



**Facts About  
Zone Control**

*How To Improve  
The Comfort  
of Your Home*

## **Introduction**

Zoned temperature control is a concept that has been used in offices and other commercial buildings for many years. It is now becoming increasingly popular for homes because of the comfort, convenience and economy that it offers.

Zone control allows you to heat or cool only those areas of your home that require it, rather than the entire home. Therefore, greater comfort and convenience results, as well as potential energy savings up to 20%.

Without zone control, homeowners have had to rely on one centrally located thermostat to control their entire home. This often resulted in cooler or warmer rooms and uneven temperatures, which caused discomfort.

Many of the new homes being built today would be very difficult to heat or cool comfortably with a conventional single thermostat. That is because of the many special design features that are often included, such as isolated rooms, multiple levels, large window areas, and amenities such as hot tubs.

Now due to new zone control technology, an affordable, highly reliable zone control system compatible with virtually all thermostats can be custom designed for your home. This booklet has been prepared to help acquaint you with the concept of zone control. It contains answers to the most often asked questions regarding this increasingly popular subject.

## **Common Questions Asked About Zone Control Systems**

### **1. What is a zone control system?**

It is a system of more than one thermostat, electrically connected to a control panel which operates a number of dampers in your forced air heating/cooling system. Conditioned air is then distributed to various parts of your home as needed.

### **2. What are the major components of a zone control system?**

Control panel, thermostats and dampers used in conjunction with your existing forced air system.

### **3. What are the primary benefits of a zone control system?**

Comfort, convenience, and energy savings. The system maintains various desired temperatures throughout your home, thereby eliminating the need for constantly resetting your thermostat. Energy savings are accomplished by reducing the energy requirements to seldom used areas of the home; a zone system ensures that only the necessary amount of energy is used throughout the home.

#### **4. Where would a zone control system be installed?**

Wherever the furnace/air conditioning system is located.

#### **5. Who would install a zone control system?**

A qualified heating and air conditioning contractor.

#### **6. Is there an advantage to installing a zone control system in the home as it is being built?**

Yes. It is much easier to run wiring through open framework and between floors, therefore resulting in substantial savings in installation costs. In addition, required ductwork sizing and system balancing are also easier and less expensive to accomplish while the home is under construction.

#### **7. What is the most popular "size" zone control system?**

Usually two, three, or four zones, depending on the home's floorplan which may tend to form separate areas.

For example, a single-story home with a master bedroom on one end, living area in the center and a family room in a separate wing.

Or a two-story home with two or more distinct zones such as an “attic” room or room over the garage, or a two-story with multiple roof lines. A tri-level home is another popular design which may contain a lower level “bonus” room which is ideally suited for zone control.

### **8. Can zone control be installed in an existing home?**

Yes it can. To determine the best way to accomplish this, consult with your heating and air conditioning contractor.

### **9. Would my builder know what type or size zone control system to recommend?**

Probably, since many leading custom home builders, working with their heating contractors, are already recommending and including zone control systems in their homes.

### **10. Is there any service required with a zone control system?**

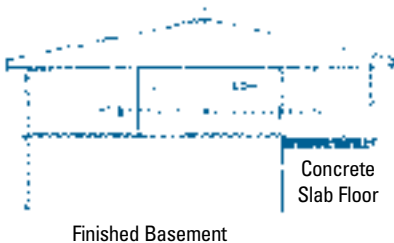
No. If you buy a reputable brand with a published warranty from a qualified heating and air conditioning contractor, you can expect many years of trouble-free performance. Only changes in living habits might make it necessary for system adjustments from time to time.

## 11. Which homes are most likely to need zone control?

Zoning is suggested if a home...

- has multiple levels.
- has a room(s) with unusually large glass area.
- has large, open areas such as a solarium, cathedral ceiling or atrium.
- spreads out in many directions (wings or sprawling ranch style).
- has room(s) in a finished basement or attic.
- has room(s) with a concrete slab floor or exposed floor.
- has only one or two outside walls (earth shelter design).

### Rambling Floor Plan



### Multiple Levels

Bonus Room



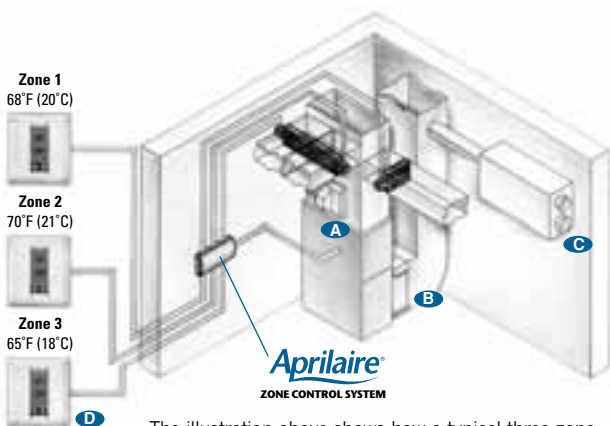
### Expansive Glass Areas



### Atrium Design



# Aprilaire®



The illustration above shows how a typical three zone Aprilaire® Zone Control System would be installed with a furnace. This system incorporates exclusive Flexible Link™ damper technology and a state-of-the-art microprocessor control to assure total system reliability.

Other Aprilaire components have been added which will produce the ultimate in indoor air quality, control, and comfort. These include **A** Automatic Humidifier, **B** High Efficiency Air Cleaner, **C** Fresh Air Exchanger, and **D** Electronic Thermostat. For more information on any of these products, please contact your heating and air conditioning contractor or:

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