

SAVE MONEY BY
IMPROVING YOUR HOME'S

ENERGY EFFICIENCY



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Does your home feel too warm during summer and too cold in winter? This could mean that your home is not as energy-efficient as it could be. Poor energy efficiency doesn't just make your home uncomfortable; it also increases wear and tear on your appliances and increases your electric bill!

The longer you ignore your home's poor energy efficiency, the more it will cost you in the long run. This is why we've come up with a quick guide to check and improve your home's overall energy efficiency.



PART 1

THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING
A HOME ENERGY EVALUATION

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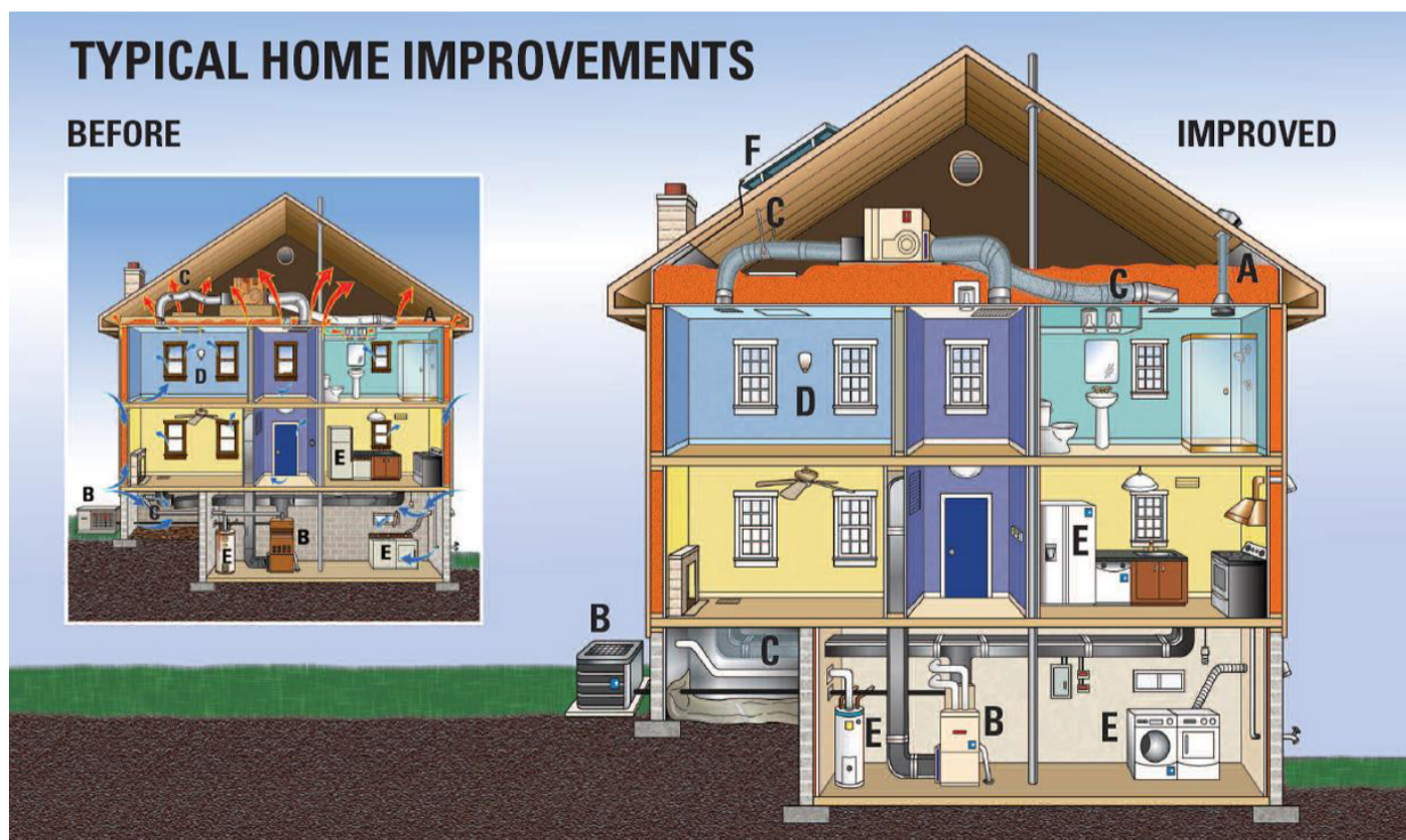
Before purchasing insulation or an energy-efficient furnace/AC, you should start by finding out how energy-efficient your home is or isn't. The best way to do this is by having a home energy evaluation.

A home energy evaluation or audit is a complete assessment of your home, focusing on finding out if your home meets standard requirements for energy efficiency and otherwise pinpointing parts of your home to prioritize.

In order to evaluate your home, a home energy evaluation takes a look at seven areas that are directly related to your home's energy efficiency:

1. The condition of your air sealing
2. Insulation
3. Duct work
4. Heating and cooling systems
5. Water heating
6. Lighting
7. Windows and doors.

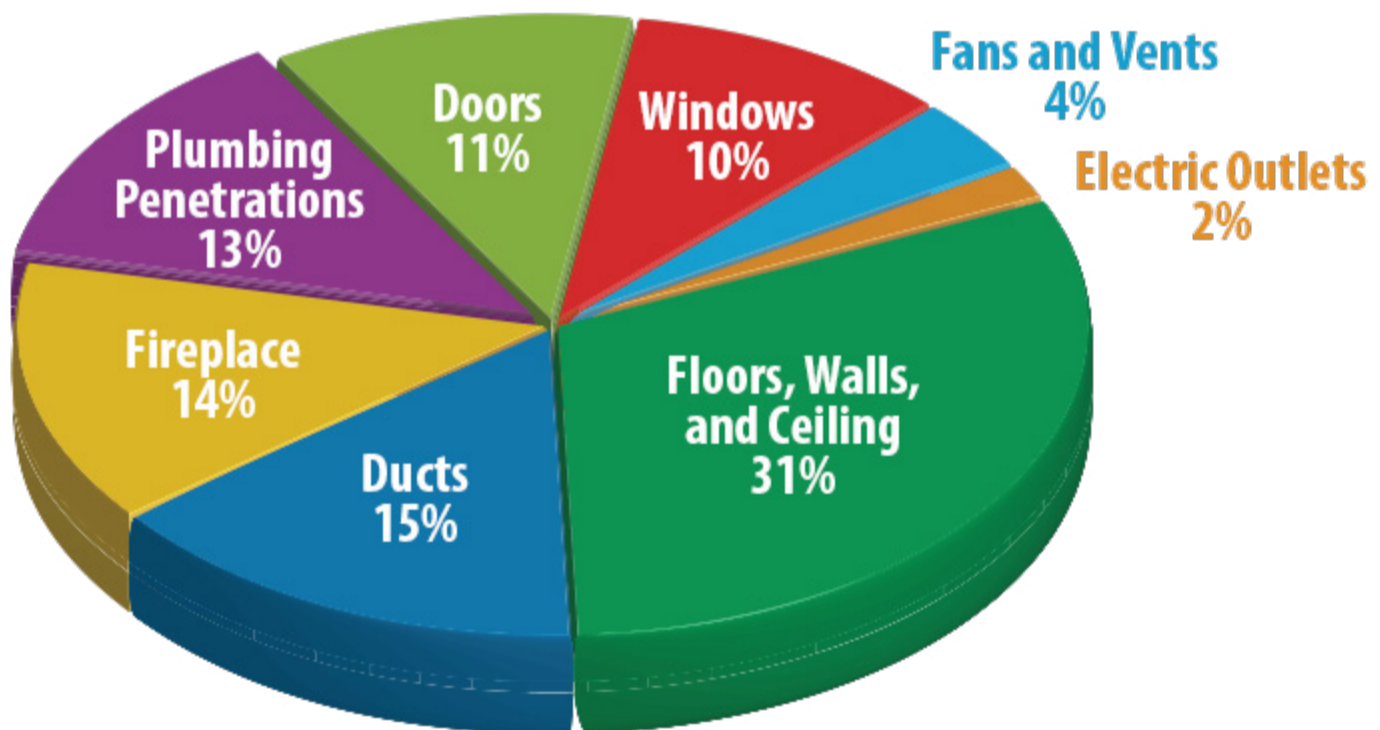
Each of these areas are rated individually for more detailed results.



Having your home evaluated gives you a better understanding of your home's energy efficiency strengths and weaknesses. With the home energy evaluation, you can better target your home improvement dollars and invest in the upgrades that will yield you the best return. After all, why spend on upgrading your insulation if it was the heater or air conditioner that was in need of upgrading?

The other benefit of a home energy evaluation is the fact that you end up reducing your home's overall energy consumption, as well as increasing comfort indoors. After pinpointing the problem areas of your home and fixing them, you can expect to see a drop in your monthly electric bill, saving you a significant amount of money over the long term.

Getting your home evaluated is easy; all you have to do is contact a home improvement company that offers the service and schedule a visit from a certified evaluator. This is your first step in making your home more energy-efficient, so the sooner you get it done, the better!



Finding which areas of your home need improvement is good, but what if you don't have the budget readily available? Check out part 2 for a great solution!



PART 2

FINANCING YOUR HOME
ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS

Although many homeowners want to improve their home's energy efficiency, many feel like they can't go through with the necessary improvements because the upgrades are way beyond their budget. As a result, their homes remain uncomfortable during warm or cold weather and continue using more energy than needed.

Homeowners should not stop there. Financing options can be a part of a home energy evaluation. Depending on where you live, it's possible that local governments may have programs to help homeowners finance projects that improve their home's energy efficiency. Local governments are starting to reward home owners who purchase products or invest in home upgrades that improve the use of energy and use clean energy.

Some city governments in Michigan are focused on improving the energy efficiency of homes by around 50%.



Through a home energy evaluation, we can tell you if your local government has financing options available to you. Also, we are a Michigan Saves authorized contractor and can offer other financing options with rates as low as 4.9%.

PART 3

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO
IMPLEMENTING A HOME
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDIT

Our home energy efficiency audit is a complete home assessment of your home and the evaluation is focused on reducing the amount of energy used and lost from insufficient insulation in your home.

WMGB Home Improvement has a team of home energy specialists who are Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified. We conduct a whole house energy audit in your home to show you how your home uses and loses energy and where you are losing money due to energy inefficiencies.



The seven energy areas that we make sure to test and evaluate are: air sealing, insulation, duct work, heating and cooling systems, water heating, lighting, and windows/doors. All of these work together to help your home as a complete unit. Each category has an influence on the others. For example, heating and cooling costs depend on many factors such as: insulation levels, air leakage, duct leakage and HVAC system efficiency. Water heating expenses depend on the efficiency of the water heater, the types of shower heads in use, pipe insulation, dishwasher and washing machine efficiency and overall hot water demand.



To get started with your home energy audit, contact WMGB Home Improvement and get started today with saving money!



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