

To our friends at

*Welcome to Your New
RESNET Certified Home!*

You invested in a home that is better for your family's health, and comfort. This investment will be returned—and then some—in energy savings over the life of the home. Let's learn more about your new home!



Energy Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Efficient HVAC System

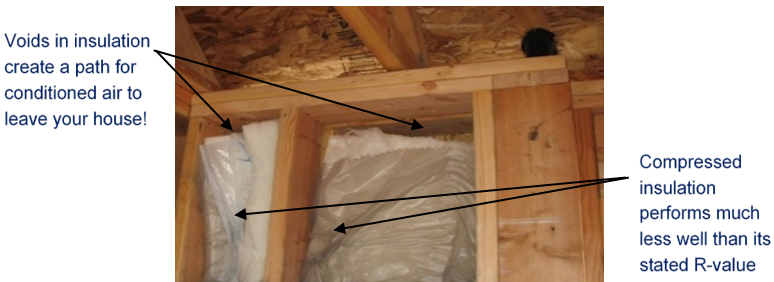
Your home has a Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) system designed to provide maximum comfort while saving energy. This equipment is designed and installed by certified contractors and is properly sized to meet the needs of your home, ensuring quiet, efficient operation. If your home has a duct system, it is designed and tested to deliver conditioned air to the house, not leak it to—or suck air from—the crawlspace under your house or the attic above.

High Performance Windows and Doors

Using advanced technologies like protective coatings and insulated frames, the windows in your home help keep heat in during winter and out during summer, reducing the need for your HVAC system to work hard. They also block damaging ultraviolet sunlight that can discolor carpets and furnishings.

Better, Properly Installed Insulation

Building codes in the Northwest require that all new homes have substantial insulation in the walls, floor and ceiling, but that's only half the story. You have to know the insulation is installed well. Improperly installed insulation, such as seen below, may have voids and compression, reducing or eliminating the effectiveness of the insulating material.



RESNET-certified home energy raters verify that the insulation in your home is installed to manufacturer specifications, with minimal voids and compression, in full contact with the surface being insulated. This ensures that your insulation is actually doing its job, reducing energy bills and increasing your comfort!

No gaps or voids –
this insulation is
doing its job!



Inspected by a
certified home
energy rater to meet
RESNET insulation
installation
specifications.

Tested and Commissioned Fans

Any whole-house and ventilation spot fans in your home have been tested and commissioned to provide an adequate, controlled supply of fresh air and reduce indoor air pollutants. Premium air filters are used to help reduce dust, allergens, and other airborne pollutants.

Advanced Air Sealing

Your home was tested to identify and reduce air leakage, which reduces the need to heat or cool unwanted outside air and reduces uncomfortable drafts. When the windows and doors were installed, they were well sealed using caulk or other approved sealing materials, eliminating leaks as well as the potential for dirt or moisture to enter the home. In the long run, this approach protects your home from mold and moisture damage.

Independently Certified

Raters conduct onsite inspections and testing of HERS rated homes to ensure accurate energy modeling and performance testing with field data collection. The process includes a blower door test to measure air leakage in the house, a Duct Blaster test to measure duct leakage, and a comprehensive set of inspections to assure proper construction details.

Your rater also works with Washington State University Energy Program (WSU), an independent third-party quality assurance and training provider. WSU staff routinely conduct quality assurance inspections and testing to make sure that all program standards are adhered to.



What is the HOME ENERGY RATING SYSTEM (HERS) INDEX?



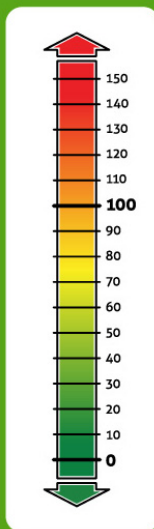
✓ The **national standard** by which a home's energy efficiency is inspected and rated.

✓ A typical home built to 2006 energy efficiency standards scores 100 on the HERS Index.

✓ A 1-Point change in the HERS Index represents a 1% change in energy use.

✓ A lower Index Score means a home uses less energy.

✓ A home with a HERS Index Score of 0 produces as much energy annually as it uses.



✓ A simple, easy to understand system for prospective homebuyers, Realtors, Appraisers and utilities to compare the energy performance of homes.



The HERS Index accounts for a home's energy consumption of heating, cooling, water heating, lighting and some appliances.

Your Home's HERS Score

For more information,
contact NWRater@Energy.WSU.edu

Program: Todd Currier, 360-956-2038

Technical: Jonathan Jones, 509-735-2745



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