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Options in Palo Alto Air Conditioning Systems by [Tracy Narvaez](#)

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The generally nice climate of this area means that Palo Alto air conditioning is only used a few weeks of the year. However, those sweltering days are enough to convince most people that they need some kind of cooling system. For those interested in installing an air conditioner, there are several options that might be right for you.

Wall and window a/c units are common. They are mounted, most commonly in a window but sometimes in a wall, and they blow the hot air they create out of the room this way. A/c units also remove water from the air, so these units tend to drip constantly while they are on. Because of this, it is important to make sure they are situated above a surface that will not be harmed.

Portable units function in a similar way to window units, but they have hoses that attach to the window instead of mounting the entire unit in the window. Some models have another hose that drains into a nearby drain, while others have drain pans that need emptying on a regular basis. They are portable, but need to be hooked up in each room they are used in, which limits the ease of this portability.

The right size of unit is important with portable and window models. Most people intuitively understand that a machine that is not powerful enough will be limited in its effectiveness. However, models that are too big will not do as good of a job, either. The calculation to make is the volume of the room the unit will be used in, which requires the square footage and the ceiling height to calculate.

Central a/c units are hooked into the forced air heating system. If you do not already have this type of heating installed, then the installation of the ducts required may be prohibitively expensive or invasive. However, if the ducts are already in place, all that is required is to hook them up to your new central a/c unit.

How often and where you use your air conditioner will determine which option is the best fit for you. Central a/c is important if you are going to cool the entire house on a regular basis, but it is expensive to install. Closing off some of the vents can allow you to avoid wasting energy on rooms that are not being used.

However, if you only want to cool a single room, or will only use the system occasionally, you might be better off with a portable or window model. These machines are significantly cheaper to buy, and will do a fine job if you only want one room cooled off. They are also appropriate if you only use your system a few weeks out of the year.

Finding the right Palo Alto air conditioning choice means determining what you need from it. Window models are great if you don't have the duct work for forced air heating, and are also appropriate for occasional users. Portable and window models are great for people who only want to cool one room at a time. Central air is the most cost-efficient if you will be running the system on a regular basis.

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