

# 1966-67 Chevrolet Nova

with and without Factory Air Gen 5 Evaporator Kit (561307)



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# Important Notice—Please Read

For Maximum System Performance, Vintage Air Recommends the Following:

NOTE: Vintage Air systems are designed to operate with R134a refrigerant only. Use of any other refrigerant could damage your A/C system and/or vehicle, and possibly cause a fire, in addition to potentially voiding the warranties of the A/C system and its components.

### Refrigerant Capacities:

Vintage Air System: 1.8 lbs. (28.8 oz.) or 816 grams of **R134a**, charged by weight with a quality charging station or scale. **NOTE: Use of the proper type and amount of refrigerant is critical to system operation and performance.** 

Other Systems: Consult manufacturer's guidelines.

### Lubricant Capacities:

New Vintage Air-Supplied Sanden Compressor: No additional oil needed (Compressor is shipped with proper oil charge).

All Other Compressors: Consult manufacturer (Some compressors are shipped dry and will need oil added).

### Safety Switches

Your Vintage Air system is equipped with a binary pressure safety switch. A binary switch disengages the compressor clutch in cases of extreme low pressure conditions (refrigerant loss) or excessively high head pressure (406 PSI) to prevent compressor damage or hose rupture. A trinary switch combines Hi/Lo pressure protection with an electric fan operation signal at 254 PSI, and should be substituted for use with electric fans. Compressor safety switches are extremely important since an A/C system relies on refrigerant to circulate lubricant.

### Service Info:

**Protect Your Investment:** Prior to assembly, it is critical that the compressor, evaporator, A/C hoses and fittings, hardlines, condenser and receiver/drier remain capped. Removing caps prior to assembly will allow moisture, insects and debris into the components, possibly leading to reduced performance and/or premature failure of your A/C system. This is especially important with the receiver/drier.

Additionally, when caps are removed for assembly, **BE CAREFUL!** Some components are shipped under pressure with dry nitrogen.

**Evacuate the System for 35-45 Minutes:** Ensure that system components (Drier, compressor, evaporator and condenser) are at a temperature of at least 85°F. On a cool day, the components can be heated with a heat gun *or* by running the engine with the heater on before evacuating. Leak check and charge to specifications.

### Bolts Passing Through Cowl and/or Firewall:

To ensure a watertight seal between the passenger compartment and the vehicle exterior, for all bolts passing through the cowl and/or firewall, Vintage Air recommends coating the threads with silicone prior to installation.

### Heater Hose (not included with this kit):

Heater hose may be purchased from Vintage Air (Part#31800-VUD) or your local parts retailer. Routing and required length will vary based on installer preference.



# **Important Wiring Notice—Please Read**

Some vehicles may have had some or all of their radio interference capacitors removed. There should be a capacitor found at each of the following locations:

- 1. On the positive terminal of the ignition coil.
- 2. If there is a generator, on the armature terminal of the generator.
- 3. If there is a generator, on the battery terminal of the voltage regulator.

Most alternators have a capacitor installed internally to eliminate what is called "whining" as the engine is revved. If whining is heard in the radio, or just to be extra cautious, a radio interference capacitor can be added to the battery terminal of the alternator.

It is also important that the battery lead is in good shape and that the ground leads are not compromised. There should be a heavy ground from the battery to the engine block, and additional grounds to the body and chassis.

If these precautions are not observed, it is possible for voltage spikes to be present on the battery leads. These spikes come from ignition systems and charging systems, and from switching some of the vehicle's other systems on and off. Modern computer-operated equipment can be sensitive to voltage spikes on the power leads, which can cause unexpected resets, strange behavior and/or permanent damage.

Vintage Air strives to harden our products against these types of electrical noise, but there is a point where a vehicle's electrical system can be degraded so much that nothing can help.

Radio interference capacitors should be available at most auto and truck parts suppliers. They typically are cylindrical in shape, a little over an inch long and a little over a half-inch in diameter, and they have a single lead coming from one end of the cylinder with a terminal on the end of the wire, as well as a mounting clip which is screwed into a good ground on the vehicle. The specific value of the capacitance is not too significant in comparison to ignition capacitors that are matched with the coil to reduce pitting of the points.

- Care must be taken, when installing the compressor lead, not to short it to ground. The compressor lead must not be connected to a condenser fan or to any other auxiliary device. Shorting to ground or connecting to a condenser fan or any other auxiliary device may damage wiring or the compressor relay, and/or cause a malfunction.
- When installing ground leads on Gen 5 systems, the blower control ground and ECU ground must be connected directly to the negative battery post.
- For proper system operation, the heater control valve must be connected to the ECU.



# Engine Compartment Disassembly

NOTE: Before starting the installation, check the function of the vehicle (horn, lights, etc.) for proper operation, study the instructions, illustrations, photos & diagrams.

### Perform the following:

- 1. Remove the battery and battery tray (retain).
- 2. Drain the radiator, remove the radiator (retain).
- 3. Evacuate the A/C system if necessary.
- 4. Remove the OEM condenser and drier (discard) (See Figure 1, below).
- 5. Remove the OEM compressor and bracket (discard) (See Figure 1, below).
- 6. Remove the OEM heater hoses (discard) (See Figure 1, below).
- 7. Remove the OEM A/C hoses and firewall grommet (discard) (See Figure 1, below).
- 8. Install a 2 5/8" plastic plug in the firewall (A/C cars only) (See Figure 1a, below).



# **Condenser Assembly and Installation**

Refer to separate instructions included with the condenser kit to install the condenser.
 Binary switch installation (Refer to condenser instructions).

## **Compressor and Brackets**

1. Refer to separate instructions included with the bracket kit to install the compressor bracket.



# Passenger Compartment Disassembly

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### Perform the following:

- 1. Remove the glove box door (retain) (See Figure 1, below).
- 2. Remove the glove box (discard).
- 3. Remove the under dash A/C evaporator (if equipped)
- 4. Remove the OEM heater assembly (discard, retain screws).
- 5. Remove the control panel assembly and radio (retain).
- 6. Refer to the control panel conversion kit instructions for installation of controls.
- 7. Remove the OEM defrost duct assembly (discard).















# Passenger Compartment Wiring

- 1. Select a suitable location for the relay and ground wire with ring terminal above the kick panel cover and trim.
- Secure the relay and ring terminal to the steel behind the kick panel using (2) #12 x 1/2" self-tapping screws as shown in Figure 1, below.
- 3. Route the red and white smaller gauge wires, orange and white larger gauge wires, blue wire, and heater control valve connector through the 5/8" grommet and out through the firewall using the smaller hole in the firewall cover plate (See Photo 1, below).
- **4.** Route the violet power wire to a switched 12v power source on the fuse panel (See Photo 2, below). **NOTE: This requires a male fuse extension (not supplied)**.
- 5. Connect the tan wire to the factory dash lights to enable control panel backlighting (if applicable).
- 6. Connect the BSC wiring to the main harness (See Photo 2, below).
- 7. Connect the main harness to the ECU (See Photo 3, below).



Route red, and white smaller gauge wires, orange and white larger gauge wires, blue wire, and heater control valve connector through 5/8" grommet



Photo 1



# **Evaporator Installation**

1. Place the evaporator module onto the passenger floor board (See Photo 1, below).

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- Lift the evaporator module up under the dashboard, insert both heater hardlines into the corresponding holes on the firewall cover and studs on the evaporator bracket into their designated mounting holes on the firewall (See Photos 2 and 3, below).
- **3.** Secure the bracket to the firewall temporarily with nuts, studs will be replaced with bolts (See Photo 4, below).
- Install the cowl bracket onto the evaporator using (2) 1/4-20 well nuts, and (2) 1/4-20 x 1" serrated flange bolts (See Photo 5, below).
- Secure the evaporator cowl bracket to the cowl using (2) #14 x 3/4" washer head screws (See Photo 6, below). NOTE: The evaporator will be pushed at an upward angle to secure the cowl bracket to the cowl.
- One by one, remove the studs and replace with (2) 1/4-20 x 3/4" serrated flange hex bolts (See Photos 7 and 8, below).







# A/C and Heater Hose Routing

NOTE: Vintage Air Systems use 5/8" heater connections. On engines equipped with 3/4" hose nipples, these will need to be removed and replaced with 5/8" nipples (not supplied). For water pumps with a cast-in 3/4" heater outlet, a  $3/4" \times 5/8"$  reducer fitting in the heater hose (not supplied) or molded hose (Vintage Air Part # 099010) will need to be installed.





# **Engine Compartment Wiring**

NOTE: The following connections are critical to the performance of the system. Before making connections, refer to the Quality Crimp Guidelines, Page 24.

- 1. Route power and ground wires toward the battery (See Photo 1, below).
- 2. Install the supplied heat shrink over the 12 AWG orange standard fuse holder assembly wire and crimp it to the 12 AWG orange wire from the main wiring harness (See Photo 2, below). Slide the heat shrink over the crimp, then apply heat.
- **3.** Install the supplied heat shrink over the 16 AWG black mini fuse holder assembly wire and crimp it to the 16 AWG red wire from the main wiring harness (See Photo 3, below). Slide the heat shrink over the crimp, then apply heat.
- 4. Install the fuses into the holders (See Photos 4 and 5, below).

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5. Install the supplied heat shrink over the white ground wires, then crimp on the supplied ring terminals (See Photo 6, below). Slide the heat shrink over the crimps, then apply heat. NOTE: Both white wires can be crimped to the larger ring terminal. Install the heat shrink, then strip the wires, twist them together and trim to length. Crimp on the ring terminal, then slide the heat shrink over and apply heat (See Photos 7 and 8, below).







# **Under Dash Louver Installation**

- 1. Place the driver-side louver housing under the dash, align 1" from the front edge of the dash and mark mounting holes (See Figure 1, below). Drill 7/64" mounting holes in bottom of the dash (See Figure 1, below).
- Place the center/passenger-side louver bezel under the dash, and align 1" from the front edge of the dash and mark mounting holes. Drill 7/64" mounting holes in bottom of the dash as shown in Figure 1, below.
- **3.** Using (2)  $#8 \times 1/2''$  pan head screws, install the driver-side louver housing under the dash as shown in Figure 1, below.
- 4. Install 1/2" plastic plug into center hole. Using (3) #8 x 1/2" pan head screws, install the center/passengerside louver bezel under the dash as shown in Figure 1, below.
- 5. Install the louvers in the driver-side housing and center/passenger-side louver bezel as shown in Figure 1a, below.
- 6. Once the louver assembly is in place, route the duct hoses and attach them to the correct location on the evaporator as shown in Duct Hose Routing, Page 21.





# Final Steps: Installation Check

		Installation Check
ITI	ITEM TO CHECK	Procedure
	ECU	If no blinking is observed after 1 minute of turning the ignition on, go to the next check.
		If repetetive blinking is observed, go to the <u>Advanced Diagnostics</u> Section to diagnose.
		Set the blower speed control to $OFF$ , confirm that the blower is off.
	Blower speed control	Blower speed control Position the blower speed control to LOW then MEDIUM and then HIGH. <u>At each setting confirm that the blower speed increases</u> , do this by feeling for the amount of air coming from the unit and hearing the blower speed increase.
	Mode control	Set the <b>MODE</b> control to the <b>DASH</b> position. <i>Confirm that air is being blown at the dash vents.</i> Set the <b>MODE</b> control to the <b>FLOOR</b> position. <i>Confirm that air is being blown at the floor vents.</i> Set the <b>MODE</b> control to the <b>DEFROST</b> position. <i>Confirm that all air is being blown from the defrost vents</i>
		If heater lines are installed: Set the MODE control to the DASH position. Set the TEMP control to the MAX HEAT position. <i>Confirm that HOT air is coming from the dash vents.</i>
	Temperature control	If system is charged: Set the TEMP control to the MAX COOL position. <i>Confirm that <u>COLD</u> air is coming from the dash vents.</i>
		Also <i>confirm that the compressor "clicks" on</i> when adjusting the <b>TEMP</b> control from the <b>MAX HEAT</b> position to the <b>MAX COOL</b> position.
	AC Indicator (If applicable)	While the <b>MODE</b> control is set to the <b>DASH</b> position, and the <b>TEMP</b> control is set to the <b>MAX COOL/MIN HEAT</b> position, <i>confirm that the blue AC Indicator light is on</i> .
	Backlight (If applicable)	lf your control panel has backlight capabilities and has been wired, turn the dash lamp on and <u>confirm that the AC</u> panel's legend is lit
	Fittings	Verify AC and Heater fittings are all tight.



# Final Steps: Completing the Install

- 1. Reinstall all previously removed items.
- 2. Install the new glove box and glove box door using OEM screws (See Figure 1, below).
- **3.** Fill radiator with at least a 50/50 mixture of approved antifreeze and distilled water. It is the owner's responsibility to keep the freeze protection at the proper level for the climate in which the vehicle is operated. Failure to follow antifreeze recommendations will cause heater core to corrode prematurely and possibly burst in A/C mode and/or freezing weather, voiding your warranty.
- 4. Double check all fittings, brackets and belts for tightness.
- **5.** Vintage Air recommends that all A/C systems be serviced by a licensed automotive A/C technician.
- **6.** Evacuate the system for a minimum of 45 minutes prior to charging, and perform a leak check prior to servicing.
- 7. Charge the system to the capacities stated on Page 4 of this instruction manual.
- 8. See Operation of Controls procedures on Page 27.





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# Gen 5 Wiring Diagram



\*\*\* Install fuse assemblies at or as near to the battery as possible.





### Heat Operation

### **Temperature Control**

Adjust to desired For maximum heating, adjust to hottest position (adjust Mode Control between HOT and COLD to Adjust to desired reach desired temperature).

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### Defrost/De-fog Operation

**Blower Speed** Adjust to desired speed.

Blower Speed

speed.

mode position

(FLOOR position recommended).

**Temperature Control** Adjust to desired temperature.

# Mode Control

Adjust to DEFROST position for maximum defrost, or between FLOOR and DEFROST positions for a bi-level blend (Compressor is automatically engaged).

OFF	AIR		$70^{\circ}$	ON
COLD		TEMPERATURE		HOT
				$\Box$
OFF		DEFROSTER		DE-ICE

Blower

Speed

DE-ICE



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**Troubleshooting Guide** 

This printed troubleshooting guide is our basic guide that covers common installation problems. To see our advanced diagnostics and troubleshooting guide, please refer to the following page for instructions on how to download the complete guide.

ł WAPNING: While tr

Symptom	Condition	Checks	Actions	Notes
1. Blower stays on biob coood with	No other functions work.	Check for damaged pins or wires in the control panel wire assembly and mating header at ECU.	▲ If found damaged, replace wire assembly or ECU.	
rign speed with ignition on.	All other functions work.	Check for a bad ECU GND. Check for damaged pins or wires in the control panel wire assembly and mating header at ECU.	If found damaged, replace wire assembly or ECU.	If fuse continues to blow, there is a serious problem in
		Check if Blower power fuse is blown. Check for a bad ECU GND.	Replace fuse.     Repair connection.	the wiring. Check all wiring and ensure the wire is not damaged and shorting out along its route.
2	▲System is not charged.	System must be charged for compressor to engage.	→ Charge system.	Danger: Never bypass safety switch with engine running. Serious injury can result.
Compressor will not turn on (All other functions work).	System is charged.	Check for faulty A/C potentiometer or associated wiring (not applicable to 3-pot controls).		To check for proper pot function, check voltage at white/red wire. Voltage should be between 0V and 5V, and will vary with pot lever position.
		faulty thermistor.	Huneck Z-pin connector at ECU nousing.	<ul> <li>Disconnected or faulty thermistor will cause compressor to be disabled.</li> </ul>
3. Compressor will not turn off (All other functions		Check for faulty A/C potentiometer or associated wiring.	Repair or replace pot/control wiring.	Red wire at A/C pot should have approximately 5V with ignition on. White wire will have continuity to chassis ground. White/ Red wire should varv
		Check for faulty A/C relay.	→ Replace relay.	between 0V and 5V when lever is moved up or down.

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Symptom	Condition	Checks	Actions	Notes
4.	Works when engine is not running; shuts off when engine is started	Noise interference from either ignition or alternator.	Install capacitors on ignition coil and alternator. Ensure good ground at all points. Relocate coil and associated wiring away from ECU and ECU wiring. Check for burned or loose plug wires.	Ignition noise (radia conducted) will caus system to shut dowr high voltage spikes. is suspected, check
System will not turn on, or runs intermittently.	\/	Verify connections on power lead, ignition lead, and both white ground wires.	Check for power at ECU, and confirm ignition is being applied to ECU properly.	quality oscilloscope. Spikes greater than 16V will shut down the ECU. Install a radio capacitor at the positive post of the ignition
	Will not turn on under any conditions.	Verify battery voltage is greater than 10 volts and less than 16 while engine is running.	Verify proper meter function by checking the condition of a known good battery.	coil (see radio capacitor installation bulletin). A faulty alternator or worn out battery can also result in this condition.
<b>5.</b> Loss of mode door function.	r →No mode change at all.	Check for damaged mode switch or potentiometer and associated wiring.		
<b>6</b> . Blower turns on and off rapidly.	Battery voltage is at least 12V. Battery voltage is less than 12V.	Check for at least 12V at circuit breaker. Check for faulty battery or alternator.	<ul> <li>Ensure all system grounds and power connections are clean and tight.</li> <li>Charge battery.</li> </ul>	System shuts off blower at 10V. Poor connections or weak battery can cause shutdown at up to 11V.
<ol> <li>Erratic functions of blower, mode, temp, etc.</li> </ol>	Is of	Check for damaged switch or pot and associated wiring.	or → Repair or replace.	
	A	Advanced Diag	Diagnostics and Troubleshooting Guide	ting Guide
If after refer resolved, m Guide that c	If after referencing the Troubleshooting Guide, the issue is not resolved, move to The Advanced Diagnostics and Troubleshooting Guide that covers the following:	g Guide, the issue is not ostics and Troubleshooting	Access the latest version of the Advanced Diagnostics and Troubleshooting Guide by scanning the following OR code on your mobile device:	nostics and ig QR code on your
ECU Di     1. ECU E     Firmw	ECU Diagnostics Codes 1. ECU Blink Sequence 2. Firmware Version Number			
3. ECU N 4. ECU S 5. Diago	3. ECU Model Number 4. ECU Start-Up Blink Sequence			
• Comple	complete Advanced Troubleshooting Guideli	oting Guidelines	You can also access the guide by typing the following address into your web browser: https://www.vintageair.com/instructions_pdf/905000.pdf	owing address into <u>25000.pdf</u>

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