



## DIY At Home Energy Audit

### What you need:

- Clipboard and pen or digital device for note-taking
- Flashlight
- Ladder or step stool
- Blower door test kit (optional, for more advanced auditing)
- Thermal imaging camera (optional, for more advanced auditing)

### How to prepare:

- Schedule the audit for a time when you can access all areas of the home, including the attic and crawl space.
- Notify household members that you will be conducting an audit and explain what it involves.
- Obtain copies of the home's energy bills for the past year.

### Conducting the Audit

#### Collecting data:

- Walk around the outside of the house, taking note of any areas that may be causing energy loss, such as cracks in the foundation or gaps around windows and doors.
- Check the insulation levels in the attic, walls, and floors.
- Look for air leaks around doors, windows, and electrical outlets.
- Note the types and efficiencies of appliances and heating and cooling systems.

#### Checking indoor air quality:

- Check the combustion equipment, such as furnaces and water heaters,

for proper venting and carbon monoxide levels.

- Check for moisture problems, which can lead to mold growth and poor indoor air quality.

#### Examining insulation:

- Check the attic insulation for proper levels and uniform coverage.
- Check wall insulation levels by removing an outlet cover and using a long, thin instrument to probe the wall cavity.

#### Analyzing energy bills:

- Analyze energy bills for patterns and spikes that may indicate energy waste or inefficiency.
- Calculate the home's energy use intensity (EUI), which is the amount of energy used per square foot of living space.

#### Testing for air leaks:

- Use a smoke pencil or incense stick to check for drafts around windows, doors, and electrical outlets.
- Use a blower door test kit to measure the home's air leakage rate and pinpoint specific areas of air infiltration.
- Use a thermal imaging camera to identify areas of heat loss or gain.

After completing the audit, you can compile your findings and make recommendations for energy-saving improvements, such as adding insulation, sealing air leaks, upgrading appliances and heating and cooling systems, and improving indoor air quality.