

The benefit of a MERV 11 filter lies in its ability to capture a higher percentage of airborne particles compared to filters with lower MERV ratings. MERV stands for Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, and the scale ranges from 1 to 20. The higher the MERV rating, the finer the filtration, meaning more and smaller particles are trapped by the filter.

A MERV 11 filter can trap particles as small as 1.0 to 3.0 microns. This includes common allergens and irritants such as:

- Pollen
- Dust mites
- Mold
- Large dust particles
- Auto emissions
- Fine air particles
- Pet dander
- Lint
- **Smoke**
- Smog
- Bacteria

By capturing these smaller particles, MERV 11 filters can significantly improve indoor air quality, which is beneficial for individuals with allergies, asthma, or other respiratory conditions. They help in **reducing the amount of dust and allergens** circulating through your HVAC system and settling in your living space, thus contributing to a cleaner, healthier indoor environment.

It's important to note, however, that while MERV 11 filters offer improved air filtration, they can also impose more resistance to airflow than lower-rated filters.

MERV 11 air filters are a little **more expensive than a standard filter**, but paying a few dollars more per filter is usually worth the added efficiency.