

What is a HERS rating?

The Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index is the industry standard by which a home's energy efficiency is measured. It's also the nationally recognized system for inspecting and calculating a home's energy performance.

HERS scores are based on a scale of 0 - 150, with 100 being the standard score for a new home. The lower the score, the more energy-efficient the home.

A *Smarter Greener Better* Home has an average HERS index score of 66*, meaning the home is nearly 35% more energy efficient than a standard new home. The more energy efficient the home, the more green for your wallet and the environment.

Zero Energy Homes Average Smarter Greener Better Home 66

Existing Homes

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 **100** 110 120 130 140 150

MOST EFFICIENT

Standard New Home **LEAST EFFICIENT**

* Based on past program participation



Saving Money

begins with

Smarter Greener Better®

Homes

Learn more about energy-efficient homes and appliances at

www.swgasliving.com/sgbhomes or call our Energy Specialists at 1-800-654-2765.





Scan this with your mobile device.



WHAT IS AN

ENERGY STAR® Home?

An ENERGY STAR certification from the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy guarantees that a new home is significantly more energy efficient than a standard home. To qualify for ENERGY STAR certification, a builder must meet stringent standards of construction and qualifying homes must be inspected and certified by an independent company.



ENERGY STAR (Version 3) incorporates a number of cost-effective energy efficiency technologies and building science practices that improve the efficiency, durability, and indoor air quality of ENERGY STAR certified homes, making them at least 20-30% more energy efficient than standard new homes.

Homes built under ENERGY STAR (Version 3) are also subject to a higher level of verification, providing homeowners with greater assurance that efficiency measures are properly installed and the home's target Home Energy Rating Systems (HERS) index score for the home meets or exceeds expectations.

The HERS index score is an important part of the home energy rating process. It is a tool used to measure home energy performance and in conjunction with the ENERGY STAR rating, it clearly differentiates the homes built to higher standards.





Why should I buy an ENERGY STAR home?

An ENERGY STAR home certified through the Southwest Gas Smarter Greener Better Homes program offers you lower utility bills, increased comfort, and assurance of quality.

Smarter

Superior construction, energy-efficient windows and appliances found in ENERGY STAR homes decrease your home's energy usage.

Greener

Beyond a home with quality, comfort and value, an ENERGY STAR home also reduces your carbon footprint, protecting our environment and natural resources.

Better

An ENERGY STAR home provides all the features and amenities you want in a new home: tighter construction, improved insulation, tightly sealed ducts, and advance-design windows. This includes high-efficiency heating, water heating and cooling systems, along with choices for other natural gas appliances.

Benefits

Peace of Mind

The government-backed ENERGY STAR label makes it easy to identify homes that are truly energy efficient and meet strict energy efficiency guidelines.

increase comfort

Smart Investment

By choosing a home with the ENERGY STAR label, you can be confident that it will have an increasing valued feature when the time comes to sell.

Wall-to-Wall Comfort

From the moment you walk in the door of an ENERGY STAR home, you'll enjoy consistent temperatures, improved air quality and greater durability.

Lower Ownership Costs

ENERGY STAR homes are typically 20-30% more efficient than standard homes, delivering \$200 to \$400 in annual savings on utility bills.