

Energy Audit 101

Where are your home's air leaks?



This picture shows the common areas of air leakage in a home.



Air Leakage Sites

1. Complete this checklist while your contractor performs a blower-door test (see reverse for more information).
2. Use the back of your hand to find air leaks.
3. Before entering a room, close the door until it's only open a crack. Use the back of your hand to feel the air leaks of the entire room coming through the crack of the door.

Check all that apply and indicate relative amount of leakage. Ask your contractor to locate any terms you do not know. Small (least amount of air leakage), Medium, or Large (most amount of air leakage)

<input type="checkbox"/> Chimneys	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Stacks	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Penetrations	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Doors	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing Penetrations	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Foundation Wall	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Chase	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Windows	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Stairs	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Baseboards	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Recessed Lights ____#	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Drop Soffits	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Porch Ceiling	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Duct System	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Floor of Attic	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom Fans	S / M / L
<input type="checkbox"/> Doors	S / M / L	<input type="checkbox"/> Furnace Flue	S / M / L



The Blower Door Test

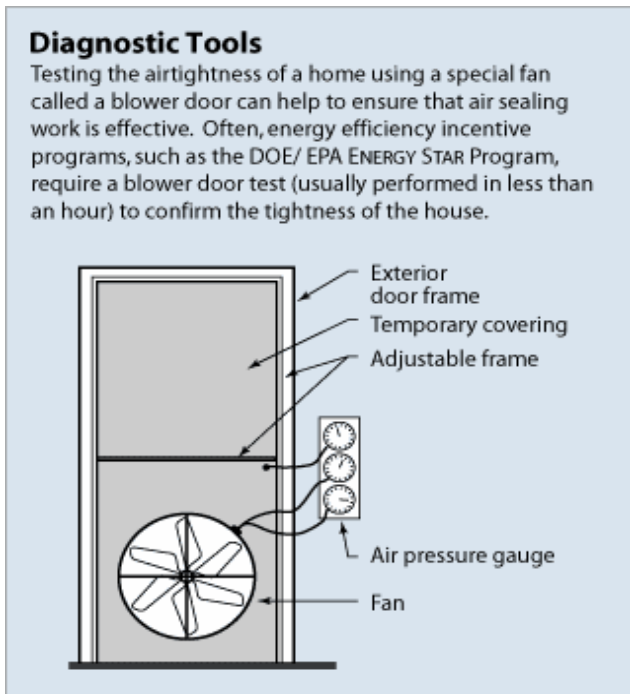
A **blower door** is a powerful fan that mounts into the frame of an exterior door. Professional energy auditors use blower door tests to help determine a home's airtightness.

The reasons for establishing the proper building tightness include:

- Reducing energy consumption due to air leakage
- Avoiding moisture condensation problems
- Avoiding uncomfortable drafts caused by cold air leaking in from the outdoors

How it works

1. The blower door is set up in the frame of an exterior door
2. The fan pulls air out of the house, lowering the air pressure inside. The higher outside air pressure then flows in through all unsealed cracks and openings.
3. The auditor determines how leaky the home is with the handheld blower door gauge, called a manometer.
4. The auditor then inspects the home to determine the size and location of all air leaks.



Source: U.S. Department of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/



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