Natural Resources Canada
Ressources naturelles Canada

Fix the hole in your wall

Add up all the cracks, gaps, and other openings in your home and chances are that it has a total air leakage area that's about the size of this circle.

Air leaks in your home waste energy and money. Considering air leakage control in your renovation strategy or your plans to buy an ENERGY STAR® or R-2000* home can prove to be a worthwhile investment. You can see how the hole gets smaller the more energy-efficient your home is.

EnerGuide home evaluations

Heated or cooled air can leak through the cracks and holes in your home.

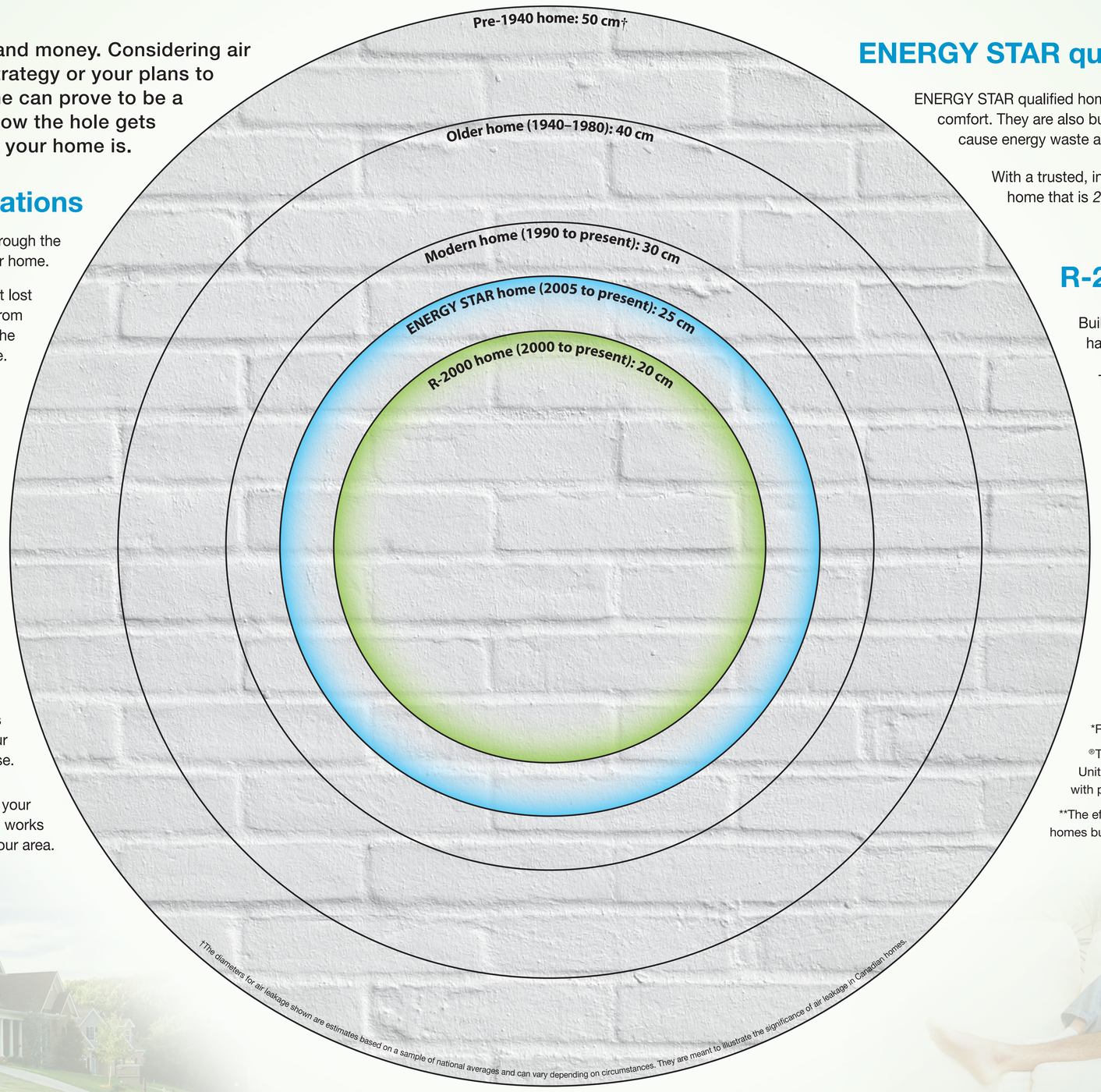
Air leakage represents about 20 to 30 percent of heat lost from an older home. This loss could cost a homeowner from $250 to more than $1,000 extra per year depending on the age of the home and the heating fuel source.

Construction decade	Estimated annual cost of energy due to air leakage heat loss‡ ($)	
	Natural gas	Electricity
1900	720	1,570
1950	390	860
1960	360	780
1970	370	790
1980	360	780
1990	320	690
2000 to present	280	610

‡Estimated costs are based on a sample of national averages and can vary depending on circumstances. Costs were calculated based on an average price of $0.48 per cubic metre for natural gas and $0.10 per kilowatt-hour for electricity.

Arrange for an EnerGuide* home evaluation and get expert advice on how to stop air leakage, improve your home's comfort and energy efficiency, and put your hard-earned money to better use.

Visit **nrcan.gc.ca/homes** to schedule your appointment with a licensed service organization that works with energy advisors in your area.



†The diameters for air leakage shown are estimates based on a sample of national averages and can vary depending on circumstances. They are meant to illustrate the significance of air leakage in Canadian homes.

ENERGY STAR qualified new homes

ENERGY STAR qualified homes are designed and built to save energy and provide comfort. They are also built airtight, which will help avoid air leakage problems that cause energy waste and higher energy bills.

With a trusted, internationally recognized ENERGY STAR brand, you get a home that is *20 percent more energy-efficient* than a typical home.**

R-2000 certified new homes

Built to strict airtightness requirements, R-2000 homes have the *right* amount of ventilation.

The quality of design and the builder's attention to detail give you and your family exceptional comfort. The fresh-air ventilation device installed in every home will improve air quality. Environmental features such as repurposed wood also ensures our resources are put to good use.

R-2000 homes are *50 percent more energy-efficient* than a typical home, which makes them best-in-class for energy savings.**

Visit **nrcan.gc.ca/homes** to find an ENERGY STAR or R-2000 builder near you.

*R-2000 and EnerGuide are official marks of Natural Resources Canada.

®The ENERGY STAR name and symbol are registered trademarks of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and are used in Canada with permission.

**The efficiency levels of R-2000 and ENERGY STAR homes represent homes built to 2012 standards.

Natural Resources Canada's Office of Energy Efficiency
Leading Canadians to Energy Efficiency at Home, at Work and on the Road

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Cat. No. M144-255/2014 (Print)
ISBN 978-1-100-54763-3
Cat. No. M144-255/2014E-PDF (Online)
ISBN 978-1-100-24401-3
Recycled paper

Canada