# Why build an Efficiency Vermont Certified home?





When you build a home that goes beyond the Vermont building energy code, you ensure that your home is comfortable, durable, and has superior indoor air quality. Key features of an Efficiency Vermont Certified home include:

#### Balanced Ventilation:

## **Continuous Clean Air**

- Filters fresh supply air to remove dust, dander and some other particulates
- Supplies fresh air to living spaces and reduces the level of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and CO<sub>2</sub> levels



#### Advanced Air Sealing & Continuous Insulation:

## **Comfort in All Seasons**

- Consistent surface temperature makes the home more comfortable in winter and summer
- High-efficiency balanced ventilation systems support consistent temperatures throughout home



## High-Efficiency Mechanical Systems: Durability & Low Maintenance

- Building systems work together to help control moisture to reduce the likelihood of mold and mildew
- High-efficiency mechanical systems result in lower energy bills and continuous affordability, despite fluctuating energy prices



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Along with the comfort and peace of mind that comes with an Efficiency Vermont Certified home, the total cost is competitive compared to a home built to Vermont building energy code standards.

### **Monthly Cost Comparison**

Ex. 3 bedroom, 1 story home (1,235 ft<sup>2</sup>) with 20% down, 4.00% interest for 30 years

	Efficiency Vermont Certified: High Performance Level	Efficiency Vermont Certified: Base Level 2.0	Building Energy Code
Total cost to build	\$273,644	\$270,137	\$259,350
Efficiency Vermont incentive	-\$3,000	-\$2,500	\$0
Final cost to finance	\$270,644	\$267,637	\$259,350
Monthly mortgage payment	\$1,034	\$1,022	\$991
Monthly energy costs	\$108	\$147	\$191
Total monthly cost	\$1,142	\$1,169	\$1,182

Costs for Building Energy Code and Base Level 2.0 based on homes with combination boiler / hot water heater, and no AC. Costs for High Performance based on home with a cold climate heat pump and heat pump hot water heater. Actual costs, savings, and cash flow scenarios will vary by individual project.



In the short term:

- Saves on monthly home energy expenses
- Adding renewables could mean a net zero home

#### In the long term:

- Provides buffer against rising energy costs
- Home will be up to date with future building energy code standards, which could increase its resale value