

The Complete West Midlands Air Conditioning Buyer's Guide

Prices, brands, planning rules, running costs and the questions that separate a good installer from a risky one. Covering Birmingham, Solihull, Wolverhampton, Coventry, Dudley, Walsall, Worcester and surrounding areas.

01

What air conditioning costs in the West Midlands

Most domestic single-room wall-mounted splits in the Midlands cost between £1,950 and £2,400 fully installed. A two-room system usually sits in the £3,400-£4,200 range, and a whole-house three-room install is typically £4,800-£5,800.

These figures include the indoor unit, outdoor unit, pipework, electrical work, F-Gas certification, and a 10-year warranty. Loft conversions and longer pipe runs can add a few hundred pounds.

Be careful of quotes that look too cheap. If the installer is not F-Gas registered, the warranty is short, or the electrical work is not included, you may pay more later.

02

Best rooms for air conditioning

Bedrooms are the most popular choice. A quiet wall-mounted unit keeps the room at a steady temperature for sleeping and also works as a gentle heater in winter.

Conservatories and garden rooms are next. They overheat in summer and get cold in winter, so a heat-pump-style AC unit that cools and heats is ideal.

Home offices and loft conversions benefit from targeted climate control without the cost of extending the central heating. Open-plan living rooms can also be cooled with a larger single unit or a multi-split system.

03

Which brand should you choose?

For most West Midlands homes we recommend LG, Daikin, Mitsubishi Electric and Samsung. They all have quiet indoor units, reliable outdoor units, and UK-backed warranties.

LG is our top pick for value: strong warranties, good smartphone app control, and neat, modern indoor units. Daikin and Mitsubishi Electric are excellent if you want the quietest possible operation or premium styling.

We do not fit cheap, unknown brands. A £400 unit from a marketplace can cost more in breakdowns and lost warranties than a quality install from day one.

04

Planning permission and building rules

Most domestic wall-mounted air conditioners are permitted development, so you do not need planning permission. The outdoor unit must usually sit within the property boundary and not face the main road in conservation areas.

If you live in a listed building, conservation area, or a flat with a lease, check first. For flats and rentals, the freeholder or landlord must agree. We provide a ready-to-send permission letter for

tenants and landlords.

Your installer must also be F-Gas certified. This is a legal requirement for handling refrigerants. We are F-Gas registered and issue a certificate on every install.

05

How long does installation take?

A single room install is usually completed in one day. Two rooms take a day and a half, and a three-room system typically takes two days.

We do a pre-install survey first to measure the room, choose the right-sized unit, and plan the pipe route. This keeps the install day tidy and predictable.

Our engineers leave the work area clean, run a full performance test, and show you how to use the app and remote before they leave.

06

Running costs and efficiency

Modern inverter air conditioners are far cheaper to run than old portable units. A typical bedroom unit costs roughly £0.15-£0.30 per hour to run, depending on the outside temperature and settings.

Use cooling mode in summer and heating mode in spring and autumn. Heat-pump AC units produce 3-4 units of heat for every unit of electricity they use, so they can be cheaper than electric panel heaters.

Annual servicing keeps efficiency high and protects your warranty. We offer fixed-price service plans from £95 per unit.

07

5 questions to ask any installer

- 1** Are you F-Gas certified and can I see the certificate number?
- 2** Is the electrical work included and signed off properly?
- 3** What warranty do I get on the unit, the labour, and the refrigerant pipework?
- 4** Will you handle the pre-install survey, and what happens if the unit size needs to change?
- 5** Do you offer a fixed price, or could the invoice change on the day?

Ready for a fixed-price quote?

Call 07791 178784, WhatsApp us, or get a quote at coolairmidlands.co.uk. Free home survey, fixed pricing, F-Gas certified engineers, 206+ verified reviews across M3 Trades.

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