

Air Conditioner Installation Pictures

This document is to show how one can install a heat pump and or air conditioning system in their unit. Some things need to be observed when doing this. Those particular items can be found in the Strata's bylaws and the application form for this endeavor. But the basics are this: All cabling must pass through a balcony window. The entire unit must be placed in a non leaking tray. There must be a mechanism in place to deal with any water that the tray prevents from leaking onto and off of the deck.

The x in ACx_ separates the different installations that are shown in the pictures i.e. AC1_, AC2_, and so on.

AC1_1 shows the interior side of this installation. The lower section of the window was removed and a thick plastic insert was installed. The AC installers then cut a hole in a diameter needed to pass through the electrical and plumbing. It was then sealed with an appropriate material.

In AC1_4 you can see that the entire unit is in a sealed tray. There is a blue pump in the lower left of the tray. There is a smaller evaporator tray in the lower right of the big tray. When these items are installed the sales people tend to state that not much water is created that will spill onto the deck. It has been observed that when the system is being used to heat one's unit (heat pump system) in the winter a considerable amount of run off is created. That is why a large tray is needed. As you work your way through the photos take a good look inside the larger trays for the water line inside them. It can be seen on the walls and the outside wall of the evaporator tray too.

AC2_2 shows a different approach to getting plumbing and electrical to the balcony deck. The window was replaced with a corner cut out and an insert installed. Again in AC6_1 the window was replaced. This time a small section of the window was replaced with an insert that went straight across the window. The window sill was then raised.

You may be wondering why some windows have a few lines coming out like AC1_3 and others like AC4_2 have many lines. That is because of the number of cooling/heating devices installed in the unit. Some have one others have four.

AC8_4 and AC9_4 show two units which have no means of capturing or evaporating any kind of condensation or runoff from the units. This is because they are located on the top floor of the building. The balconies of only the top floor units have their own drains in them. They drain to the building's drainage system and not over the side of the deck.

Some owners have said that if they had to do it over again they would change one thing. That would be the placement of the evaporator tray. For the most part this was installed under the unit in the back as shown in AC2_4. This restricts access to it for service or cleaning. This is seen in AC2_3. You can see in AC1_5 there is a control box on top of the evaporator tray. The control box is higher than the bottom of the unit. This prevents one from unplugging it and pulling it forward and out from underneath for simple service or cleaning. AC1_4 is the better option with these things in mind. You have the upper tray to catch any condensation. The upper tray directs water in it to the evaporator as seen in AC4_3. You have the lower tray to catch any overflow. You have the pump to direct that overflow into the evaporator tray.

In AC4_3 one can see four lines emptying into the evaporator tray. 3 are from insuite units. One is from the tray pump which cannot be seen in this picture.