Mismatched Coil Testing to Simulate Condenser Replacement



13 SEER HP Rating with Proper 13 SEER Indoor Coil

Capacity (BTU/hr)	36794
SEER	13.62
Superheat (service valve) (F)	17.93
Subcool (service valve) (F)	6.08
Liquid press (psig)	222.76
Return gas press (psig)	81.38

Cooling 95 F Outside / 80 F Inside Factory Refrigerant Charge: 8 lb 7 oz

	Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
	Capacity (BTU/hr) SEER too low	36794	22208
	SEER	13.62	8.46
	Superheat (service valve) (F)	17.93	54.54
	Subcool (service valve) (F)	6.08	0.98
Charge a	ppears too low Liquid press (psig)	222.76	209.94
	Return gas press (psig)	81.38	58.42

Heating 47 F Outside / 70 F Inside Factory Refrigerant Charge: 8 lb 7 oz

Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
Capacity (BTU/hr) EER too low	36484	29997
EER	15.71	10.60
Superheat (service valve) (F)	12.05	11.24
Subcool (service valve) (F)	21.07	26.73
Charge appears OK Liquid press (psig)	203.88	233.03
Return gas press (psig)	58.09	60.86

Cooling 95 F Outside / 80 F Inside Refrigerant Charge: 14 lb 14 oz

	Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
	Capacity (BTU/hr) SEER too low	36794	29823
	SEER	13.62	8.92
	Superheat (service valve) (F)	17.93	14.68
	Subcool (service valve) (F)	6.06	17.58
Cha	rge appears OK Liquid press (psig)	222.76	262.49
	Return gas press (psig)	81.38	79.96

Heating 47 F Outside / 70 F Inside Refrigerant Charge: 14 lb 14 oz

Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
Capacity (BTU/hr) EER too low	36484	18706
EER	15.71	5.74
Superheat (service valve) (F) Subcool high	12.05	6.6
Subcool (service valve) (F) HPS opened at 410 psi	21.07	87.00
Liquid press (psig)	203.88	410.1
Return gas press (psig)	58.09	64.60

Cooling 95 F Outside / 80 F Inside Refrigerant Charge: 10 lb 0.5 oz

	Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
	Capacity (BTU/hr) SEER too low	36794	26188
	SEER	13.62	9.08
	Superheat (service valve) (F)	17.93	50.31
	Subcool (service valve) (F)	6.08	4.12
	Liquid press (psig)	222.76	214.25
Cha	rge appears low- Return gas press (psig)	81.38	62.48

Heating 47 F Outside / 70 F Inside Refrigerant Charge: 10 lb 0.5 oz

Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
Capacity (BTU/hr) EER too low	36484	30178
EER	15.71	9.47
Superheat (service valve) (F)	12.05	11.22
Subcool (service valve) (F)	21.07	62.23
Discharge press high Liquid press (psig)	203.88	310.50
Return gas press (psig)	58.09	61.83

Cooling 95 F Outside / 80 F Inside Refrigerant Charge: 10 lb 6 oz with TXV

Capacity too low	Rated	Tested
Capacity (BTU/hr) SEER too low	36794	31266
SEER	13.62	11.85
Superheat (service valve) (F)	17.93	26.22
Subcool (service valve) (F)	6.08	2.20
Liquid press (psig)	222.76	220.06
Charge appears low Return gas press (psig)	81.38	77.06

Heating 47 F Outside / 70 F Inside
Refrigerant Charge: 10 lb 6 oz with TXV

	Rated	Tested
Capacity (BTU/hr)	36484	

High Pressure Switch opened because head pressure exceeded 410 psi. Charge needs to be reduced for heating but cooling is requiring more charge

Liquid press (psig)	203.88	
Return gas press (psig)	58.09	

Result of Only Replacing Condensing Unit

- Up to 40% reduced capacity in cooling meaning system may not be able to keep up with thermostat setting.
- Up to 48% reduced capacity in heating resulting in strip heat coming on earlier.
- Up to 40% reduced efficiency in cooling resulting in higher power bills. Not only is it going to run longer but dollars per cooling will be more as well.
- Up to 60% reduced efficiency in heating resulting in higher power bills.
- System charging becomes critical since the charge might seem correct for one condition but flood on another.
- TXV will not solve the charge problem for all cases since the SH and SC can change dramatically with condition.
- All of these situations will result in numerous service calls and most likely the only way to resolve it is to replace the indoor coil with a larger coil anyway.