

Energy Efficient Home Features Translated to Benefits

| Home Feature* | Benefits | | | | | Benefits Description |
|---|------------|----------------|------------|---------|----------------|--|
| | Health | Comfort | Durability | Savings | Sustainability | |
| HVAC - Furnace - High Efficiency | | C | | \$ | S | Take comfort in the superior heating performance and savings of a high-efficiency gas furnace. For maximum efficiency, look for a furnace with an AFUE rating of 92 percent or higher. |
| HVAC - Heat Pump - Start Up Testing | | C | | \$ | S | This test done after installation ensures the equipment will run to its optimum rated efficiency to deliver comfort, save money and have a longer system life. |
| HVAC - Heat Pump - High Efficiency (Ducted) | | C | | \$ | S | Heat pumps run on electricity to provide efficient heating and cooling. They move heat rather than generating it, so you can save energy while keeping your home cozy, no matter the season. |
| HVAC - Heat Pump - Mini Split (Ductless) | H | C | | \$ | S | A highly efficient option for heating and cooling your home. These systems offer quiet operation and evenly distribute warm and cool air while eliminating the risks of leaky ductwork. |
| HVAC - Ducts - Sealing & Testing | H | C | D | \$ | S | When air slips through leaky ductwork, you're losing energy and money and breathing unhealthy air. Sealing ducts greatly reduces these risks while improving home comfort, efficiency and indoor air quality. |
| HVAC - Ducts - Dedicated Air Return in Bedrooms | H | C | | \$ | S | Return ducts in bedroom areas helps ensure that the heating and cooling system provides even airflow to all parts of the home. This can improve comfort, durability, indoor air quality and energy efficiency. |
| HVAC - MERV Filter Rated 8 or Higher | H | C | | | S | The higher the MERV rating, the better the filtration. An level 8 removes at least 70% of dust, pollen, and mold spores. |
| HVAC - Ventilation - HRV or ERV | H | C | | \$ | S | HRVs or ERVs provide superior air quality and conserve energy by transferring 65-95% of the outgoing warm or cold indoor air into the incoming fresh outdoor air. |
| HVAC - Ventilation - Whole-home System | H | C | D | | S | Mechanical ventilation systems exhaust stale air and brings healthy, fresh air into the home. |
| HVAC - Ventilation - Balanced Ventilation System | H | C | D | | | Exhausts stale, moist air and brings in fresh, filtered outdoor air |
| Air Sealing - Home Air Tightening & Testing | H | C | D | \$ | S | A tightly sealed home is an energy-efficient home that minimizes air leakage and also means better indoor air quality, enhanced comfort, and greater durability against the elements. |
| Insulation - Insulation & Framing Inspections | H | C | D | \$ | S | Thorough inspection ensures proper installation and completion of important behind-the-walls details. |
| Insulation - High Efficiency Insulation | | C | | \$ | S | A higher R-Value (R-49 in the attic, R-23 in the walls) means more insulation that keeps heat in during the winter and out during the summer so you can enjoy year-round comfort and savings. |
| Insulation - Advanced Framing | | C | | \$ | S | Reduces the amount of lumber needed to build walls, floors and ceilings while increasing the amount of insulation within the home. Less material, more energy savings — that's a solid combo! |
| Insulation - Blown-in Wall Insulation | | C | | \$ | S | Blowing in insulation ensures a better seal meaning greater comfort and energy savings |
| Windows - High Efficiency | | C | | \$ | S | High-performance windows with low U-Factors help keep the temperature, and your energy bill, in check. They also do a great job of reducing drafts and noise. |
| Water Heater - High Efficiency Gas | | | | \$ | S | Water heating accounts for up to 30% of the energy consumption in the average home. A high-efficiency storage water heater, can bring that number way down without sacrificing performance. |
| Water Heater - Tankless Gas | | | | \$ | S | Tankless hot water heaters use up to 60% less energy by rapidly heating water on demand, keeping hot water constantly available. |
| Water Heater - Heat Pump | | | | \$ | S | Heats water using a fraction of the energy used by typical electric water heaters. |
| Energy - ENERGY STAR Lighting | | | | \$ | S | Turn on the savings with ENERGY STAR® certified LEDs and CFLs. These ultra-efficient bulbs use up to 85 percent less energy than traditional light bulbs and can last 10 to 20 times longer. |
| Energy - ENERGY STAR Dishwasher | | | | \$ | S | ENERGY STAR® certified appliances use up to 50 percent less energy and water than standard models, bringing efficiency, convenience and savings to your kitchen, laundry room and beyond. |
| Energy - Energy Modeling | | | | \$ | S | Computer simulations estimate the home's energy use based on size, systems, and equipment, which allows builders to ensure the home will perform according to the design. |
| | Key | Health | H | | | |
| | | Comfort | C | | | |
| | | Durability | D | | | |
| | | Savings | \$ | | | |
| | | Sustainability | S | | | |