



Do I have a choice of compressor?

There is a wide range of compressors that are available in the marketplace today. They range from highly efficient centrifugal compressors to the relatively less efficient but economical reciprocating compressors. You will need to study your airconditioning needs carefully with your supplier and decide on the compressor that best suits your requirement and budget. The following guidelines may help you select the right compressor:

Compressors available	Equipment Tonnage range	Relative cost* per ton	Relative power* consumption
Window ACs & Non-ducted Splits			
Reciprocating	1T - 2T	1.00	1.00
Rotary	1T - 2T	1.10	0.95
Ducted Splits & Packaged ACs			
Reciprocating	5T-20T	1.50	0.92
Scroll	5T-20T	1.57	0.84
Central plants (Air-cooled)			
Scroll	5-20T	1.60	0.90
Reciprocating	10-100T	1.80	0.95
Screw	>100T	2.30	1.00
Central plants (Water-cooled)			
Reciprocating	10-100T	1.70	0.87
Screw	>100T	2.10	0.77
Centrifugal	>150T	2.00	0.75

*Cost and power calculations are for a complete airconditioning system (including ducting, piping etc. where applicable), relative to a reciprocating compressor-driven room airconditioner. All figures are indicative and are based on specific case studies. They may vary on a case-to-case basis.