

HOW LONG SHOULD MY SYSTEM LAST?

A well-maintained DFW system should reach **15 years**. When systems fall short, it's almost never the climate — it's poor installation, neglected maintenance, or unnecessary early replacement.

Age	Guidance
Under 8 yrs	Repair is almost always the right call.
8–12 yrs	Evaluate condition and repair cost.
12–15 yrs	Weigh repair vs. replacement quote.
15+ yrs	Replacement is reasonable if failing.

REPAIR VS. REPLACE

Consider repair if:

- System is under 12 years old
- Issue is isolated (capacitor, motor, sensor)
- System has been well-maintained
- Repair cost is a few hundred dollars

Consider replacement if:

- Major component failed out of warranty
- Frequent recurring breakdowns
- System is 15+ years and declining
- Efficiency has dropped significantly

The "Rule of 5000" is a sales tool, not a decision tool. It ignores maintenance history and install quality. Don't let it be the reason you replace your system.

SEASONAL CHECKLIST

SPRING — Before Cooling Season

- Replace air filter
- Clear debris from condenser unit
- Schedule tune-up & refrigerant check
- Test thermostat operation
- Clear condensate drain line

FALL — Before Heating Season

- Replace air filter
- Test heat before first cold front
- Inspect heat exchanger (get 2nd opinion if told it's cracked)
- Check gas connections & burner
- Verify CO detector is working

YEAR-ROUND

- Check filter monthly
- Keep 2ft clearance around outdoor unit
- Listen for unusual noises
- Watch for electric bill spikes

FREE SECOND OPINIONS

If you're quoted a repair over \$500 — or told your system is dead — call us before you commit. Second opinions are always free at No Sweat. Our standard diagnostic fee is \$79, but if another company told you that you need a new system, there's no charge to get the truth.



Roy & Danielle Cook • Co-Owners, No Sweat Experts