the cabinet or just inside the front panel. Photograph the whole plate instead of transcribing it. Many installers also leave a sticker with the install date, which tells you something the serial number cannot.

Step 2: tick anything that applies

- ☐ Two or more repairs in the last two winters
- ☐ Rooms that used to be comfortable are now cold
- ☐ Gas usage climbing year over year for the same month
Compare like for like, not against last month.
- ☐ New rattles, groans, or a blower audible through the floor
- ☐ A technician has mentioned a part being discontinued or on backorder
- ☐ Rust or staining on the cabinet, venting, or base
Worth a same-week call.

☐ **It runs in short bursts and still leaves cold rooms**

Possible sizing or airflow issue.

Step 3: what your ticks suggest

None ticked	Keep up the annual service and the filter schedule. Nothing else to do.
One ticked	Worth raising at your next service visit so it gets looked at properly.
Two or more ticked	Worth getting an assessment, and worth doing it outside the coldest months while you still get to choose the timing.
Rust, staining, or a suspected cracked heat exchanger	Book promptly. Do not wait for the next scheduled visit.

This worksheet cannot see your equipment

It organises what you already know so a conversation with a licensed technician starts from facts instead of guesses. It is not a diagnosis and it does not predict how long anything will last.

Step 4: questions worth asking

- ☐ **How old is it, from the serial number?**
- ☐ **Is the failed part a consumable or a major component?**
- ☐ **Was this unit sized correctly for the house?**
- ☐ **What does the heat exchanger look like?**
- ☐ **Can I have both quotes in writing, repair and replace?**

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This guide covers homeowner-level checks only. Work on gas-fired appliances in Ontario is restricted to licensed technicians. If you smell gas or a carbon monoxide alarm sounds, leave the building first and call from outside. Conditions vary by home and equipment, so treat this as general guidance and confirm anything specific with a licensed technician.