Australians are encouraged to think twice when it comes to preparing their home for the extreme weather conditions that lie ahead[i]. Air conditioners remain a household essential, particularly during the peak of the heat. While reverse cycle air conditioning can be one of the most efficient ways of enjoying year-round comfort, it’s important to remember there are multiple features that enable homeowners to use their air conditioners to maximise comfort whilst minimising their energy consumption. According to Fujitsu General Assist, Fujitsu’s customer service team, the most commonly asked questions revolve around usage and maintenance. A well maintained air conditioner will deliver optimum performance and efficiency. Whilst a poorly maintained air conditioning system is likely to produce inferior airflow and force the unit to work harder than it needs to. The Fujitsu General Assist team recommends the following tips to ensure Australian air conditioners are summer-ready and perform at their best:

- **Clean the filters** - Filters and indoor unit grilles collect dust over time, restricting airflow. Clean the filter using a vacuum cleaner or wash with mild detergent and warm water. Let the filter dry completely before replacing. Dust along the indoor unit grilles can also be vacuumed and wiped with a damp cloth.
- **Have the air conditioner serviced periodically** by a licensed air conditioning technician. A professional service every one to two years, depending on usage, ensures the air conditioner operates as efficiently as possible.
- **Don’t set the temperature too low** - In summer, set the temperature around 23 degrees Celsius to create a comfortable environment whilst minimising energy consumption. Use built in timers - When the mercury soars above average, use program timers to start the air conditioner on a low setting before the temperature gets too hot. Switching the air conditioner on during the hottest part of the day means it needs to exert more energy and takes longer to cool down the home. Close doors and windows whilst the unit is on - Fill small gaps and cracks around windows with sealant, and seal draughts under doors with weather strips or draft stoppers. This ensures cool air remains indoors.
- **Close doors and windows whilst the unit is on**.

Whether it is a whole home solution or cooling comfort for a small room, Fujitsu General has a wide range of reverse cycle air conditioning systems designed to meet the needs of any space.

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