



What is the EnerGuide Rating System?



An EnerGuide rating shows a standard measure of your home's energy performance. It shows you (and future buyers) exactly how energy efficient your home is. The rating is calculated based on standard operation assumptions so that you can compare the energy performance of one house against another.

The home's energy efficiency level is rated on a scale of 0 to 100. A rating of 0 represents a home with major air leakage, no insulation and extremely high energy consumption. A rating of 100 represents a house that is airtight, well insulated, sufficiently ventilated and requires no purchased energy on an annual basis.

Typical Energy Efficiency Ratings	
Type of House	Rating
New House build to building code standards	65-72
New house with some energy-efficiency improvements	73-79
Energy-efficient new house	80-90
House requiring little or no purchased energy	91-100

For a brand new house, a rating of 80 or higher is excellent.

How does the EnerGuide Rating Service work?

The builder contacts an EnerGuide Rating System Service Organization to get a list of certified energy advisors in their area.

- 1) The builder then works with an energy advisor to enroll and label houses in the program.
- 2) The energy advisor undertakes an analysis of the new house plans, noting components that will affect the energy efficiency of the house (i.e. mechanical equipment, windows, building envelope, insulation levels, etc.)
- 3) The energy advisor inputs this information into NRCAN's energy simulation software to determine the estimated annual energy usage and EnerGuide Rating for the house as per the plans.

- 4) The energy advisor also provides variations of the simulation that include energy efficient upgrades which improve the energy performance of the home. The energy advisor ensures that good Building Science principles are maintained.
- 5) The "as per plans" rating and the optional energy efficient upgrades are provided to the builder for costing analysis.
- 6) The builder meets with the homeowner to agree on the house specs and energy efficient components that their house will have, and at what cost.
- 7) When construction is complete, the builder calls the energy advisor to come back to the house to verify the energy efficient upgrades and performs a blower door test.
- 8) After the data has been collected, the homeowner is provided with the evaluation report and official label that shows the EnerGuide rating of the home. This label should then be affixed to the electrical panel.

