Whole-Home Humidifier Decision Checklist

Signs to check before you decide, and what installation involves

Signs worth checking this winter

1. **Static shocks and dry skin**

   Notice when they start and how often they happen. A pattern every winter is worth acting on.

2. **Cracking or gapping wood floors and trim**

   Look at hardwood floors, doors and furniture joints for seasonal gaps that close up again by summer.

3. **Window condensation or fog**

   Check windows on cold mornings. Heavy condensation points to a ventilation or moisture issue to solve first.

4. **How many portable units you already run**

   Count them and note how often you refill and clean each one.

Questions to bring to an installer

1. **Which system fits my furnace or air handler**

   Ask whether a bypass, fan-powered or steam unit suits the equipment already in place.

2. **How is the unit sized to my home**

   Ask what square footage and construction details go into the sizing.

3. **What does the maintenance schedule look like**

   Ask what needs cleaning or replacing, and how often.

4. **How will humidity be controlled through the season**

   Ask how the humidistat adjusts as outdoor temperature changes.

What installation typically involves

1. **A connection to the furnace or air handler ductwork**

   Most whole-home systems tie into the supply and return plenum.

2. **A water line and drain**

   The unit needs a water supply and a way to drain what it does not use.

3. **A humidistat control**

   This lets the system respond to indoor conditions as the season changes.

Bring this checklist to your next HVAC conversation.

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