



# ENERGY STAR® FOR NEW HOMES



*ENERGY STAR for New Homes supports the federal ecoACTION initiative by increasing the levels of energy efficiency for newly built homes. ENERGY STAR for New Homes is currently available in many regions of Canada. Check [newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca](http://newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca) to determine if the program is available in your area.*

*Since 2001, Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan's) Office of Energy Efficiency has promoted the international ENERGY STAR® symbol in Canada and monitored its use. Products bearing the ENERGY STAR symbol help save energy, save money and protect the environment.*

*Any product or piece of equipment that displays the ENERGY STAR symbol is energy-efficient and meets stringent technical specifications.*

## What are ENERGY STAR qualified new homes?

In 2005, NRCan expanded the ENERGY STAR Initiative in Canada to include energy-efficient new homes. The ENERGY STAR qualified new homes have energy efficiency features that result in significant energy savings and improved homeowner's comfort. The increased efficiency of these homes translates into reduced energy costs for homeowners.

## What's involved?

Typical energy efficiency measures for these new homes include

- insulation upgrades
- higher-performance windows
- better draft proofing
- more efficient heating, hot water and air-conditioning systems

The benefits to the new homeowner are

- lower energy bills
- improved comfort
- government-backed quality assurance
- lower impact on the environment

## How energy-efficient is an ENERGY STAR qualified home?



ENERGY STAR qualified new homes are designed to be approximately 25 percent more energy-efficient than those built to minimum building code requirements. Compared with conventionally built houses, these homes use considerably less energy for heating and cooling. Therefore, when you see the ENERGY STAR symbol on a house, you know that it is an energy-efficient home that has lower energy demand and better overall performance. It also shows you that your builder has met its commitment to making your home significantly more energy efficient.

## ENERGY STAR and the environment

Today, 17 percent of the energy consumed in Canada is used to run our homes. Every time we use energy from fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, we produce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that contribute to climate change.

An ENERGY STAR qualified new home reduces GHG emissions by approximately three tonnes per year.

## Is there any financial help for new home buyers?

There are several regional rebates and incentives available for home buyers and home builders. To see if any apply to you, check our list of rebates and incentives at [newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca](http://newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca) or call 1-800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232) or TTY (1-800-926-9105). You may also contact home builder associations and utilities for information about local and regional programs and incentives.



## Who should I contact?

If you would like to participate in the program, or if you are a home buyer wanting to purchase an ENERGY STAR labelled home, visit our Web site at [newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca](http://newhomes.nrcan.gc.ca) to find your service organization's contact information.

To order publications about energy efficiency for new houses, call 1-800-387-2000.

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*Leading Canadians to Energy Efficiency at Home, at Work and on the Road*

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