

Accessories Before the Fact

It's almost criminal to go into ductless installations underequipped

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Ductless installation involves more than a condenser, evaporator coil, and linesets. North American HVAC manufacturers have been innovative in creating accessories designed to ease and improve installation and maintenance, and some can also help an installation comply with the International Mechanical Code (IMC) and other building codes. With input from RectorSeal Inc., browse this array of accessories to see what may save time now and/or prevent callbacks later. **N**

1 SURGE PROTECTOR

Surge protection for the condenser (particularly for its control board and compressor) isn't just for lightning. Most types of surges can occur at any time, from millisecond transient over-voltages within the building to even utility company invariances.

2 CONDENSATE PUMPS

When gravity draining isn't possible, a condensate pump will help protect property from drain pan overflow. There are specific mini-pumps designed for numerous applications, such as in the drain pan, lineset protection duct run, or elbow. Larger models can be positioned remotely or to the underside of the evaporator coil.

3 CONDENSATE OVERFLOW SWITCH

Another mode of protection against overflowing condensate drain pans: An overflow switch senses a rising condensate level, most likely because of a blocked drain, and shuts down the unit until the blockage is cleared. The International Residential Code (IRC) mandates overflow switches (Section M1411.2.1.1). While pumps are designed to shut the system down when condensate water reaches a dangerous level, condensate overflow sensors are required by IMC because the drain line feeding pump can become blocked.

4 INSULATED CONDENSATE DRAIN HOSE

If not pre-insulated, a condensate hose can sweat itself and drip in nonconditioned spaces such as attics and walls.

5 CONDENSATE PUMPS

Inline condensate drain hose traps will prevent unconditioned air and insects from infiltrating the space. An inline check valve for gravity drain applications is also mandated by the IMC (Section M307.3.4.1).

6 WALL-BRACKET CONDENSER MOUNT

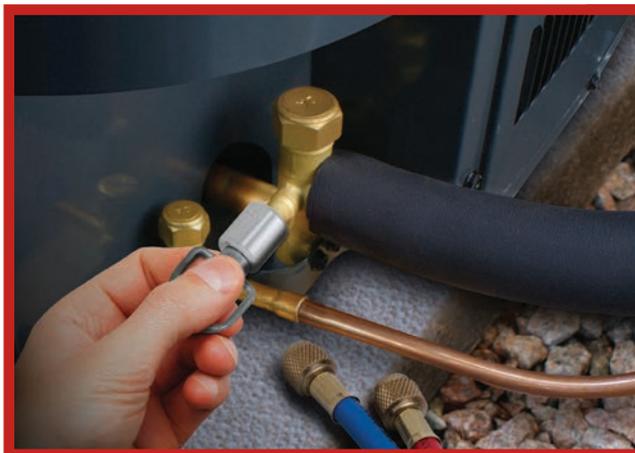
Wall brackets will mount condensers up and away from lawn machines, snow drifts, and flooding. A wall bracket that's hurricane-rated should withstand any kind of weather challenges. There are many other types of brackets made just for ductless condensers.

7 EVAPORATOR CLEANING KIT

For evaporators that have been installed long before project completion, construction dust and dirt can be cleaned out of the coil and blower assembly with a cleaning kit. A typical kit consists of aerosol sprays or liquids designed specifically for sensitive mini split plastic parts, plus a catch-all evaporator bag that will collect cleaning liquids, debris, and overspray and then automatically drain them into a 5-gallon pail.



Single use bag.



8 UV-RESISTANT WRAP FOR LINESETS

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) mandates a UV-resistant, non-adhesive wrap for linesets, because deteriorating lineset insulation is an air conditioning efficiency issue.

9 LINESET PROTECTION DUCT

Polymer UV-resistant lineset duct will protect linesets from weather and animals while also adding a nice aesthetic touch to an installation.

10 FLARE AND SWAGE DRILL BITS

Flaring and swaging with hand tools can split copper tubing or leave microscopic burrs and blemishes that can cause micro refrigerant leaks. Today, there are precision drill bit kits that can add a professional flare and swage in less than five seconds with an impact drill.



11 PRE-INSULATED LINESETS

Lineset foam insulation can be torn and compromised easily when threading through the sharp openings of walls and ceilings. Pre-insulated linesets come with a tough insulation that is durable and has a high insulation R-value. They also include measurement indicators every foot, which can eliminate difficult calculations.

12 EVAPORATOR SUPPORTER

This specially designed evaporator holder hooks onto any brand's mounting wall plate. It can cut job site labor in half, according to the manufacturer, because a second technician isn't needed for supporting the coil during lineset, condensate drain hose, or electrical and cable connections.

13 BIOCIDES TABLETS

Placing tablets in the drain pan can prevent biological debris buildup that can evolve into damaging drain pan blockages.

14 TAMPER-PROOF LOCKING CAPS

The IMC (Section 1101.10) mandates locking Schrader valve caps on an outdoor condenser refrigeration circuit when opened for charging/maintenance checks. The locking caps thwart a growing trend of refrigerant theft and teens who dangerously huff refrigerants (www.inhalants.org) from condensers.

15 FLEXIBLE LINESET CONNECTOR

Maneuvering rigid linesets out of a wall and connecting into the cramped confines of an evaporator is made easier with flexible lineset connectors that can bend without kinking.



16 FLARE GASKET

A further safeguard against compression fitting leaks is a new gasket-like seal designed specifically for making a tight, leak-resistant connection between 45-degree flared tubing connections.

