



Sustainable Housing Fact Sheet

WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE HOUSING?

Making your home sustainable allows you to take advantage of natural sources of heating and cooling. Before building or renovating your home why not consider incorporating design features based on the climate that you live in. This could include positioning, insulation, shading and glazing.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOUSE SUSTAINABLE

Insulate

Insulation is the single most energy-efficient addition you can make to your home. Insulation provides a barrier to heat flowing in and out of your home and is essential to keeping your home warm in winter and cool in summer.

Shade

Shading your home and outdoor living areas is vital to cool your home in summer and in turn reduce your energy bills.

Shading of glass to reduce those hot summer rays is critical. Unprotected glass is a major source of unwanted heat gain in a home. Shading can block up to 90 per cent of heat gained from direct sunlight. But while shading windows in summer is crucial, a well-placed window can also be fantastic source of heat gain in cooler seasons.

Weatherproof

Weatherproofing your house from draughts and air leaks provides fantastic potential for energy savings on your heating and air conditioning costs. In Australia, households produce around 20 per cent of our total annual greenhouse gas emissions, of which heating and air-conditioning account for around 27 per cent. Draughts can account for up to 25 per cent of heat loss from a home.

Glazing

Energy efficient glazing of windows, doors and skylights can make your home more comfortable and reduce the costs to both heat and cool your home. Lower energy consumption is also a win for the environment through fewer emissions into the atmosphere.

Choosing the right glazing product is important, with specific products designed to keep heat in or out. Glazing can also help reduce impacts from daytime lighting and noise control.

You can refer to the [Window Energy Rating Scheme \(WERS\)](#) for more details on the rating of energy and energy related performance of various windows, skylights and glazed doors.

More information

For more information on how you can make your home more sustainable visit <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/>.

How can you contact us?



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