

How to Choice the Appropriate Ceiling Fan for Your Home



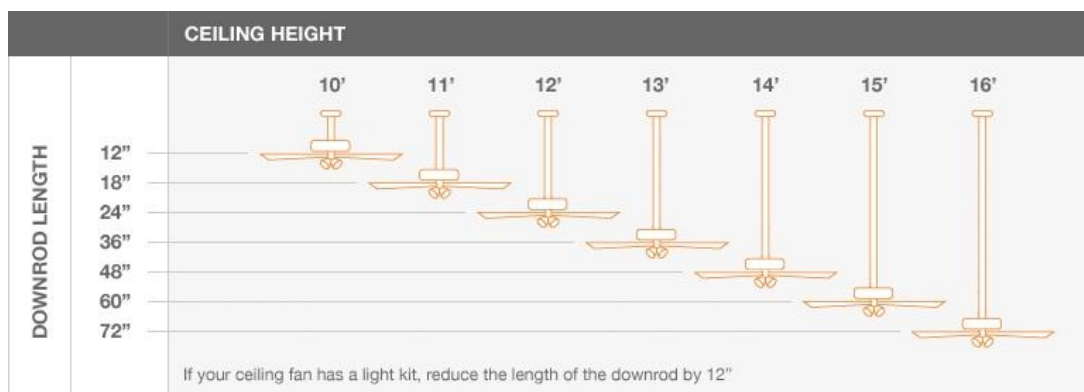
The right ceiling fan can make you feel cooler by accelerating the evaporation of perspiration on your skin. In the summer, run your fan counterclockwise to generate a breeze. This will help you feel as much as 7 degrees cooler and could cut your cooling cost by up to 30 percent. While in the winter, run your fan clockwise to push down warm air circulating near the ceiling to better distribute the heat throughout the room. The fan that is going to move the most air around with the least amount of effort will be based on the diameter and speed of the fan. The larger the diameter at the same speeds can move more air around. Therefore, you want the biggest ceiling fan to fit the space. Here are some guidelines one should take into consideration when choosing a ceiling fan.

Room Dimensions	Suggested Fan Size
Up to 75 ft²	29 – 36"
76 – 144 ft²	36 – 42"
144 – 225 ft²	44"
225 – 400 ft²	50 – 54"

* Reference: American Lighting Association, 2003

Choosing the Appropriate Mounting System

Ceiling fans should be installed, or mounted, in the middle of the room and at least 7 feet above the floor and 18 inches from the walls. If ceiling height allows, install the fan 8 - 9 feet above the floor for optimal airflow.



- **Standard mounts** come with a 3 – 6 inch downrod, which is the metal pipe that extends from the ceiling bracket to the top of the fan. Downrods are usually either 1/2 or 3/4-inch in diameter.
- **Extended mounts** can be used to hang the ceiling fan at the desired 8– 9 feet from the floor for tall ceiling heights. Downrods can be purchased from 6 inches (9 ft. ceiling) to 120 inches (20 ft. ceiling). Check with the manufacturer or sales associate to determine the right downrod length for you.
- **Flush mounts** anchor the fan directly against the ceiling. Most standard fans can be installed as a flush mount however, many manufacturers sell “hugger” or “low profile” ceiling fans that are specifically designed for this purpose. Hugger fans are ideal for rooms that have ceilings under 8 feet in height or in situations where a fan with optional light would hang down too low. Hugger fans will not move as much air as a regular fan because the blades are closer to the ceiling.
- **Sloped mounts** are used for angled or vaulted ceilings.

Wet/Damp Rating. Placing a ceiling fan in a bathroom or other humid locations? Purchase a fan that has been UL listed with a “damp” rating. For fans that may come in direct contact with water, like on a patio or front porch, look for a UL “wet” rating. These fans include features such as sealed/moisture resistant motors, rust resistant housing, stainless steel hardware, and all weather blades.

Think about electricity. Since fans require the same amount of power as most ceiling fixtures, the electrical circuit shouldn’t be overloaded.

- If the fan includes a light fixture, ensure that the circuit is able to handle both the fan and light. If your circuit will not hold this capacity then a new circuit must be run from the home’s main panel to the fan.
- If there was not a preexisting fixture, you will need to create a place to hang the fan. If your home is not wired properly, some fans do have swag wiring that can be plugged into a wall outlet, but ceiling installation is preferred.
- It is easiest to install ceiling bracing and electrical wiring during new home construction even if you will be installing a fan at a later time.
- Consulting an electrician is always your best option.

Note: This information has been checked for suitability. However, a successful solution depends on individual accuracy, skill, and caution. For this reason, Electric Trading Company does not guarantee the result of procedure compliance or assume responsibility for personal injury or property damage to persons following these procedures.