



**WHITE-RODGERS**

## Model No. 7904

Programmable Electronic Digital Thermostat

### INSTALLATION AND OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Operator: Save these instructions for future use!**

**FAILURE TO READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY  
BEFORE INSTALLING OR OPERATING THIS CONTROL COULD CAUSE  
PERSONAL INJURY AND/OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.**

## DESCRIPTION

Your new White-Rodgers 5-Day/2-Day Digital Thermostat uses the technology of a solid-state microcomputer to provide precise time/temperature control. This thermostat offers you the flexibility to design heating and cooling programs that fit your needs.

### Features:

- Battery powered (3 "AA" Energizer® alkaline batteries included).
- Separate 5-day (weekday) and 2-day (weekend) programming
- Simultaneous heat and cool program storage
- Preprogrammed temperature control
- Four separate time/temperature settings per 24-hour period
- LCD continuously displays set point, and alternately displays time and room temperature
- Temperature override until next program period
- Manual program override (HOLD temperature)
- User may select either 12- or 24-hour clock display
- °F/°C convertibility
- Temperature range 45° to 90°F
- Standard five terminals for single or two-transformer systems
- B and O terminals for single stage heat pumps or damper operation

## PRECAUTIONS

This thermostat is intended for use with a low voltage system; do not use this thermostat with a line voltage system. If in doubt about whether your wiring is millivolt, line, or low voltage, have it inspected by a qualified heating and air conditioning contractor or electrician.

Do not exceed the specification ratings.

All wiring must conform to local and national electrical codes and ordinances.

This control is a precision instrument, and should be handled carefully. Rough handling or distorting components could cause the control to malfunction.

### **⚠ CAUTION**

**To prevent electrical shock and/or equipment damage, disconnect electric power to system at main fuse or circuit breaker box until installation is complete.**

### **⚠ WARNING**

**Do not use on circuits exceeding specified voltage. Higher voltage will damage control and could cause shock or fire hazard.**

**Do not short out terminals on gas valve or primary control to test. Short or incorrect wiring will damage thermostat and could cause personal injury and/or property damage.**

## SPECIFICATIONS

### ELECTRICAL DATA

#### Electrical Rating:

8 to 30 VAC 50/60 Hz. or D.C.

0.05 to 1.5 Amps (Load per terminal)

**1.5 Amps Maximum Total Load** (All terminals combined)

### THERMAL DATA

#### Setpoint Temperature Range:

45°F to 90°F (7°C to 32°C)

#### Operating Ambient Temperature Range:

32°F to 105°F

#### Operating Humidity Range:

0 to 90% RH (non-condensing)

#### Shipping Temperature Range:

-40°F to 150°F

### APPLICATIONS

For use with:

- Standard heat/cool or heat only systems
- Electric heat systems
- Gas or oil fired systems
- Gas systems with intermittent ignition devices (I.I.D.) and/or vent dampers
- Hydronic (hot water or steam) systems
- Single-stage heat pump systems
- Millivolt systems

### DO NOT USE WITH:

- Multi-stage systems
- Systems exceeding 30 VAC and 1.5 amps
- 3-wire zoned hydronic heating systems



**WHITE-RODGERS DIVISION**

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Replaces 37-5599A

9731

# INSTALLATION

## REMOVE OLD THERMOSTAT

1. Shut off electricity at the main fuse box until installation is complete. Ensure that electrical power is disconnected.
2. Remove the front cover of the old thermostat. **With wires still attached**, remove wall plate from the wall. If the old thermostat has a wall mounting plate, remove the thermostat and the wall mounting plate as an assembly.
3. **Identify each wire attached to the old thermostat using the labels enclosed with the new thermostat.**
4. Disconnect the wires from old thermostat one at a time. **DO NOT LET WIRES FALL BACK INTO THE WALL.**
5. Install new thermostat using the following procedures.

## ELECTRIC HEAT OR SINGLE-STAGE HEAT PUMP SYSTEMS

Read entire paragraph before setting electric heat switch. If you are unsure of your application, contact a qualified serviceperson.

If you have a single-stage heat pump system, OR your system uses central electric heat, then you must move the switch on the back of the thermostat base to the electric heat position (see fig 1). The electric heat position is to the left. Use a small screwdriver or pencil to move the switch.

## ATTACH THERMOSTAT BASE TO WALL

1. Remove the packing material from the thermostat. Gently pull the cover straight off the base. Forcing or prying on the thermostat will cause damage to the unit. If necessary, move the electric heat switch (see **ELECTRIC HEAT SYSTEMS**, above).
2. Connect wires beneath terminal screws on base using appropriate wiring schematic (see figs. 3 through 10).
3. Place base over hole in wall and mark mounting hole locations on wall using base as a template.
4. Move base out of the way. Drill mounting holes.
5. Fasten base loosely to wall, as shown in fig. 2, using two mounting screws. Place a level against bottom of base, adjust until level, and then tighten screws. (Leveling is for appearance only and will not affect thermostat operation.) If you are using existing mounting holes, or if holes drilled are too large and do not allow you to tighten base snugly, use plastic screw anchors to secure subbase.
6. Push excess wire into wall and plug hole with a fire-resistant material (such as fiberglass insulation) to prevent drafts from affecting thermostat operation.

## BATTERY LOCATION

**This thermostat requires 3 "AA" alkaline batteries to operate. Batteries are included.** Install the batteries along the top of the base (see fig. 2). The batteries must be installed with the positive (+) ends to the left.

If the word **BATTERY** is displayed, the batteries are low and should be replaced with fresh "AA" Energizer® alkaline batteries.

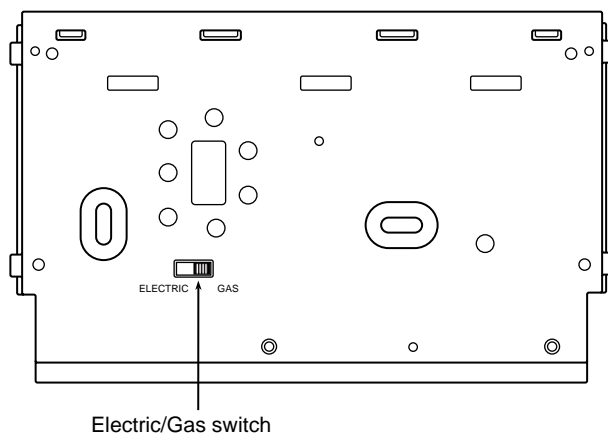


Figure 1. Back of thermostat base

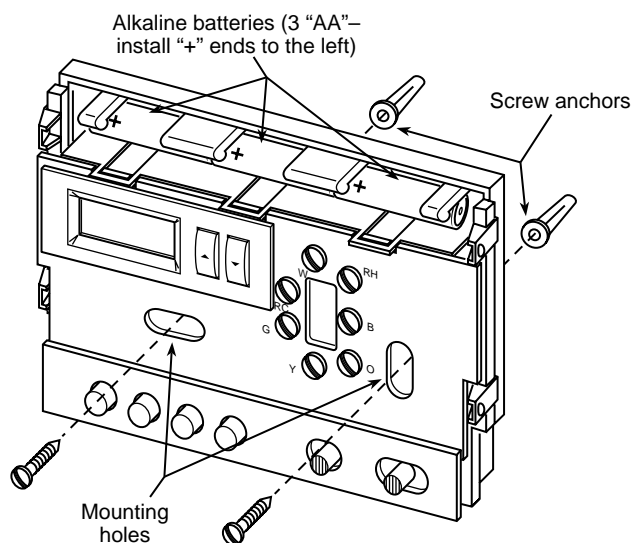


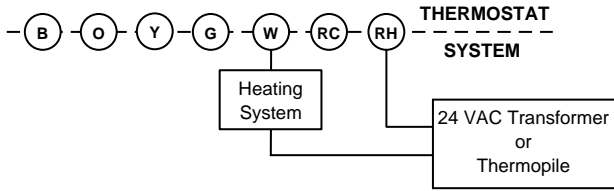
Figure 2. Thermostat base

## HYDRONIC (HOT WATER OR STEAM) HEATING SYSTEMS

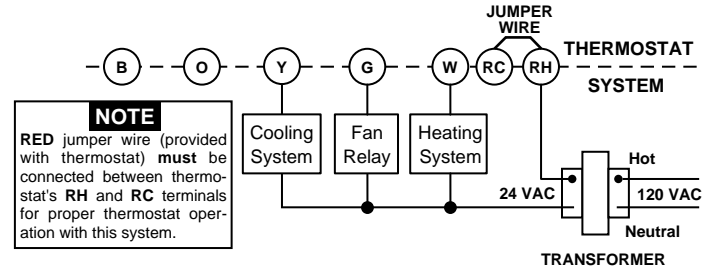
This thermostat is set to operate properly if you have a forced-air heating system. If you have a hydronic heating system (a system that heats with hot water or steam), you must set the thermostat to operate properly with your system. To change the setting, press and hold SET TIME and VIEW PRGM buttons at the same time until the correct setting is displayed (**A** for forced air; **H** for hydronic systems).

### NOTE

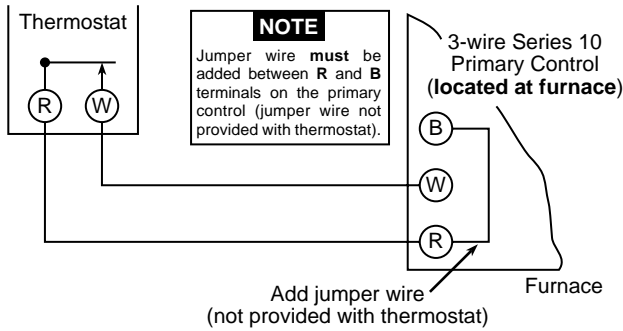
If you do not press both buttons at the same time, **A** or **H** will not be displayed. If this happens, press RUN PRGM, then press and hold SET TIME and VIEW PRGM at the same time.



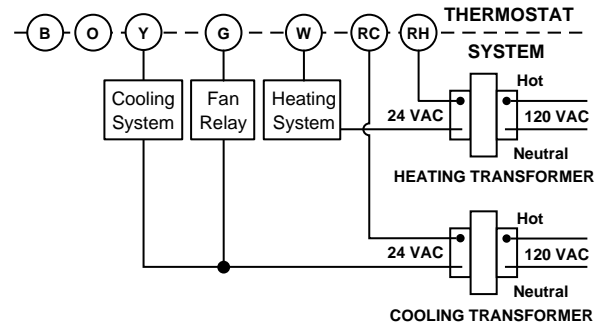
**Figure 3. Typical wiring diagram for heating only, 2-wire, single transformer systems or millivolt systems**



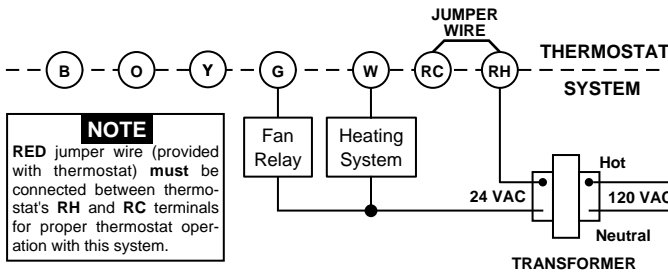
**Figure 7. Typical wiring diagram for heat/cool, 4-wire, single transformer systems**



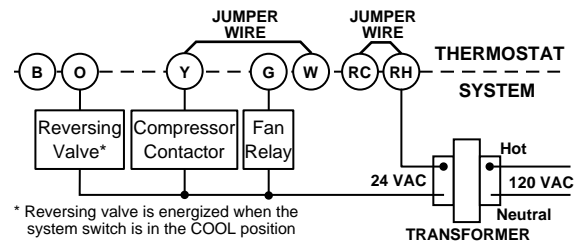
**Figure 4. Typical wiring diagram for 3-wire SERIES 10 heating systems**



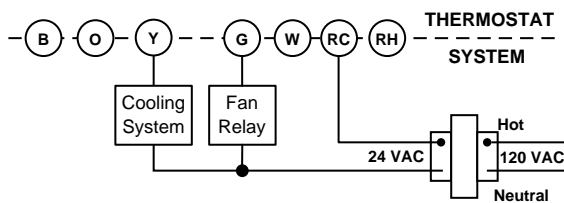
**Figure 8. Typical wiring diagram for heat/cool, 5-wire, two-transformer systems**



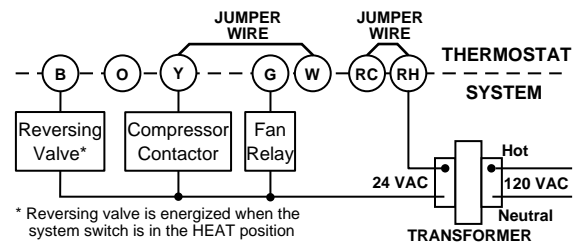
**Figure 5. Typical wiring diagram for heat only, 3-wire, single transformer systems**



**Figure 9. Typical wiring diagram for heat pump with cool active reversing valve**



**Figure 6. Typical wiring diagram for cool only, 3-wire, single transformer systems**



**Figure 10. Typical wiring diagram for heat pump with heat active reversing valve**

## CHECK THERMOSTAT OPERATION



If at any time during testing your system does not operate properly, contact a qualified serviceperson.

### Fan Operation

If your system **does not** have a **G** terminal connection, skip to **Heating System**.

1. Turn on power to the system.
2. Move fan switch to **ON** position. The blower should begin to operate.
3. Move fan switch to **AUTO** position. The blower should stop immediately.

### Heating System



1. Move SYSTEM switch to **HEAT** position. If the heating system has a standing pilot, be sure to light it.
2. Press  to adjust thermostat setting above room temperature. The heating system should begin to operate.
3. Press  to adjust temperature setting below room temperature. The heating system should stop operating.

## Cooling System

### CAUTION

This thermostat has a built-in short term (5-minute) time delay. This feature is activated after the compressor shuts down and the operator changes the setpoint within the 5-minute time period. During this 5-minute period, the word **COOL** will flash, indicating that the thermostat has locked out the compressor to allow head pressure to stabilize. This thermostat does not sense AC power loss, and therefore does not activate the short term compressor protection feature when power is restored.



To prevent compressor and/or property damage, if the outdoor temperature is below 50°F, DO NOT operate the cooling system.

1. Move SYSTEM switch to **COOL** position.
2. Press  to adjust thermostat setting below room temperature. The blower should come on immediately on high speed, followed by cold air circulation
3. Press  to adjust temperature setting above room temperature. The cooling system should stop operating.

## OPERATION

Before you begin programming your thermostat, you should be familiar with its features and with the display and the location and operation of the thermostat buttons. Your thermostat consists of two parts: the **thermostat cover** and the **base**. To remove the cover, gently pull it straight out from the base. To replace the cover, line up the cover with the base and press gently until the cover snaps onto the base.

### THE THERMOSTAT BASE

Other than  and , the following buttons and switches are located behind the door on the bottom of the thermostat cover (see fig.11). Pull the door down to open it.

#### The Thermostat Buttons and Switches

- ① (Red arrow) Raises temperature setting.
- ② (Blue arrow) Lowers temperature setting.
- ③ SET TIME button.
- ④ VIEW PRGM (program) button.
- ⑤ RUN PRGM (program) button.
- ⑥ HOLD TEMPerature button.
- ⑦ FAN switch (**ON**, **AUTO**).
- ⑧ SYSTEM switch (**COOL**, **OFF**, **HEAT**).

#### The Display

- ⑨ Indicates day of the week.

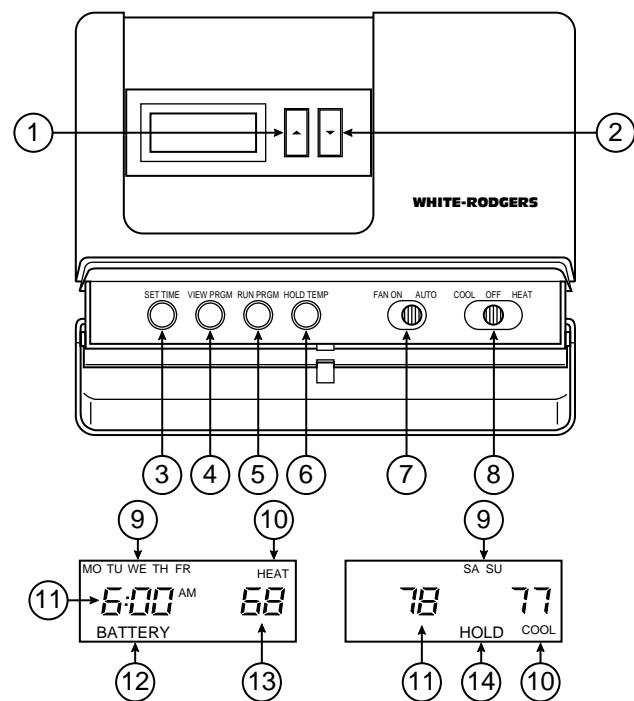


Figure 11. Thermostat display, buttons, and switches

- ⑩ **HEAT** is displayed when the SYSTEM switch is in the HEAT position. **COOL** is displayed (non-flashing) when the SYSTEM switch is in the COOL position. **COOL** is displayed (flashing) when the compressor is in lockout mode.
- ⑪ Alternately displays current time and temperature.
- ⑫ **BATTERY** is displayed when the 3 "AA" batteries are low and should be replaced. Nothing else will be displayed.

- ⑬ Displays currently programmed set temperature (this is blank when SYSTEM switch is in the OFF position).
- ⑭ The word **HOLD** is displayed when the thermostat is in the HOLD mode.

## OPERATING FEATURES

Now that you are familiar with the thermostat buttons and display, read the following information to learn about the many features of the thermostat.

- **SIMULTANEOUS HEATING/COOLING PROGRAM STORAGE** — When programming, you can enter both your heating and cooling programs at the same time. There is no need to reprogram the thermostat at the beginning of each season.
- **TEMPERATURE OVERRIDE** — Press  or  until the display shows the temperature you want. The thermostat will override current programming and keep the room temperature at the selected temperature until the next program period begins. Then the thermostat will automatically revert to the program.
- **HOLD TEMPERATURE** — The thermostat can hold any temperature within its range for an indefinite period, without reverting to the programmed temperature. Press HOLD TEMP button. **HOLD** will be displayed. Then choose the desired hold temperature by pressing  or . The thermostat will hold the room temperature at the selected setting until you press RUN PRGM button to start program operation again.
- **°F/°C CONVERTIBILITY** — Press and hold SET TIME and HOLD TEMP buttons until the temperature display is in Celsius (°C). To display Fahrenheit (°F), repeat the process.
- **12-HOUR/24-HOUR CLOCK DISPLAY** — The clock is set to display 12-hour time, which means that the clock will display AM and PM time (12:00 AM is midnight; 12:00 PM is noon). However, you may want to display a 24-hour clock (military-style time). The 24-hour clock display will show 1:00 PM as 13:00, 2:00 PM as 14:00, and so on. To change to the 24-hour clock display, press and hold SET TIME and RUN PRGM buttons at the same time. In the 24-hour clock mode, AM and PM are not displayed.

- **LOW BATTERY INDICATOR** — If the 3 “AA” alkaline batteries are low and should be replaced, the display will be blank except for the word **BATTERY**. When the batteries are low, pressing any button will cause the display to operate for ten seconds. After ten seconds, the display will be blank except for the word **BATTERY**. You cannot program with low batteries, but you can override setpoint temperature.
- **TEMPERATURE DISPLAY ADJUSTMENT** — Your new thermostat has been accurately set in our factory. However, if you wish, you may adjust your new thermostat temperature display to match your old thermostat. This can be accomplished (within a  $\pm 4$  range) as follows:
  1. Press VIEW PRGM and HOLD TEMP buttons at the same time.
  2. Press  or  to adjust the displayed temperature to your desired setting.
  3. Press RUN PRGM to resume normal program operation.

## PROGRAMMING YOUR THERMOSTAT

Now you are ready to program your thermostat. This section will help you plan your thermostat’s program to meet your needs. For maximum comfort and efficiency, keep the following guidelines in mind when planning your program.

- When heating (cooling) your building, program the temperatures to be cooler (warmer) when the building is vacant or during periods of low activity.
- During early morning hours, the need for cooling is usually minimal.

Look at the factory preprogrammed times and temperatures shown below. If this program will suit your needs, simply press the RUN PRGM button to begin running the factory preset program.

| FACTORY PREPROGRAMMING                    |          |      |   |          |      |
|---|----------|------|---|----------|------|
| Heating Program for ALL days of the Week: |          |      | Cooling Program for ALL Days of the Week: |          |      |
| PERIOD                                    | TIME     | TEMP | PERIOD                                    | TIME     | TEMP |
| 1st                                       | 6:00 AM  | 68°F | 1st                                       | 6:00 AM  | 78°F |
| 2nd                                       | 8:00 AM  | 68°F | 2nd                                       | 8:00 AM  | 82°F |
| 3rd                                       | 5:00 PM  | 68°F | 3rd                                       | 5:00 PM  | 78°F |
| 4th                                       | 10:00 PM | 64°F | 4th                                       | 10:00 PM | 78°F |

If you want to change the preprogrammed times and temperatures, follow these steps.

Determine the time periods and heating and cooling temperatures for your weekday and weekend programs. You must program four periods for both the weekday and weekend program. However, you may use the same heating and cooling

Heating/Cooling Schedule Plan

| Period   | WEEKDAY (5 DAY) |             | WEEKEND (2 DAY) |             |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
|          | Start Time*     | Temperature | Start Time*     | Temperature |
| 1ST HEAT |                 |             |                 |             |
| 2ND HEAT |                 |             |                 |             |
| 3RD HEAT |                 |             |                 |             |
| 4TH HEAT |                 |             |                 |             |
| 1ST COOL |                 |             |                 |             |
| 2ND COOL |                 |             |                 |             |
| 3RD COOL |                 |             |                 |             |
| 4TH COOL |                 |             |                 |             |

\* We suggest that you program the thermostat so that the heating/cooling system has about **30 minutes** to reach the desired temperature (for example, if the first person gets up at 6:00 AM, program the first period to begin at 5:30 AM).

SAMPLE Heating/Cooling Schedule Plan

| Period   | WEEKDAY (5 DAY) |             | WEEKEND (2 DAY) |             |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
|          | Start Time*     | Temperature | Start Time*     | Temperature |
| 1ST HEAT | 5:30 AM         | 68°F        | 7:00 AM         | 68°F        |
| 2ND HEAT | 8:00 AM         | 65°F        | 11:00 AM        | 70°F        |
| 3RD HEAT | 5:00 PM         | 70°F        | 6:00 PM         | 70°F        |
| 4TH HEAT | 10:30 PM        | 65°F        | 11:30 PM        | 65°F        |
| 1ST COOL | 6:30 AM         | 76°F        | 7:00 AM         | 76°F        |
| 2ND COOL | 2:00 PM         | 78°F        | 12:30 PM        | 74°F        |
| 3RD COOL | 5:00 PM         | 72°F        | 6:00 PM         | 72°F        |
| 4TH COOL | 10:30 PM        | 78°F        | 11:30 PM        | 78°F        |

temperatures for consecutive time periods. You can choose start times, heating temperatures, and cooling temperatures independently for both weekday and weekend programs (for example, you may select 5:00 AM and 70° as the weekday **1st period heating** start time and temperature, and also choose 7:00 AM and 76° as the weekday **1st period cooling** start time and temperature). Use the table at the bottom of the page to plan your program time periods, and the temperatures you want during each period. You may also want to look at the sample program table to get an idea of how the thermostat can be programmed.

## Entering Your Program

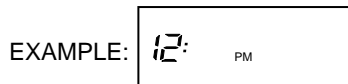
Follow these steps to enter the heating and cooling programs you have selected.



### NOTE

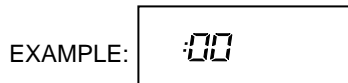
The thermostat should be programmed in the 12-hour format, then switched to the 24-hour format, if desired (see **OPERATING FEATURES** for more information).





### Set Current Time and Day

1. Press SET TIME button once. The display will show the hour only.



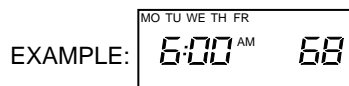
2. Press and hold either  or  until you reach the correct hour and AM/PM designation (**AM** begins at midnight; **PM** begins at noon).
3. Press SET TIME once. The display window will show the minutes only.







4. Press and hold either  or  until you reach the correct minutes.
5. Press SET TIME once. The display will show the day of the week.
6. Press  or  until you reach the current day of the week.
7. Press RUN PRGM once. The display will show the correct time and room temperature alternately.

### Enter Heating Program

1. If you want to change the display from Fahrenheit to Celsius (or vice-versa), press SET TIME and HOLD TEMP at the same time.
2. Move the SYSTEM switch to **HEAT**.
3. Press VIEW PRGM once. "**MO TU WE TH FR**" (indicating weekday program) will appear in the display. Also displayed are the currently programmed start time for the **1st heating** period and the currently programmed temperature (flashing).



This display window shows that for the 1st weekday period, the start time is 6:00 AM, and 68° is the programmed temperature (this example reflects factory preprogramming).

4. Press  or  to change the displayed temperature to your selected temperature for the 1st heating program period.
5. Press SET TIME once (the programmed time will flash). Press  or  until your selected time appears. The time will change in 15 minute increments. When your selected time is displayed, press SET TIME again to return to the change temperature mode.
6. Press VIEW PRGM once. The currently programmed start time and setpoint temperature for the **2nd heating** program period will appear.
7. Repeat steps 4 and 5 to select the start time and heating temperature for the 2nd heating program period.
8. Repeat steps 4 through 6 for the 3rd and 4th heating program periods. Weekday heating programs are now complete.
9. Press VIEW PRGM once. "**SA SU**" (indicating weekend program) will appear in the display, along with the start time for the 1st heating period and the currently programmed temperature.
10. Repeat steps 4 through 8 to complete weekend heating programming.
11. When you have completed entering your heating program, press RUN PRGM.

### Enter Cooling Program

#### CAUTION

**If the outside temperature is below 50°F, disconnect power to the cooling system before programming. Energizing the air conditioner compressor during cold weather may cause personal injury or property damage.**

1. Move SYSTEM switch to **COOL** position.
2. Follow the procedure for entering your heating program, using your selected cooling times and temperatures.

### CHECK YOUR PROGRAMMING

Follow these steps to check your thermostat programming one final time before beginning thermostat operation.

1. Move SYSTEM switch to **HEAT** position.
2. Press VIEW PRGM to view the 1st weekday heating period time and temperature. Each time you press VIEW PRGM, the next heating period time and temperature will be displayed in sequence for weekday, then weekend program periods (you may change any time or temperature during this procedure).
3. Press RUN PRGM.
4. Move SYSTEM switch to **COOL** position.
5. Repeat step 2 to check cooling temperatures.
6. Press RUN PRGM to begin program operation.

**YOUR THERMOSTAT IS NOW COMPLETELY PROGRAMMED AND READY TO AUTOMATICALLY PROVIDE MAXIMUM COMFORT AND EFFICIENCY!**

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