

Welcome to FreeGreen!

We are pleased that you are interested in using a FreeGreen house plan. As you compare our plans with others, we hope you'll notice the quality and care we've put into each plan. Here is a summary of what you get in the download package:

- **Construction Documents:** FreeGreen construction documents are the highest quality in the industry. Each contains highly detailed plans, elevations, sections, and construction details.
- **Energy Report:** FreeGreen home plans are designed to easily allow any builder to exceed the performance of a code-built home. Each plan has two performance options: FreeGreen Improved and FreeGreen Optimized. The Energy report compares the energy performance of these two FreeGreen options with the same home plan, if it were built to minimum code requirements (2006 International Energy Conservation Code). You can really see how much better the FreeGreen plans perform!
- **Pricing Estimate:** The pricing estimate uses RSMeans' regional and local cost data to estimate the construction cost of the home plan you download. Though not a perfect substitute for a formal cost estimate from a local builder, the pricing estimate is a useful metric for ballparking the cost of the home in your local area.
- **Glossary (included in this file):** There are a few terms that are used which may be unfamiliar to you. We hope this glossary is helpful in clarifying a few new words!
- **Warranty, Terms, and Conditions (included in this file):** You knew this was coming. Consider this section the 'fine' print that comes with the territory.

We hope you enjoy your experience using your FreeGreen plan and will spread the word to your friends and family!

All the best,

The FreeGreen Team

PS. If you need to contact us, please write to: support@freegreen.com

Glossary

Acronyms:

ACH	Air Changes per Hour
AFUE	Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency
COP	Coefficient of Performance
EF	Energy Factor
GSHP	Ground Source Heat Pump
SEER	Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio
SHGC	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

Air Changes per Hour (ACH)

A measure of infiltration within a home. It represents the total volume of air per hour that is exchanged due to cracks/gaps in the home's building envelope.

Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE)

AFUE is a measure of a furnace's heating efficiency expressed as a percent. The higher the AFUE, the more efficient the product is. The government's established minimum rating for furnaces is 78%.

Baseline home

FreeGreen uses the term Baseline to refer to code-built homes when comparing the energy performance of FreeGreen homes to conventionally constructed homes. FreeGreen uses the 2004 International Energy Conservation Code

Coefficient of Performance (COP)

Used to measure the ratio of the output heat to the supplied work in a heat pump.

Energy Factor (EF)

The energy factor indicates a water heater's overall energy efficiency based on the amount of hot water produced per unit of fuel consumed over a typical day.

Energy Star

Government-run energy efficiency program that rates homes, home appliances, and lighting, among other things.

Geothermal, see Ground Source Heat Pump

Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP)

GSHP's, also known as geothermal systems, use the ground to provide heating and cooling to the home.

Photovoltaic panels

Also known as solar panels, these products convert sunlight into electricity

R-value

An R-value indicates an insulation's resistance to heat flow. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness.

Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER)

SEER is a measure of cooling efficiency for air conditioning products. The higher the SEER rating number, the more energy efficient the unit is.

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

The amount of solar heat that is transmitted through a window. The lower the SHGC, the less heat that is transmitted.

Tankless Water heater

Also referred to as instantaneous water heater, these units are a more efficient means of heating water as they do not experience the standby heat loss that occur with a conventional tank-based hot water heater.

U-value

Measure of a window's insulating capability. The lower the U-value, the better an insulator it is.

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Homeplan Inclusion List

Construction blueprints are detailed, clear and concise. All blueprints are designed by home designers and/or licensed architects and each home plan is designed to meet one of the nationally recognized building codes (the Uniform Building Code, Standard Building Code, International Residential Code, or Basic Building Code) at the time and place that particular home building plan was drawn.

The blueprints for most home designs include the following elements, but the presentation of these elements may vary depending

on the size, complexity, and build location of a given home.

Energy Reports: show regionalized estimates of energy usage for a given home

Exterior Elevations: show the front, rear and sides of the house, including exterior materials, details and measurements.

Foundation Plans: include drawings for a standard, daylight or partial basement, crawlspace, pier, or slab foundation. All necessary notations and dimensions are included. (Foundation options will vary for each plan. If the home you want does not have the type of foundation you desire, contact the designer/architect of your plan.)

Interior Elevations: show the specific details of cabinets (kitchen, bathroom). We suggest contacting local cabinet and fireplace distributors for sizes and styles.

Schematic Electrical Layouts: show the suggested locations for switches, fixtures and outlets. These details may be shown on the floor plan or on a separate diagram.

Detailed House Floor Plans: show the placement of interior walls and the dimensions for rooms, doors, windows, stairways, etc., of each level of the house.

Generic Detail Sheets: show relevant home details and related notes

Specification Book: Show product vendor specifications for all of the products that are recommended for a given FreeGreen home design.

NOTE:

Due to regional variations, local availability of materials, local codes, methods of installation, and individual preferences, it is impossible to include detail on heating and plumbing work on your plans. The duct work, venting, and other details will vary depending on the type of heating and cooling system (forced air, hot water, electric, solar) and the type of energy (gas, oil, electricity, solar) that you use. These details and specifications are easily obtained from your builder, contractor, and/or local suppliers.

Home Plan Information Policy:

Although FreeGreen Inc. makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of our plan information, we reserve the right to make corrections on our floor plans and/or elevations if changes occur. FreeGreen reserves the right to not notify any purchasers of plans of any corrections or modifications to any plan.

Note: Photographed homes may be modified from their original construction documents to suit homeowners' preferences.

Special notes regarding home building code compliance:

Attention CA, OR, WA, and NV residents: Our house plans do not meet Earthquake Seismic/Wind code requirements.

Attention GA, SC, and NC Coastal residents: Plans may have to be engineered to meet local Hurricane/Wind codes.

Attention AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, ID, LA, MD, MA, MN, NV, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PN, UT, and VA residents: Plans may have to be engineered to meet local building codes. Please call your local building department before placing order.

Some cities and states now require that a licensed architect or engineer review and "seal" a blueprint, or officially approve it, prior to construction. Prior to application for a building permit or the start of actual construction, we strongly advise that you consult your local building official who can tell you if such a review is required.