

Determining Air Conditioning Age & Capacity

As a rule-of-thumb, capacity information is encoded by air conditioning manufactures in the model number and date of manufacture info in the serial number.

There are 12,000 Btus per ton of cooling, and air conditioners are sized by every ½ ton. Manufacturers often encode the approximate rating in Btus somewhere in the model number. Therefore it is often simple to scan the model number for a two-digit number that is divisible by 6 and to divide it by 12 to determine the capacity rating in tons. This number can be elusive, as it is not always exactly divisible by 6. Some manufacturer's systems make this easier than others. To complicate matters, some manufacturers have changed their systems of encoding data over time.

Amana

Age: Use B-L-A-C-K H-O-R-S-E code

B = 71 or 81	H = 76 or 86
L = 72 or 82	O = 77 or 87
A = 73 or 83	R = 78 or 88
C = 74 or 84	S = 69, 79 or 89
K = 75 or 85	E = 70, 80 or 90

Bryant

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number usually (but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons.

Example: 56BAB0042000A0
42 = size on thousands of BTU
42,000 Btu = 3½ ton

From 1964 through 1979 Bryant encoded age information in the serial number with the first two digits indicating week of manufacture and the letter following those first two numbers indicating the year beginning R = 1964:

R = 1964	A = 1972
S = 1965	B = 1973
T = 1966	C = 1974
U = 1967	D = 1975
V = 1968	E = 1976
W = 1969	F = 1977
X = 1970	G = 1978
Y = 1971	H = 1979

In subsequent years Bryant simplified its system where, the first two digits of serial number = Week of manufacture.

Third & fourth digits = Year of manufacture.

Example: 3188XXXXXX = 31st week of 1988.

Carrier

Carrier has used several different codes at different plants. Information below refers to commonly used codes.

Capacity: Commonly found in the last three to five digits of model number, sometimes in 100s of Btus – sometimes in tons

Example:

001 = 1.5 ton, 002 = 2 ton, 003 = 2.5 ton, 004 = 3 ton, 004-5 = 3.5 ton,
005 = 4 ton, 006 = 5 ton

Or

18xx = 1.5 ton, 24xx = 2 ton, 30xx = 2.5 ton, 36xx = 3 ton, 42xx = 3.5 ton,
48xx = 4 ton, 60xx = 5 ton

Or

14xx = 1 ton, 18xx = 1.5 ton, 024 = 2 ton, 030 = 2.5 ton, 036 = 3 ton,
042 = 3.5 ton, 048 = 4 ton, 060 = 5 ton

Age: Through the 1960s Carrier used the first digit of the serial number to indicate the year of manufacture. Example: 3xxxxxx = 1963, 4xxxxxx = 1964, 5xxxxxx = 1965, etc.

Beginning in 1970 Carrier began to use a letter followed by a single digit year.

Example: A1 = January 1971, B2 = February 1972,
M5 = December 1975

A=Jan	G= Jul
B=Feb	H=Aug
C=Mar	J=Sept
D=Apr	K=Oct
E=May	L=Nov
F= Jun	M=Dec

Note: No letter I

More recently Carrier has simplified things using the first four digits of the serial number to signify the age, where the first two digits indicate the week and the third and fourth digits indicate the year of manufacture (similar to Bryant).

Example: 3298xxxxxx = 32nd week of 1998

Chrysler Air Temp

Capacity: Rating in tons found in the fourth and fifth digits of the model number

0 = 1 –1.5 ton	4 = 3 ton
2 = 2 ton	5 = 4 ton
3 = 2.5 ton	6 = 5 ton

Example: xx06xxxx = 5 ton

Climatrol

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number (usually, but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons. It is often in the last three to five digits, but is sometimes closer to the middle.

Coastline

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number (usually, but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons. It is often in the last three to five digits, but is sometimes closer to the middle.

Coleman

Coleman has used several different codes at different plants. Information below refers to some commonly used codes.

Capacity: Commonly found in the third and fourth digits of the model number – sometimes in 100s of Btus and sometimes as tons.

Example: xx30 = 2.5 ton, xx48 = 4 ton

or

 xx02 = 2 ton, xx05 = 5 ton

Day-Night – Later manufactured as “BDP” (Bryant, Day-Night, Payne)

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number (usually, but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons. It is often in the last three to five digits, but is sometimes closer to the middle.

Age: First two letters of the serial number indicate age, where the first letter is the month and the second letter the year of manufacture beginning with 1970

A=1970
B=1971
C=1972
Etc.

Fedders

Capacity: Last two digits of the model number indicate 1000s of Btus

Example: CF30 = 2.5 ton

Age (through 1977): Last two letters of serial number indicate month & year beginning with September 1966

A=Sept	A= 1966
B=Oct	B=1967
C=Nov	C=1968
Etc.	Etc.

Note: I not used

Example: xxxxAA = September 1966, xxxxBC = October 1968

General Electric

Capacity: Last three digits of model number indicate approximate rating in 1000s of Btus

Example: 21TC030A = 2.5 ton

Age: Last three digits of serial number indicate date of manufacture, where the first digit indicates the year and the second and third indicate the week

Example: xxxxxx241 = 41st week of 1982

Lennox

Capacity: Lennox has its own code found between hyphens in the model number

211=1.5 ton
261=2 ton
311=2.5 ton
411=3 ton
461=3.5 ton
511=4 ton
651=4.5 ton

Example: CHP16H-261-1P = 2 ton

Age: Prior to 1974 the first three digits of the serial number indicate the date of manufacture where the first two digits indicate the year and the third is the month.

Example: 732xxxx = February 1973

Beginning in 1974 the third and fourth digits indicate the year followed by a letter indicating the month.

A=Jan
B=Feb
C=Mar
Etc.

Note: I not used

Rheem or Ruud

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number (usually, but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons.

Example: RPGC-037JA = 3 ton

Age: Four digits of serial number indicate date of manufacture where first two indicate the week and the third and fourth are the year. In the 1960s and early '70s this was the last four digits. More recently date of manufacture information is found closer to the middle of the serial number.

Example: xxxx1872 = 18th week of 1972

Tappan

Capacity: Look for those elusive two digits in the model number (usually, but not always) divisible by 6 and divide by 12 to convert to tons.

Example: CM36-11B,T = 3 ton

Trane

Capacity: Trane has used a number of different methods for encoding capacity information in the model number. It is commonly found in the first three digits – sometimes and Btus, sometimes as tons.

Example: SPCC-B504-A = 5.0 ton,
 Or
 TWS748A = 48,000 Btu = 4 ton

Age: Through the seventies date of manufacture information is found as a number and a letter in the serial number where the number is the single digit year and the letter indicates the month.

A=Jan
B=Feb
C=Mar
Etc.

Example: 1C-xxxx = March 1971

