

## HOME TIPS: Dryer Vent



1. DRYER VENT



2. REPLACEMENT VENT HOOD



3. FLEX METAL DRYER VENT DUCT

Summer seems to have finally arrived. It is time to give one of your hard working appliances some care and hopefully a rest. Your electric or gas clothes dryer needs to have its vent ducting cleaned out (#1). This means removal of all the old lint etc. that has accumulated over the winter. Cleaning out this vent/ducting will help dry your clothes faster and make your dryer work better, as it does not get as hot. Remember to replace any missing louvers, or if your vent hood is cracked/damaged, it should be replaced with a new one which is quite inexpensive (#2). Hopefully, none of you are still using the white flex-vinyl ducting (which is no longer approved for use with dryers) as it can be a fire hazard. A flexible metal ducting is your best choice (#3). Remember that any kinks in your vent ducting will cause lint to build up and impede the performance of your dryer. Any holes in your dryer ducting will allow dust/lint to escape into your home. Minor holes can usually be covered with a foil tape product. This is typically an easy maintenance job which can be done by most people. An air compressor makes this job very quick and easy. As always, if you are unsure about your skill level, or don't have the proper tools, you should hire a professional for this task. A reputable furnace and duct cleaning company can do the job as well when they are cleaning and servicing your furnace, but you must typically ask for this additional service.



4. INDOOR/OUTDOOR RETRACTABLE CLOTHES LINE IDEAS

With warm and dry weather here, it is a good time to give that "energy hog" clothes dryer a long rest. Most of us are looking for ways to reduce energy costs and add "**GREEN**" practices to our day-to-day living. Clothes lines are a great way to accomplish this (#4). The designs and styles have changed a lot since the days of your Mothers permanently installed and visually unappealing and squeaking wheel clothes lines. Above are a couple of inexpensive 'retractable clothes line' options. These can be installed outdoors, or in laundry rooms, basements, bathrooms, storage rooms, or where ever you have space. Apartment and Condominium dwellers can also enjoy the benefits of these clothes lines.

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