

Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value

Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, commonly known as *MERV* Rating, is a measurement scale designed in 1987 by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) to rate the effectiveness of air filters.

The scale is designed to represent the worst case performance of a filter when dealing with particles in the range of 0.3 to 10 micrometers. The MERV rating is from 1 to 16. Higher MERV ratings correspond to a greater percentage of particles captured on each pass, with a MERV 16 filter capturing more than 95% of the particles over the full range.

MERV Rating	Example Application
20	Cleanroom
16	General Surgery
12	Superior Residential
8	General Commercial
4	Minimal Filtration

Use this chart to help compare the differences in filters.