



Renovating with Efficiency in Mind

10 easy ways to save energy

If you are planning to renovate your home, chances are that you have a budget to work with and have already made some decisions as to how and where your money is best spent. Renovating can not only improve the dollar value of your home, but if done with energy efficiency in mind, it can mean a more comfortable addition to your space that also saves you money.

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- 1 Make sure your attic is properly insulated and vented to prevent hot air from building up and causing moisture that will ruin your insulation.
- 2 If you are tearing old drywall out on exterior walls, check the condition and levels of existing insulation.
- 3 Check around doors, windows and all plumbing and venting leading to the outside, for cracks and air leaks, and add the required insulation.
- 4 Be sure to meet or exceed the recommended levels of insulation for walls and ceilings.
- 5 Consider radiant in-floor heating for kitchens, bathrooms and/or basements.
- 6 Inspect your foundation, including the sill plate, where the frame of your house meets the foundation wall, for any cracks or moisture problems.
- 7 Remember to consider the U-values when shopping for new windows.
- 8 If you are building an addition, have a licensed electrician check your electricity demand and supply to accommodate any extra demands you may have.
- 9 Follow all local building codes and electrical safety codes that are put in place to protect you.
- 10 Have any modifications to your home's wiring inspected by the Electrical Safety Authority.