

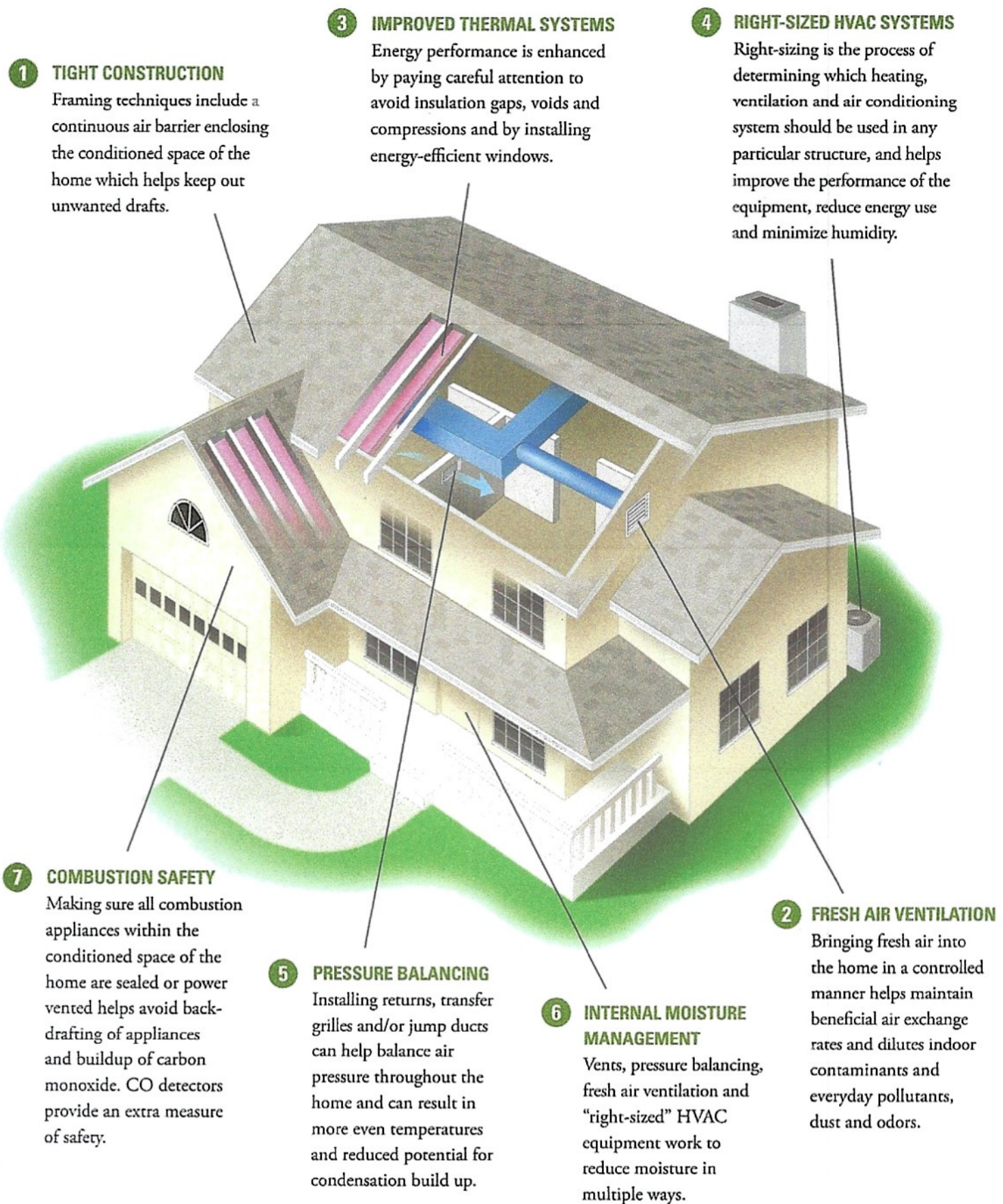


Environments For Living® program - Platinum Level

This checklist is designed to highlight some of the features of a home built to the requirements of the *Environments For Living*® program's Platinum Level - Features designed to provide you with more comfort and energy-efficient benefits than a conventional, code-built home.

Features of a home built to the specifications of the <i>Environments For Living</i> ® program - Platinum Level	Other Homes
✓ EcoevaluationSM Plan Review - A process of evaluating the energy, environmental and economic impact of the construction of a new home.	
✓ Tight Construction - Special framing techniques such as continuous air barrier and air sealing of penetrations help reduce internal leaks and drafts.	
✓ Improved Thermal Systems - Enhanced insulation techniques help to minimize voids and gaps, and higher thermal properties (R-value) add to energy efficiency.	
✓ Sealed Ducts - Air sealing supply and return duct connections can help reduce internal leaks.	
✓ Low-E Windows - Low "emissivity" windows have protective coatings to help keep heat in during winter and out during summer.	
✓ Right-Sized HVAC - "Right-sized" heating and cooling systems and sealed air ducts help equipment work efficiently. "Right-sized" refers to the process of determining which HVAC system should be used in any particular structure.	
✓ Internal Moisture Management - Vents, pressure balancing, and fresh air ventilation work to reduce moisture in multiple ways.	
✓ Fresh Air Ventilation - Fresh air ventilation systems deliver filtered fresh air at a minimum rate of 7.5 cubic feet per minute per person plus .01 cubic feet per minute per square foot of conditioned area, to help reduce dust, odors and indoor contaminants.	
✓ Combustion Safety - Combustion appliances in conditioned spaces are sealed or power-vented to help avoid build-up of carbon monoxide, and vent-free fireplaces are not allowed. Carbon monoxide detectors are required in all homes.	
✓ Air Pressure Balancing - Balanced air pressure throughout the home results in more even temperatures and reduces the potential for condensation build-up.	
✓ Testing Protocol - Program testing requirements for air tightness, duct tightness, and pressure balancing.	
✓ Improved Energy Efficiency - Homes built to program specifications will be at least 18% more energy efficient than homes built to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code.	
✓ Limited Heating and Cooling Energy Use Guarantee* - Relates to the amount of energy required to heat and cool your home.	
✓ Limited Comfort Guarantee* - Relates to your ability to maintain an even temperature through your house.	

* For more information about the Limited Heating and Cooling Energy Use Guarantee and the Limited Comfort Guarantee, visit environmentsforliving.com.

**1 TIGHT CONSTRUCTION**

Framing techniques include a continuous air barrier enclosing the conditioned space of the home which helps keep out unwanted drafts.

3 IMPROVED THERMAL SYSTEMS

Energy performance is enhanced by paying careful attention to avoid insulation gaps, voids and compressions and by installing energy-efficient windows.

4 RIGHT-SIZED HVAC SYSTEMS

Right-sizing is the process of determining which heating, ventilation and air conditioning system should be used in any particular structure, and helps improve the performance of the equipment, reduce energy use and minimize humidity.

7 COMBUSTION SAFETY

Making sure all combustion appliances within the conditioned space of the home are sealed or power vented helps avoid back-drafting of appliances and buildup of carbon monoxide. CO detectors provide an extra measure of safety.

5 PRESSURE BALANCING

Installing returns, transfer grilles and/or jump ducts can help balance air pressure throughout the home and can result in more even temperatures and reduced potential for condensation build up.

6 INTERNAL MOISTURE MANAGEMENT

Vents, pressure balancing, fresh air ventilation and "right-sized" HVAC equipment work to reduce moisture in multiple ways.

2 FRESH AIR VENTILATION

Bringing fresh air into the home in a controlled manner helps maintain beneficial air exchange rates and dilutes indoor contaminants and everyday pollutants, dust and odors.