DIY Home Energy Assessment Checklist

Take a walk around your home to identify energy efficiency opportunities. This checklist should take 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete. Work through each section in order and check items off as you go. By completing and implementing these steps in your home, you may notice the benefits in countless ways!
Questions? Email info@seedsgroup.net.

Exterior of the Home

- [ ] Inspect exterior walls for cracks, gaps, or holes where air or moisture could enter
- [ ] Check caulking and weatherstripping around windows and doors
- [ ] Inspect window condition including single vs double pane, damaged seals, or drafts
- [ ] Check exterior doors for proper closing and tight seals ***if light is visible, sealing needs to be tightened
- [ ] Look for gaps where utility lines, vents, or pipes enter the home
- [ ] Inspect siding, brick, or foundation for visible deterioration
- [ ] Make sure that all downspouts from gutters are directed away from the home
- [ ] Check roof condition from the ground including missing shingles or damage
- [ ] Observe shading from trees and landscaping and note opportunities for summer shade or winter sun
- [ ] Make sure that all vegetation is pulled back away from the home around two feet to reduce moisture
- [ ] Inspect outdoor lighting and note opportunities to switch to LED bulbs

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Basement or Crawl Space

- [ ] Check for air leaks at rim joists, sill plates, and foundation penetrations by using your hand to feel movement of air during the colder months
- [ ] Determine if the basement is not conditioned. If not, the ceiling should have insulation. If fiberglass, make sure the paper side is facing the conditioned space
- [ ] Look for signs of moisture, condensation, or mold
- [ ] Check sealing around basement windows and doors and add caulking if necessary
- [ ] Inspect ductwork for leaks, disconnected sections, or poor insulation
- [ ] Wrap any exposed hot and cold water pipes with insulation
- [ ] Inspect water heater age, insulation, and temperature setting
- [ ] Perform a radon test if one was not completed in the last two years ***kits are available for purchase online or at local hardware stores

Attic

- [ ] Check attic insulation depth and coverage, making sure that joists are covered
- [ ] Look for gaps in insulation and avoid compressing it
- [ ] Inspect air sealing around attic hatch or pull-down stairs
- [ ] Check for air leaks around recessed lighting, vents, and wiring penetrations
- [ ] Inspect attic ventilation including soffit and ridge vents and ensure that baffles are installed in every rafter bay along the eaves
- [ ] Look for signs of moisture, roof leaks, or mold being sure that all bathroom exhaust ducts lead out of the roof
- [ ] Note attic temperature differences that may indicate poor insulation

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Interior and Conditioned Living Space

- [ ] Test windows and doors for drafts
- [ ] Check outlet and switch plates on exterior walls for air leaks and add gaskets to both ***they are available for purchase online or at local hardware stores
- [ ] Inspect thermostat type and temperature settings
- [ ] Review lighting throughout the home and note non LED bulbs
- [ ] Inspect appliances for age, Energy Star rating, and maintenance needs
- [ ] Check smart power strips or note electronics drawing standby power
- [ ] Review water-use fixtures. Ensure showerheads, faucets, and toilets are low-flow to save water and reduce utility costs
- [ ] Check heating and cooling comfort between rooms and consider upgrading or adding insulation, such as eco-friendly options to improve efficiency and comfort ***consider upgrading to a mini-split system for improved comfort and energy efficiency
- [ ] Check air/dryer filters and HVAC maintenance schedule
- [ ] Review the home for the presence of both smoke and carbon monoxide detectors

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Still need help or want SEEDS to do the assessment with you?

Schedule a home energy assessment today at www.seedsgroup.net!