

How to Improve the Star Rating of Your Home

A House Energy Rating is an indication of the heating and cooling required to maintain thermal comfort of the home throughout the year. The more stars the better. When designing a new home, ESD recommend you consider the following proactive ways to improve the star rating.

Detrimental to Star Rating

- Unshaded east and west glazing
- Living areas to the south
- Large windows on the south facades of living areas
- Overshading of windows on the north facades
- Recessed lights
- Over shading glazing – Alfresco areas
- Glazing over 20% of the floor area – unless passive solar design
- Permanent opening to Laundry, open to a conditioned zone
- FV/V in a conditioned zone

Items that improve Star Rating

- Living areas to the north or north east
- Sleeping areas to the south
- Utility areas to the east and west
- Good ventilation
- Sealed exhaust fans
- No gas negus point – have a flued gas heater
- Doors to isolate hallways & stairways
- Minimal glazing to the east & west façades
- Ceiling Fans
- Cavity Wall Insulation
- Performance Glazing – Low-E, Smart Glass
- Ceramic Tiling to Living Areas
- Dark external colours in cold climates, light external colours in hotter climates
- 300mm to 600mm eaves