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## What is the HERS Rating?

Home energy rating systems (HERS) is the measurement of a nationally recognized scoring system that measures a home's energy efficiency. Based on the home plans, a certified professional then uses an energy efficiency software package to perform an energy analysis based on the home's design.

A HERS rating can provide a prospective home buyer with valuable information about a home that they may be interested in purchasing. Testing analysis yields a projected, pre-construction HERS Index. Upon completion of the plan review, the rater will work with the builder to identify the energy efficiency improvements needed to ensure the house will meet ENERGY STAR performance guideline.



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## Why is it useful?

A primary use of a HERS rating is in comparing the energy efficiency of two homes. For instance, if two homes have the same list price or mortgage cost, the HERS score can assist a homebuyer or mortgage company in knowing which home is truly more affordable when you look at the broader cost of ownership.

Similarly, when selling a home, the seller can use a good HERS score to make their home more appealing to potential buyers, and may even choose to increase their asking price since the home may be more affordable overall. HERS scores are determined by extra comprehensive home energy audits and software.



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## **What is the HERS Index?**

A certified Home Energy Rater assesses the energy efficiency of a home, assigning it a relative performance score. The lower the number, the more energy efficient the home.

The U.S. Department of Energy has determined that a typical resale home scores 130 on the HERS Index while a standard new home is awarded a rating of 100.

A home with a HERS Index Score of 70 is 30% more energy efficient than a standard new home  
A home with a HERS Index Score of 130 is 30% less energy efficient than a standard new home



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## What you should know?

Homeowners now have access to every certified HERS professional organizations public information which includes :

- The name of the certified HERS professional conducting your energy audit.
- The rating company name.
- The rating company address and phone number.
- Name and contact information of the estimator that is responsible for the quality assurance oversight.