Common Energy Efficient Terms

You'll Hear In Your New Home Search.

Energy Star® Program	Energy Star® 3.1	Energy Star® 3.1 Certified (All M/I Homes)
• Helps you save money while also protecting the environment by using energy-efficient products and practices. • Products are the same (or better) than like products but use less energy. • Efficiency criteria is set by the US Department of Energy and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	• Homes built to exceed 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)	• Home must meet strict guidelines with insulation, windows, HVAC, water management, lighting, and appliances, to ensures that it is **15-30% more efficient** than a home built to just standard building code. • A third-party rater verifies that the home meets, or exceeds, the guidelines.

Terms	Home Component	Energy Star® 3.1	Energy Star® 3.1 Certified (All M/I Homes)
R-Value	Insulation	***R=resistance.*** It tells you how well insulation can keep heat in (or out) of your home. It varies by type, thickness, and density.	The higher the R-value, the more energy efficient your home will be.
HERS	Whole Home	***Home Energy Rating System*** "score" is a nationally recognized system for calculating your home's energy efficiency. Your score is relative to the size and type of your home.	The lower the score the more energy efficient your home is (not to mention affordable and comfortable) your home will be.
SEER	A/C Unit	Stands for ***Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio*** and relates how much energy (and money) an AC unit will use over the course of a year.	The less energy used, the higher the rating, so as the SEER increases, you get a more efficient system.
Core-Fill 500	Insulation	A foam insulation (looks like shaving cream) is pumped into the empty cells of your concrete blocks and expands filling up the whole space.	This increases R-value, decreases sound transference, and providing a fire retardant
Radiant Barrier	Roof	A reflective material (looks like foil attached to the underside of the roof decking) that reflects heat rather than absorbing it.	By keeping your home cooler, you can reduce the amount of work your a/c needs does, resulting in a lower electric bill.
Double Pane, Low-E	Windows	***Double Pan*** = has two panes of glass, slightly separated, filled with argon gas for extra insulation and lower heat loss. ***Low-E*** = The "E" stands for emissivity, which is the ability of a material to radiate energy.	It's a film-like coating that traps warmth and reflects sunlight. It's important for lighting and overall heating and cooling costs of a home

Blower Door Test

This test is a way to determine how airtight a home is by checking for air leaks. A powerful fan, mounted to an exterior door frame, pulls air out of the house (lowering the air inside) allowing the outdoor air pressure to flow through unsealed openings. A poorly sealed home can have higher utility bill not to mention possible moisture issues.

Duct Blast Test

Leaky ducts can make air conditioning "leak" into your attic…in some cases up to 20-30% of the air is lost, which is a giant waste of money. This test blows pressurized air into your duct work to measure for possible leaks. (Much like a plumber would test pipes for leaks.)

Contact us with any additional questions you may have at **(407) 270-1080** or **SalesOrlando@mihomes.com**

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