



Home Energy Assessments: the more you know, the more you can save

What is a home energy assessment?

Understanding your home's energy efficiency is the first step toward lowering your monthly power bill and making your home feel more comfortable year-round. In a home energy assessment, you gain an understanding of your energy use, thanks to an evaluation by a trained professional. At the end of the process, you'll know your next steps for improving your home's efficiency and saving money.

A home energy assessment is a room-by-room evaluation of your home's energy usage.

Professionals may:

- Use special equipment to measure air leaks
- Ask about hot or cold areas, drafts, or temperature concerns
- Discuss your energy bills and routine usage.

Ultimately, a home energy assessment will help you prioritize the actions you need to take to save money, improve your home's comfort, and reduce energy usage.

Is a Home Energy Assessment right for me?

A home energy assessment is always a valuable resource, but it's especially important if you...

- Recently purchased a home that is more than 20 years old
- Are considering a renovation
- Are interested in increasing your home's efficiency
- Live in a home that is more than 15 years old
- Are replacing your HVAC system
- Have noticed significant hot and cold spots around your house

Why a home energy assessment is worth every penny

Cost Savings

As a homeowner, saving energy is a direct result of increasing your home's energy efficiency. A home energy assessment gives you a blueprint for improving your home's energy usage in order to save you money.

Efficiency

Your home may be wasting energy in places that you don't even know about – issues may arise through:

- Gaps and holes around electrical and plumbing
- Leaks in ductwork
- Deteriorated weatherstripping around doors and windows
- Unsealed wall framing in the attic

A professional can use your home energy assessment to inform you of exactly where to focus your improvements, resulting in more money saved and less energy wasted in your home.

Safety/Health

Having a home energy assessment will help you identify ways to improve your indoor air quality, particularly if dust and pollen inside your home are the result of air or duct leakage. In addition, the assessment includes combustion safety testing, which verifies the safe operation of gas water heaters and gas furnaces.

The bottom line: a home energy assessment provides you with a report of your home's performance, helping you prioritize areas of concern. At the end of the assessment, you'll know what to do in order to provide your family with a safer and healthier home environment.

Comfort

The home energy assessment provides a blueprint for potential upgrades and improvements that will increase your home's comfort. This can include improved temperature regulation, eliminated hot and cold spots, and no more drafty doors and windows.

Let's talk about Rebates!

We offer a rebate for 50% of the cost of this assessment, up to \$150 as a part of our Home Energy Improvement Program. This means you save money up front with the rebate and then, once you've completed your assessment and started tackling energy issues, you'll save money in the long run!

The home energy assessment is the first step in the Whole House Improvement Approach, so it will help you identify savings opportunities while setting goals and arranging priorities for saving energy throughout your home. Plus, based on your home energy assessment, you may qualify for a rebate of up to \$1,000 towards qualifying energy efficiency home improvements.

[Learn more about our Whole House Improvement Approach here.](#)

What are the considerations?

When it comes to your home energy assessment, there's no one-size-fits-all approach. Your assessment cost will vary depending on multiple factors:

- Size and type of home – 2 bedrooms or 5, ranch or 3 floors?
- Specific concerns being addressed – is every room uncomfortable or just one?
- The number of heating and cooling systems – just one or one for each floor?
- Heating fuel type – gas, electricity, or both?

The home energy assessment must be completed by a Home Energy Improvement Program participating program contractor and is valid for one year.

Before You Start

Getting the most out of your home energy assessment starts with being prepared and knowing what to expect. We suggest the following steps:

- Make a list of existing heating and cooling issues in your home.
 - Some frequent culprits include:
 - Hot and cold spots around the home
 - Some rooms feel less comfortable than others year-round
 - Drafty windows
 - Daylight appearing around doors and windows
 - Gaps and holes around kitchen and bathroom pipes under sinks
- Ensure that the contractor will have access to necessary spaces.
 - Be sure the attic, crawlspace, chimney, HVAC systems, and other relevant nooks and crannies in your home are accessible.
- Have copies of your energy bills (1 year's worth) or be prepared with estimates.
 - This will help the program contractor see when your energy use is at its highest.
- Be prepared for questions about your energy usage, including:
 - Times of day when your family uses the most energy
 - Thermostat settings for summer and winter
 - Number of people in the home
 - Number of rooms in use

Get started today

- [The Georgia Power Home Energy Improvement Program](#)
- [Contact a professional](#)