Furnace Blowing Cold Air: A Quick Diagnostic Guide

What to check yourself, and when to call a professional

Check This First

1. **Thermostat mode and fan setting**
   Confirm the mode reads heat and the fan is set to auto rather than on.
2. **Air filter**
   A visibly dirty or clogged filter is worth replacing before anything else.
3. **Supply vents**
   Make sure vents around the house are open and not blocked by furniture or rugs.

When to Call a Professional

1. **Pilot light or ignition issue**
   Older systems with a standing pilot that will not relight need a technician.
2. **Repeated shutdowns**
   A furnace that keeps cutting out after a brief run is signaling a safety control issue, not a one-time glitch.
3. **Any gas or burning smell**
   Treat this as urgent rather than something to troubleshoot yourself.

Before the Technician Arrives

1. **Note what you already checked**
   List the thermostat setting, filter condition, and vent status you confirmed.
2. **Describe the pattern**
   Mention whether the air is always cold or only sometimes, and how long it has been happening.
3. **Mention any smells or sounds**
   Even a smell that has since gone away is useful information for the diagnosis.

This guide is general troubleshooting information and is not a substitute for an in-person inspection by a qualified technician.

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This guide is general information, not professional advice. Requirements, products, and site conditions vary by property and change over time. Confirm the details that apply to your project with a qualified professional before you decide. Just Air HVAC is not responsible for decisions made solely on the basis of this guide.