

HOME PERFORMANCE WITH ENERGY STAR®

Home energy assessments

A home energy assessment helps you pinpoint where your house is losing energy so you can prioritize improvements for greater comfort and savings. Upgrades such as air sealing and insulation and HVAC replacement can save you approximately 15% or more on your utility bills while increasing home comfort, safety, durability and resale value. Plus, you'll receive cash incentives for qualified improvements.

1

Plan ahead

In preparation for your assessment, you should:

- Arrange to be home to consult with your Trade Ally contractor.
- Expect the process to take 2–4 hours.
- Make sure there is clear access to mechanical equipment. Fireplaces and/or wood-burning stoves must be extinguished 24 hours before the assessment, with ashes removed. Secure pets and allow access to all rooms.
- Plan to provide access to one or more years worth of utility bills or energy usage.

2

What to expect

During the assessment, your Trade Ally contractor will perform the following services:



- 1 **Visual inspection** of your living space, attic, basement or crawlspace.
- 2 **Blower door test** to measure air tightness.
- 3 **Combustion safety and ventilation test** to ensure mechanicals, such as your furnace and water heater, are operating correctly and there is sufficient air circulation.
- 4 **Infrared camera scan** (optional) to identify air leaks and lack of insulation in walls.

3

After the assessment

Your Trade Ally contractor will provide you with a customized energy report highlighting which upgrades are the best investment for your home. They'll also go over incentives and help you prioritize efficiency measures before pricing out the work, presenting a contract and completing improvements.



Could your home use a boost?

Every home can benefit from an energy assessment, especially if you're experiencing any of the following:

- Drafty rooms
- Fluctuating temperatures
- Inefficient heating and cooling equipment
- Moisture and mold issues
- Ice dams
- An aging home

For more information, see reverse side.



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Frequently asked questions

1

What is a blower door test?

A BPI certified assessment will always include a blower door test, which measures the air tightness of your home and helps locate air leaks. When scheduling your assessment, make sure this test is included.



2

What is R-value?

R-value rates insulation performance by measuring its resistance to temperature change. The higher the R-value, the more comfortable and energy efficient your home will be.

3

What are some common energy efficiency improvements?

Reducing drafts with whole-house air sealing, adding and improving insulation in the attic, walls and byways, and improving indoor air quality through ventilation.

Schedule your appointment

Find a Trade Ally contractor to assess your home at [focusonenergy.com/wholehome](https://www.focusonenergy.com/wholehome) or call 855.339.8866.

Meet the assessor

Your assessment will be performed by a Building Performance Institute (BPI) trained Trade Ally contractor. These are true energy experts who understand every aspect of home performance and how the many components—from the number of occupants to local climate, age of the home, size and layout—all interact.

Save on individual upgrades

If you prefer to bypass the assessment and jump right into making home improvements, FOCUS ON ENERGY® offers cash incentives for select upgrades such as insulation projects, efficient heating and cooling equipment, and renewable energy systems.

REDUCING ENERGY WASTE ACROSS WISCONSIN

Incentives are subject to change and cannot exceed project costs. Focus on Energy, Wisconsin utilities' statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy, helps eligible residents and businesses save energy and money while protecting the environment. Focus on Energy information, resources and financial incentives help to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that otherwise would not be completed. ©2019 Wisconsin Focus on Energy HPE-2104-0519

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