

15 SIGNS

Your Home Has **Comfort & Energy Loss** Problems



✓ Review this list and check what you find in your home.

- 1. DRAFTY ROOMS** - Although the problem may be your windows, don't assume that to be the case. Convective currents (or just improper installation) and other air leaks are usually to blame.
- 2. ROOMS TOO HOT OR TOO COLD** - Having some rooms that are harder to heat or cool indicates problems with your insulation, ducts, or the heating and cooling system ("HVAC system").
- 3. COLD FLOORS** - This is usually a sign of problems with insulation, air leaks, and/or HVAC system problems.
- 4. ROOMS OVER GARAGES OR CANTILEVERS** - A garage is not heated or air conditioned, and the rooms over them suffer unless they are separated from the garage properly.
- 5. DUSTY ROOMS** - It has to be coming in from somewhere! An improperly sealed home, leaky ducts, and/or an improperly balanced duct system are all potential culprits.
- 6. HVAC SYSTEM RUNS CONTINUOUSLY OR TURNS ON/OFF FREQUENTLY** - This may indicate an overly leaky or drafty home or an over-sized or under-sized heating or cooling system.
- 7. ASTHMA OR ALLERGIES** - Home that are too leaky or drafty bring unwanted allergens into your home from outdoors - a sign that your home may need air sealing.
- 8. ODD OR MUSTY SMELLS** - Musty smells usually mean mold and microscopic airborne spores affects your health. Moreover, it's usually the result of energy efficiency issues as well.
- 9. PORTABLE HEATERS OR COOLING FANS** - These appliances are expensive to operate, present safety hazards, and often are the symptom of construction or HVAC system issues that are easily resolved.
- 10. DEHUMIDIFIERS OR INSECTS** - If you have to run a humidifier or dehumidifier, or you've treated your home for pest issues, you're probably treating the symptoms and not the source.
- 11. COLD BASEMENT** - You can expect a basement to be cooler because it's underground, but most basements are colder than they have to be, and this make the floors over them cold.
- 12. NASTY CRAWL SPACES** - There is nothing good about a musty, rotting, drafty crawl space beneath your home. Energy loss, mold growth, temperature imbalance, rotting wood... the list goes on and on.
- 13. PAINT PEELING OR BLISTERING** - If your home has excessive dryness or humidity; it's a sign of larger issues. Even paint peeling outside can be a result of humidity inside moving outward.
- 14. DIRTY AROUND REGISTERS** - This is an indication that condensation is occurring and collecting dirt. This is a good clue that other problems also exist such as duct leaks and air leaks in your home.
- 15. HIGH FUEL/ELECTRIC BILLS** - If you are experiencing high energy bills, making specific repairs to your home will save you money and make your home more comfortable and efficient.
- BONUS - ICE DAMMING** - If snow melts on your roof and refreezes at the gutter, it's a sure sign that the heat you paid for is leaking out of your home and making you uncomfortable.