

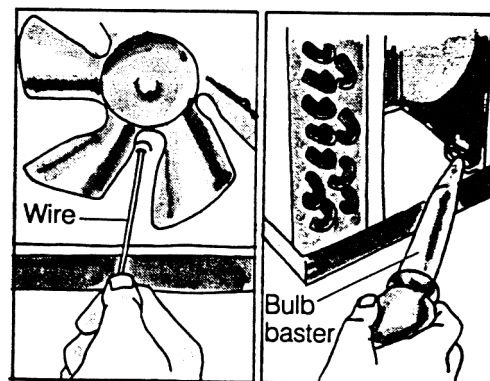
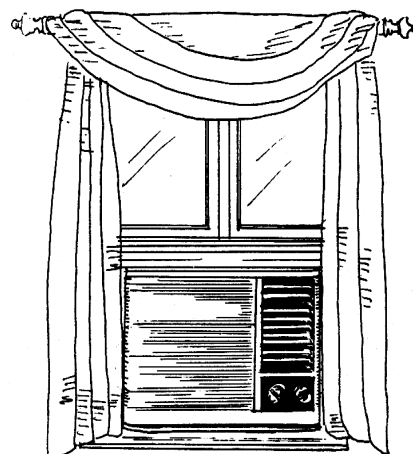
Household Cleaning



Air Conditioners – Odors

There are some odors you can get out of an air conditioning unit. But there are also some that need professional help. Oil and tobacco are two examples of very stubborn odors you may need help to get rid of.

- A musty odor could mean the drain hole inside the unit is stopped up. If this is the case, water cannot drain and sits in the bottom of the air conditioner. This water will provide a place for mold and/or mildew to grow. This mold not only smells bad but could make you or a family member sick. It is very important to keep mold and mildew out of an air conditioner.
- Remove the screws and take off the front grille to get at the hole or gap.
- On some units, you have to pull the unit partly out of its cabinet.
- Clean the hole with a bent wire clothes hanger or clean the gap with a bulb baster filled with water.



Prepared by Martha Keel, Professor, Family and Consumer
Sciences – Housing and Environmental Health.

Real. Life. Solutions.™

EXTENSION.TENNESSEE.EDU

17-0154 SP 459-O 4/17

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture,
U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.