

# The Preventive Maintenance Series

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## Product Review: King Electric Two Stage Garage Heater

My attached standard size two car garage (25X22) requires some type of supplemental heat in very cold weather to be comfortable working. I had previously purchased a Cadet “Hot One” (made in USA) that was either portable or could be ceiling mounted. I used it for 10 years on the floor with an extension cord. In zero weather the garage drops to 45 overnight and the Cadet could warm it up to 60 in about two hours. Its output was 13,000 BTUs and drew about 17amps (240V). With the idea of a quicker warm up I did a little shopping for a permanent type heater that would fit in a corner at the ceiling and still work with my 10 AWG garage wiring which also powers my compressor and MIG welder. And it had to be made in the USA; I am really tired of Chinese products with beautiful paint jobs and short life spans.

The unit I purchased at Menards was a King Electric Model KB205-1, made in the USA by the same company that sells the Cadet mentioned above. It can be ceiling mounted, wall mounted or sit on a shelf or cabinet; mounting hardware included. This model has 17,000 BTUs and draws 20 amps (240 volts) measured at the breaker. It is designed to be wired direct but you could make up an extension cord, which is what I did for my Cadet model, and move it as necessary. It has a temperature control similar to a house thermostat where you use a button to set the shut off temperature and it has a readout that shows the inlet temperature. A remote control is also included. On a recent 20 degree morning I found that it raised the garage temperature from 53 to 65 (opposite side of the garage from the heater) in less than 30 minutes. The price was \$269.00 on sale.

