

THE SMART HOMEBUYER'S CHECKLIST

NORTHWEST



At first glance, ENERGY STAR[®] homes may look similar to other new homes built to Idaho's standard code, but look at what's behind the walls and you'll see substantial differences that will provide additional benefits for years to come. An ENERGY STAR home will bring you increased comfort and quiet, improved indoor air quality and lower energy bills. Before you purchase a new home, use this checklist to compare the features and benefits of standard code homes versus ENERGY STAR homes.

New Home Features	Standard New Home	ENERGY STAR Home
This home has been inspected, performance tested and certified by a third party to ensure energy efficiency measures have been installed.		✓
This home has an ENERGY STAR certificate—your proof that you've purchased an energy efficient home.		✓
This home has a minimum of R-20 wall, R-30 floor and R-38 attic insulation that has been correctly installed. Increased and properly installed insulation helps make your home more quiet and efficient.		✓
This home has energy efficient windows with a U-value of .30 or lower. All doors in this home are ENERGY STAR [®] qualified.		✓
This home has an energy efficient 9.0 HSPF/14.5 SEER heat pump with electric backup or a 90 AFUE gas furnace with a 13 SEER central air conditioning unit, which will help lower your utility bills.		✓
This home's duct system has been sealed and tested for tightness to ensure energy savings and improve indoor air quality. Ducts are covered by R8 insulation.		✓
This home has sealed or power vented combustion appliances to ensure your safety.		✓
The lighting in this home is comprised of at least 80% ENERGY STAR bulbs, fixtures or both.		✓
The built-in appliances in this home are ENERGY STAR rated to lower energy costs.		✓