

Just look at these money-saving, comfort-enhancing, health-promoting, Earth-saving reasons for owning a David Weekley Green Home.

High-Performance Air Conditioning and Hard-Cast Sealed Ductwork

Our very efficient 15 SEER air conditioning system cools your home with less electricity. Less electricity means less money out of your pocket and reduced power company emissions. Also, to avoid unnecessary cooling of your attic, we've cut ductwork leakage from 20% to less than 3%. Unless you have a good reason to cool your attic, you'll probably appreciate the lower energy bills.

Jump Ducts and Air Pressure Balancing

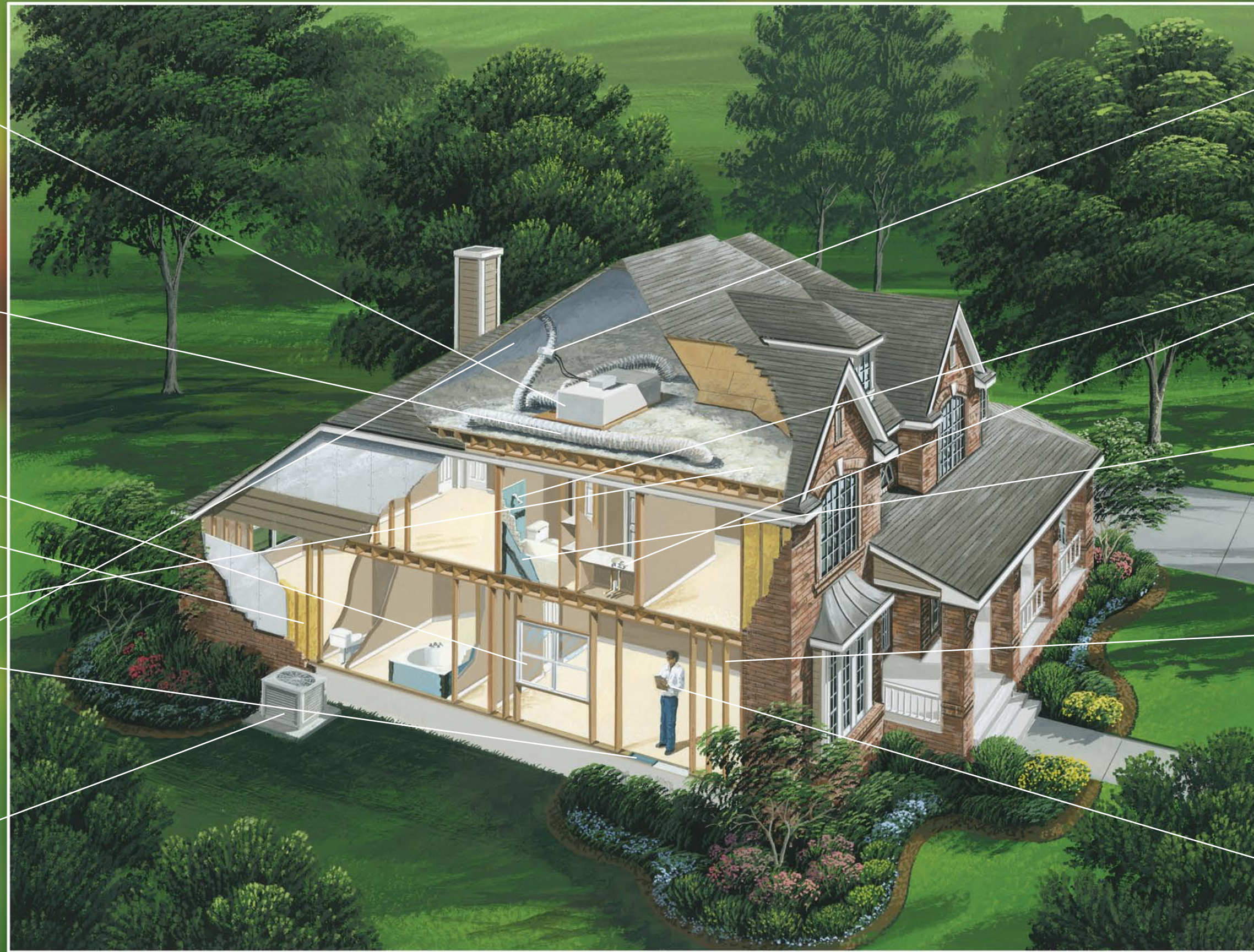
A jump duct is a flexible duct that connects a bedroom or closed room to an open space in the home. This allows the air coming into this closed room to be pushed through the jump ducts (by air pressure) into common areas. This "air blending" helps even out temperatures in your home and also helps the air conditioning system operate more efficiently. You can close your bedroom doors and stay comfortable in a David Weekley Green Home. We think that's a lot better than those large gaps between the door and the floor that other builders are using.

Improved Thermal Envelope System

The thermal envelope can be defined as the sum total of the parts of a building separating the exterior environment from the interior. Within this envelope, windows are one of the biggest energy drains. David Weekley Homes minimizes this loss with Low E2 energy-efficient glass. And we use vinyl window frames because metal ones radiate heat and can sweat in humidity. Insulation plays an integral role in protecting you from outside temperature extremes. An R-15 wall system coupled with R-38 blown-in insulation in the attic helps keep your indoor temperature just the way you want it. Radiant Barrier Decking used with shingled roofing keeps your attic cooler and your air conditioning system running more efficiently. Sill Seal foam gaskets between the framing and concrete foundation complete the envelope for a well-designed Green Home.

Bigger is No Longer Better in Air-Conditioning

Leaky walls and bad windows once meant *huge* air conditioning systems. David Weekley Homes superior building envelope and more efficient ductwork requires a much smaller air conditioning system. The two main goals of air conditioning are to cool and to de-humidify for optimum comfort. Our air conditioning systems are precisely engineered using ASHRAE Manual J standards to avoid "short-cycling," meaning they won't shut off before drying the air. You're more comfortable and save money by cooling with a smaller system.



Fresh Air Ventilation

Indoor air quality is an essential component of every David Weekley Green Home. Our construction methods create an extremely tight, almost draft-free environment. You might be surprised to learn that the Homeowner is often the biggest contributor to poor indoor air quality. The EPA says concentrations of toxic pollutants can be up to 100 times greater inside a home than outside — even in the smoggiest cities. Where does all this indoor pollution come from? Litter boxes, trash cans, cooking, smoking, even candles — which is why you'll breathe easier with our fresh air ventilation system.

Water Management

Managing clean, potable water is a crucial part of our Green Home program. By using low-flow or water-saving shower heads and faucets, high-performance commodes and energy-efficient dishwashers, we significantly reduce internal water usage and help conserve our most precious resource.

Cement Board Tile Backer and Anti-Fracture Coatings

Mold likes paper as food. Drywall (a paper-backed product) is commonly used behind tile in shower and bath areas. We use cement-based James Hardie products instead of drywall. We also fill the cement board seams with a rubber-like product called anti-fracture membrane to virtually eliminate issues with water when tile is no longer "water tight."

Recycled Materials

Excess building materials re-engineered into stronger, superior products help save a little bit of the environment and deliver a better home. Our finger-jointed dimensional framing materials are a good example. By recycling short pieces of wood and engineering it, we use wood that actually is stronger and stays straighter than conventional wood. We also use Jamb Savers — recycled plastic door jamb bottoms — that eliminate water rot at the bottom of your doors. Wood door jambs that have standard wooden "legs" absorb water and might rot over time. You'll really appreciate this a few years from now when other Homeowners in the neighborhood are replacing their door jambs.

Performance Verification

Each and every home we build in our green program is required to undergo independent third party performance verification inspections. While many of the green products installed in a home can be easily identified, it's not so easy to judge the quality of installation. This can make a big difference in the performance of your home and its effect on your pocketbook.