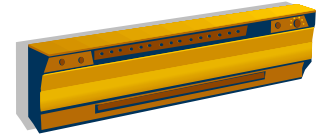




Electric Baseboard Heaters



Baseboard Heaters

All types of baseboard heaters are 100% efficient because all electricity consumed by the heating element is converted to heat. Baseboard heating elements are made up of a wire that is surrounded by an electrical insulator. It is covered with a metal casing, with fins to allow for optimal heat transfer from the element to the circulating air. Some baseboards are surrounded by fluid such as oil or water. To provide even more circulation some baseboard heaters have a quiet, built-in operating fan or blower. Some baseboard heaters can be built into walls but should only be installed into the wall if that specific heater is approved for that type of installation. There are a few specifications for installing a baseboard heater in the wall. They should have proper insulation, in some cases more insulation should be installed to ensure little to no heat loss. When deciding on where to place your heater, attempt to find the places with the greatest amount of heat loss. If you are unable to find such a place then you should place the heater closest to a place of maximum heat loss such as a door or window. For proper installation you must be sure that the unit is chosen to suit the nominal voltage available, also that the equipment be chosen to provide a kilowatt output as close as possible to the heat loss with a maximum variation of -0% to +25% between the kilowatt output and the kilowatt heat loss requirements.

Be sure to allow for adequate space for drapes above the electric heating unit to ensure proper air circulation and reduce risk of hazard. Carpets should not block the baseboard heaters. It is best that the carpet be installed before the heater. Lint from carpets can block the air circulation, so it is important that you vacuum the air intakes and heater elements regularly, especially in heavily carpeted areas. Make sure that the baseboards are fitted tightly to the wall so as not to allow air to circulate behind them. It is important to have a tight fit because if it is not tightly fitted to the wall a process called streaking can occur, this is where the rising warm air from behind the baseboard deposits dust particles, causing a gradual build-up of the airborne material.