



CALHOUN ASSOCIATES, INC.

AIR FILTER SALES & SERVICE

COIL & DUCT CLEANING

6850 HIBBS LANE • LEVITTOWN, PA 19057 • (215) 943-6575 • FAX: (215) 945-6131

customerservice@calhounassociates.com

Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)

Minimal Efficiency Reporting Value/MERV: the standardized method to rate the performance of every type of air filter is categorized in terms of the filters ability to remove particles and is reported as the filter's MERV.

- MERV ratings range from 1-16
- Different filters have different MERV ratings
- Filter media must be formally tested to determine the MERV rating
- The table* below provides a MERV rating range, the type of particle size and example contaminants it collects, typical application and example filter type

MERV Rating	Particle Size and Contaminant Controlled	Typical Application	Example Filter Type
1-4	Greater than 10.0 micrometers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollen • Textile and carpet fiber • Sanding dust 	Some residential, window air conditioner	Disposable fiberglass or synthetic (polyester) filters Washable metal filters
5-8	3.0-10.0 micrometers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mold • Spores • Dusting aids 	Commercial buildings, residential, industrial workplaces	Pleated filters
9-12	1.0-3.0 micrometers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legionella • Humidifier dust • Lead and coal dust • Auto emission • Nebulizer drops 	Commercial buildings, residential, industrial workplaces, pre-filters for Hospitals and patient care settings	Pleated filters (MERV 10) Pocket/Bag filters Box or Cell Style filters V-Bank filters Mini-pleat filters
13-16	0.3-1.0 micrometers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bacteria • Tobacco smoke • Droplet nuclei • Most smoke 	Hospital, Patient Care and Surgical settings Superior manufacturing and commercial buildings Smoking lounge	Pleated filters (MERV 13) Pocket/Bag filters Box or Cell Style filters V-Bank filters Mini-pleat filters

*Reference: NAFA Guide to Air Filtration, 6th Edition, 2021