High-Performance Terms

When you're looking for the highest M·P·G make sure to define your terms here.

ACH: Air Changes per Hour. Air-tight homes need air changes for the best Air Quality. Fresh air intake forces outside air into the home pushing out stale indoor air. (Out with the bad, in with the good.)

AFUE: Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency. Measures a furnace's heating efficiency. (The higher the rating, the better.) Chesmar includes an 80% Ultra Efficient Furnace.

ARI: American Refrigeration Institute. Energy Star required certification, verifying the HVAC system meets the SEER rating.

ASHRAE: American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. Sets design standards for HVAC Systems.

BUILDING ENVELOPE: A home's exterior shell - walls, floors, ceiling, windows, doors, roof and foundation.

DELTA-T: Difference from attic temperature to inside temperature. (Ex: Subtract interior temperature from Attic temp to find the Delta-T)

ENVIRONMENTS FOR LIVING: A performance based program developed with the assistance of building science experts. An EFL program home meets the requirements of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Energy Star® program, and at the Platinum energy level meets the US Department of Energy Building America® specifications. Each Chesmar home is backed by the EFL Limited Guarantees for Heating & Cooling Energy Use and Comfort which ensures a long-lasting return on your investment.*

HERS / HERS INDEX: Home Energy Rating System. The Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) scoring system is used to measure the energy efficiency of a home. The lower the HERS index, the more energy efficient. Each 1-point decrease in the HERS index equates to a 1% decrease in energy consumption. The average Chesmar home HERS index rating is 63.*

HVAC: Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning

IAQ: Indoor Air Quality

IRC: International Residential Code. The standard construction rules used by builders.

JUMP DUCT/RETURN AIR: Duct connecting a room to a common space or return to balance pressure, cutting down on noise and lines in carpet under doors.

LoE3 Window Low Emissivity: Coated glass that reduces heat gain in the summer making your home more comfortable and affordable to operate.

MERV: Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value. ASHRAE's rating system of air filters.

PRESSURE BALANCING: Equalizing air pressure between rooms by adjusting air flow in supply and return ducts.

RADIANT BARRIER: Coating on the underside of the roof decking that reduces heat gain in the summer.

R-VALUE: Resistance-Value. The resistance a material has to heat flow. (Really high=Really good.)

SEER: Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating. Measures the efficiency of the air conditioning system. Each new Chesmar home has a 16 SEER Matched HVAC system. (The higher the HVAC system SEER rating the lower your electric bill.)*

SHGC: Solar Heat Gain Co-efficient. Solar radiation entering a home through the windows.

U-VALUE: A measure of heat transmission from inside to outside.



Expand your ideas about the cost of owning a home—check the window sticker of every Chesmar Homes for M · P · G savings.

*Check the Window Sticker for your favorite plan to see the average HERS Score, and estimated heating/cooling costs.