

TECH TIP • Superheat & Subcool Reference Chart

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“Understanding the relationship between superheat, subcool, and system charge is one of the most valuable diagnostic skills an HVAC tech can have — whether you're brand new or have years in the field.”

OVERVIEW

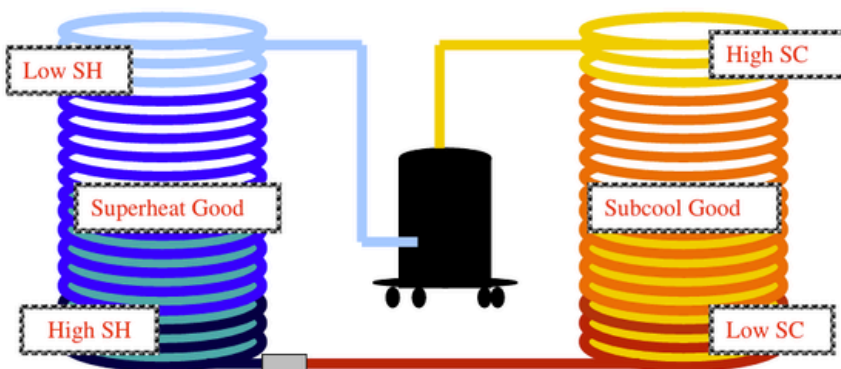
Superheat and subcool readings tell you a lot about what's happening inside a refrigerant system. Used together, they can quickly point you toward the root cause of a problem — from low charge to a restricted metering device. The chart below is a quick reference to help you interpret what those readings mean in the field.

KEY STEPS / WHAT TO KNOW

1. **Good SH / Good SC** — System charge is good. No further action needed.
2. **High SH / Low SC** — System is low on charge. Add refrigerant.
3. **Low SH / High SC** — System is overcharged. Recover refrigerant.
4. **High SH / High SC** — Restriction in the system. Check the metering device or filter drier.
3. **Low SH / Low SC** — Overfeeding condition. Check the metering device for proper operation.

PRO TIP

Never diagnose charge by superheat or subcool alone — always check both. One reading without the other can lead you to the wrong conclusion.



DIAGRAM

Superheat & Subcool
Diagnostic Reference
Chart