GETTING THE HEATING CAPACITY YOU NEED

It is important to adequately calculate the heating capacity required to heat your room. An underpowered heating system will reduce the lifespan of your heater.

The rule of thumb for calculating adequate heating capacity is 10W/sq. ft. (107.64W/sq. m). These calculations are based on a room with an 8 foot ceiling, R12 wall insulation, and R20 ceiling insulation.

The suggested heating capacity could then maintain room temperature at 21°C (70°F) when the outdoor temperature is at –25°C (–13°F). The heating capacity required will vary depending on the area and volume of the room, the layout and orientation of the residence, its geographic location, type of construction, insulation and airtightness levels, as well as the size, type, and orientation of the windows, etc. You may also wish to consult a specialist to assess heat loss.

It is important not to install an underpowered heating system: this will cause the unit to run continuously and its parts to wear out prematurely.

CHOOSING A SUITABLE LOCATION

We recommend installing electric heaters close to exterior doors or windows to counter uncomfortable cold drafts and prevent window condensation.

While not strictly mandatory, we recommend installing electric heaters below windows or as close as possible to exterior doors because that is where most heat loss occurs. By installing the heater close to the source of cold air you can counter uncomfortable cold drafts and prevent window condensation.

When installing your heater always follow minimum clearance guidelines described in the installation instructions.

CONTROLLING YOUR HEATER

For optimal comfort we highly recommend using a wall-mounted electronic thermostat to regulate your electric heaters.

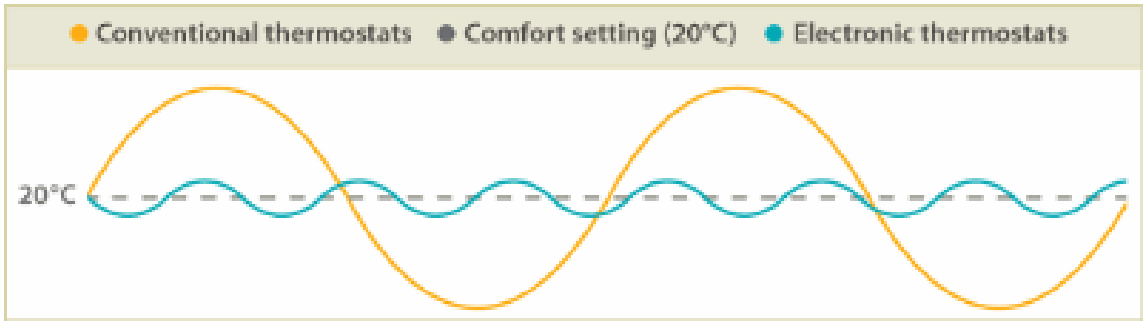
For optimal comfort we highly recommend using a wall-mounted **electronic thermostat** to regulate your electric heaters. Thermostats are more accurate when installed on an interior wall where sensors aren't affected by the colder temperature of exterior walls. It will thus ensure more uniform room temperature and greater overall comfort.

Superior comfort isn't the only reason to opt for electronic thermostats: they'll also save you money on your heating bill. Hydro-Québec estimates that electronic thermostats deliver savings up to 10% on annual heating costs over their mechanical counterparts.

Mechanical thermostats work with two strips of different metals (or alloys) that expand at different rates in response to temperature variations. That means these thermostats do not actually "read" the temperature, and are accurate only to within 2° or 3°C of the setting. This variance gets larger as the thermostat gets older. This somewhat crude system is sometimes nicknamed "saw tooth" heating because the heat output, if graphed, would resemble a set of sharp peaks and valleys rather than a smooth line: the heater works uninterrupted to above the upper setting, then stops and the room cools to below the lower setting, then the cycle begins again.

An electronic thermostat works differently. It reads the room temperature 240 times per hour, enabling it to maintain a much more uniform temperature, within approximately 0.5°C of the set temperature.

The graph below makes the difference clear.



Source : Hydro-Québec

You can save even more—up to 4.5% according to Hydro-Québec studies—by using programmable thermostats and setting them to lower the temperature by 3°C at night and when you are at work.

Source : Global Commander

INSTALLING ELECTRIC HEATING UNITS

Did you know that the law requires that all electric heating units be installed by a qualified electrician?

The law requires that all electric heating units be installed by a qualified electrician in accordance with local and provincial codes. In Quebec you can find an electrician by consulting the directory of master electricians on the website of Corporation des Maîtres Électriciens du Québec (CMEQ).

Log on to https://www.cmeq.org/. For provinces other than Québec, log on to your provincial electrical league to find electrical contractors. For example : Manitoba Electrical League.

AVOIDING CLICKING SOUNDS WITH BASEBOARD HEATERS

Your baseboard heaters make annoying clicking noise?

Baseboard heaters sometimes make clicking sounds. These are caused by the unit's metal reacting to temperature variations: it expands when the heat turns on and contracts when the temperature cools.

In Global Commander Canada baseboard heaters, the element is set on high-temperature nylon supports to eliminate thermal expansion noises.

Another good trick: do not overtighten screws fastening the heater to the wall. After your heater is securely in place, loosen screws half a turn. This will leave room for the metal to expand without making noise.

Likewise, you should leave a space of at least 1/8" (3 mm), between molding and baseboard heater sides.

Using an electronic thermostat will also reduce noise by maintaining a consistent room temperature, which minimizes expansion and contraction.

Source : Global Commander

MAINTAINING GLOBAL COMMANDER CANADA ELECTRIC HEATING PRODUCTS

Smoke from cooking, tobacco or fireplaces, and other types of airborne particles will leave fine particles on the unit that can "bake on," yellowing the finish and sometimes the wall above it.

Global Commander Canada uses an epoxy/polyester powder coating cured in a high-temperature oven to give every product an ultra-durable finish. Even so, smoke from cooking, tobacco or fireplaces, and other types of airborne particles—especially when close to the heating unit and improperly ventilated—will leave fine particles on the unit that can "bake on," yellowing the finish and sometimes the wall above it. To avoid this keep all surfaces clean by regularly wiping them with a soft, non-abrasive cloth.

Once a year, or as needed, remove dust gathered inside the unit with a vacuum cleaner or compressed air.

Remember: Always turn off the power supply at the main service panel before performing cleaning or maintenance on your electric heater.

Source : Global Commander