

Energy Star Home designation is achieved by earning a total score from the third party Certified Energy Star Rater that exceeds current building code requirements by 15%. The rater uses a computerized Energy Analysis, Thermal Bypass Checklist, Blower Door Test, and a Duct Blaster Test to achieve the rating. Energy Star raters are trained in climate-specific conditions, and evaluate the house based on performance in local climate conditions.

A variety of best practices go into the making of an Energy Star Qualified home. Below are examples of practices that make up the Energy Star difference:



Installing blocking against cold air spaces like garages protects interior areas from air from the unheated spaces.



Energy Star practices include cutting insulation cleanly around outlets and other objects to avoid compressing insulation and reducing its R-value.



In areas between garages and finished living space above, insulation is upgraded from the required R-30 to two layers of R-19, to completely fill the cavity, eliminating cold air space.



Penetrations to the attic or outside of the home created by incoming wiring are sealed to prevent outside air infiltration.



Fireplaces have blocking installed to reduce cold air movement between the fireplace unit, the chimney, and the interior of the home. This blocking will also be sealed to further reduce air infiltration.



Foam insulation and blocking where pipes and wires enter chases block air movement between the unconditioned chases and the interior walls, ceilings and floors.



Caulking along sills and filling any holes or gaps along the sill plate keeps outside air out.



A framing technique called "California Corners" make outside corners easier to fully insulate, and the insulation more effective.



Properly placed insulated surrounds an HVAC duct, instead of being compressed behind it.

Enjoy energy savings, increased comfort, and a healthier environment in an ENERGY STAR qualified home.


