

Your Guide to Getting Started



www.energystar.gov/hpwes

Expert home improvements are just a few steps away. Home Performance with ENERGY STAR connects homeowners to qualified contractors who have been trained to evaluate the entire home and offer tested solutions that have improved hundreds of thousands of homes.



- 1** Use [Find Local Help](http://www.energystar.gov/hpwes) at www.energystar.gov/hpwes to locate a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program Sponsor near you.
- 2** Obtain a list of participating contractors from your Sponsor.
- 3** Select a contractor and schedule your home performance assessment to determine your home's condition and energy performance. Here's what's included:
 - **Homeowner Interview:** A discussion to identify any specific comfort issues and understand typical living patterns in your home
 - **Energy Bills Review:** A review of historical energy use in your home, if available, to serve as a benchmark for projected savings estimates
 - **Home Evaluation:** A visual inspection of the exterior, interior, home envelope, and all mechanical systems to determine their condition
 - **Safety Check & Testing:** A combination of diagnostic tests to identify leaks, moisture problems, or ventilation issues and assess the home's energy performance
 - **Home Improvement Recommendations:** A prioritized list of improvement measures based on health and safety issues, comfort, and overall cost-benefit
- 4** Review, prioritize and schedule home improvements.
 - Ask your participating contractor about any available rebates in your area.
 - Ask your participating contractor about their plans for addressing health and safety, indoor air quality, and moisture.
 - The quality of the installation is at least as important as the quality of the equipment and materials. Your participating contractor should be committed to following all manufacturer installation guidelines and specified industry standards for insulation, heating and cooling equipment, and other components.
 - If you are not ready to perform all the work recommended by your contractor, work together to decide which improvements to make first, second, and third because they can affect one another.
- 5** Begin to experience greater comfort and lower utility bills!
 - After you've made improvements, make sure to follow the maintenance suggestions of your contractor and the equipment manufacturer.



ENERGY STAR® is the simple choice for energy efficiency. For more than 20 years, people across America have looked to the ENERGY STAR program for guidance on saving energy, saving money, and protecting the environment. Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is a systematic approach to improving energy efficiency and comfort in homes, while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. Join the millions already making a difference at energystar.gov.