



Building Your *High-Performance* Home

CHECKLIST for the Southern Region

When you build, remodel or shop for a home, you have the power of choice.

Combine that with science-based knowledge to take control of your investment and reap the benefits:

- low utility bills
- low maintenance
- comfort
- less storm damage, easier recovery
- higher quality
- environmental protection
- better health
- increased market value
- safety and security
- more time to spend as you please

Use **this checklist** to explore and select components of a sustainable, high-performance home for the south. It is organized to help you achieve the above benefits for a home that is *resource-efficient, durable, healthy, convenient* and *practical*. It's also crucial to design a home as a system with an understanding of air, heat and moisture control to avoid problems. With the power of knowledge, it's possible to have it all! Visit www.LSUAgCenter.com/LaHouse and click on *My House* for more about each item on this checklist.

Common Abbreviations and Symbols used in the Checklist

N	north
S	south
E	east
W	west
R	R-value
MBR	master bedroom
BR	bedroom
Ba	bathroom
<	less than
≤	less than or equal to
>	more than
≥	more than or equal to
%	percent
°	degrees
ft. or ’	feet (unit of measure)
in. or ”	inches (unit of measure)
/yr.	per year
min.	minimum
max.	maximum
o.c.	on center (spacing of structural parts)
cfm	cubic feet per minute (rate of air flow)

ICAT	Insulation covered, airtight recessed light fixture
NFRC	National Fenestration Rating Council, rates performance of window units
HVAC	heating, ventilation and air conditioning
SEER	Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio
AFUE	Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency
HSPF	Heating Season Performance Factor
COP	Coefficient of Performance
EER	Energy Efficiency Ratio
SHR	Sensible heat ratio
EF	Energy Factor
SHGC	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient
AL	Air leakage
VT	Visible Light Transmittance
MERV	Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, an air filter efficiency rating
BFE	Base Flood Elevation
UL	Underwriter Laboratory (testing and certification of materials)
VOC	Volatile organic compounds (fumes)





Resource-Efficient

Energy-Efficiency

Certified Home

- Certified ENERGY STAR Home or Zero-Energy Ready Home

Design for the Climate

Landscaping for energy savings:

- Deciduous trees shade W, SW, E and SE sides of house
- Large shrubs or trellis with vines on W side
- Ground cover, mulch near house to reduce reflected heat
- Little unshaded pavement near house, none under windows
- Evergreen shrubs and trees grouped as windbreak on N side

Overall house design:

- Compact building layout to minimize total surface area
- Open planning, min. corridor area (space-efficient design)
- Kitchen, laundry rooms are not on W side
- Living areas, kitchen have N or S windows
- Porches, patios, etc. on N & S sides (unconditioned living space)

House design elements to minimize solar heat gain:

- More wall area faces within 20° of due S and N
- W facing glass < 2% of floor area
- E facing glass < 3% of floor area
- 2-ft. or larger overhangs
- All W, E and S glass shaded
- Garage/carport on W or E side (blocking sun)
- No skylights (except light tubes)
- Reflective roofing (min. 0.25 solar reflectance)
- Light color brick or siding

Design elements for passive solar winter benefits:

- S overhangs sized or louvered for summer shade and winter sun
- Thermal mass flooring along S glass
- S facing sunroom with mass floor, walls

House design elements for mild seasons:

- Operable windows placed for cross ventilation
- Porch open on three sides or in breezeway

Windows

- ENERGY STAR or NFRC labeled windows rated:
 - ≤ 0.25 SHGC (solar heat gain) in zones 1 & 2 (southern), or
 - ≤ 0.25 SHGC in zone 3 (south-central)
 - ≤ 0.40 U-factor (heat conduction) in climate zones 1 & 2, or ≤ 0.30 in zone 3
 - ≥ 0.50 VT preferred (visible light transmittance)
- All W and E glass has ≤ 0.25 SHGC or shade screens
- If passive solar, high solar gain low-e S-facing glass
- For day lighting, 0.70 VT on N and S if shaded

Tight Construction (Air Sealing)

Continuous air barrier around conditioned space via:

- Exterior air barrier
- Airtight Drywall Approach interior air barrier
- Sealed, airtight floor system
- All hidden bypasses sealed from attic and crawl space
- Bottom plate of exterior walls sealed to foundation
- Band joists between floors sealed
- All penetrations in building envelope sealed
- Airtight electrical boxes (or sealed by hand)
- Low infiltration windows and doors
- Fireplace: sealed from attic, outside air duct, tight damper, glass doors
- Weather-stripped, insulated attic access (or in unconditioned area)
- No recessed lights, or only ICAT used
- Tight dampers, sealed housings on exhaust and inlet vents (exhaust not vented into attic)

Insulation Systems with Good “Whole Wall” R-Values

Continuous insulation surrounding all conditioned space (except slab floor)

Recommended Insulation Material R-values:

- Attic: R 30-60 in climate zone 2; R 38-60 in climate zone 3
- Cathedral ceiling: R 30 in zone 2; R 38 in zone 3
- Unvented, conditioned attic (such as spray foam under roof or insulated roof): > R 21
- Wood frame walls: R 13-20 in climate zone 2; R 15-20 in zone 3
- Concrete or masonry walls: R 13-20
- Band joist between levels: R 13-20

- Floor over unconditioned space: R 13-19 in climate zone 2; R 19-25 in zone 3
- Steel frame: R 19-32 walls (must have exterior insulating sheathing); R-49 attic, R 19-25 floor

Elements of Insulation System:

- Insulation installed without gaps, voids and compressions
- Radiant barrier under roof decking (if A/C ducts in attic and non-reflective roofing)
- Building system with continuous insulation coverage
- Insulation type with extra advantages (see more info in manual or online articles)
- Roof framing for full insulation above exterior walls
- Insulated window and door headers
- Insulated corners and T-wall intersections
- Insulated, air tight attic access door (R 30)
- All insulated doors (R 5-15)
- All glass low-e insulated; nonconductive framing

HVAC - Efficient Cooling and Heating

ENERGY STAR labeled cooling and heating equipment:

- Air conditioner: \geq SEER 15 matched system
- Gas furnace: \geq AFUE 90%
- Heat Pump (air source): \geq SEER 15 & HSPF 8.5
- Geothermal closed loop heat pump: \geq EER 17.1 + COP 3.6
- Equipment is performance tested

Alternatives with special advantages:

- Geothermal heat pump with water heating
- Variable speed air conditioner or heat pump
- Integrated gas space and water heating system
- Manual J sizing (not oversized) and Manual S equipment selection (to meet humidity load)
- Sensible Heat Ratio \leq 0.70 SHR (min. 30% dehumidification)
- Zoned heating/cooling (zone control system or multiple units)
- Programmable thermostats
- Outdoor thermostat on heat pump
- Heat pump has gas back-up heat
- Compressor on N or E side of house

Minimized duct losses:

- Ducts and air handler (AH) within conditioned space (inside building insulation "envelope"):
 - In sealed soffit or dropped ceiling, AH in closet
 - Or, in insulated, sealed enclosure above ceiling
 - Or, encased in spray foam above ceiling
 - Or, in unvented, conditioned attic (code compliant insulation at roofline, not attic floor)

- Supply ducts, AH, all connections sealed with mastic
- Duct insulation (R-8 if not in conditioned space)
- Sealed return plenum or duct
- Manual D duct and return design
- Airflow measured and balanced with air flow hood
- Central supply trunk (not octopus layout)
- Duct runs and registers not extended to exterior walls
- Air returns, transfer grilles or transoms for all BR's
- Tested duct leakage $<$ 5% to outside (min. 8%)

Other Efficient HVAC equipment (see Healthy/IAQ for Ventilation):

- ENERGY STAR dehumidifier (if needed)
- ENERGY STAR ceiling fans in often-used areas
- ENERGY STAR quiet exhaust fans (\leq 1.5 sones)

Appliances with Low Life-Cycle Cost

- ENERGY STAR refrigerator, clothes washer, dishwasher
- ENERGY STAR electronics
- Efficient dryer, oven, etc. (see EnergyGuide labels)
- If well or pool present, efficient variable speed pump

Efficient water-heating system options:

- Integrated with geothermal heat pump
- Heat recovery unit on air conditioner compressor
- Solar water heater, certified
- Heat pump water heater, EF \geq 2.0
- Tankless gas water heater, EF \geq 0.90
- \geq 0.67 EF small gas water heater, 0.77 \geq 55 gal.
- Insulated hot water pipes and tank
- Central location of water heater
- Efficient piping layout, sizing for hot water

Lighting with Fewer Watts, Less Heat

- high color low wattage lighting throughout house
 - fluorescent tubes, electronic ballast in attractive built-ins
 - EnergyStar fixtures
 - compact fluorescent lamps in standard fixtures
 - LED lamps
- high efficiency outdoor lighting
 - photovoltaic solar lights
 - outdoor fluorescents
 - high pressure sodium or metal halide
- controlled, diffuse daylighting
 - 0.8 VT N and shaded S glass
 - If skylights, tubular type only
- light color scheme interiors
- motion or photo sensors

Water-Efficiency

- Drought-tolerant landscape
- Micro-irrigation system for garden (or none needed)
- Low water use lawn sprinkler system (or none needed)
- Timer on hose or watering system
- High performance low-flow toilets
- EPA Water Sense label low-flow fixtures
- Water-efficient appliances
- No oversized garden tub
- On-demand recirculating plumbing system

In areas of threatened water supply:

- Automatic faucets
- Residential urinal
- Rainwater harvesting for outdoor use
- Greywater for underground irrigation (if permitted)
- Household sewage flow reduction system for irrigation, if permitted

Waste Management

Reduce Construction Site Waste

- Modular planning
- Use of manufactured components
- Use of low-waste building systems
- Job site framing plan, cut list, central cut area
- Donation or re-use of excess materials
- Recycling of construction waste
- Cleared trees milled or ground into mulch

Household Waste Management

- Home recycling, sorting center (for household trash)
- Backyard composting

Pollution Prevention and Ecosystem Protection

Water Quality Protection:

- Effective sanitary sewer system
- Private water well protected from flooding

- Landscape integrated pest management
- Backflow prevention valves on outside faucets

Storm water management/ runoff reduction:

- Porous paving
- Rainwater harvesting from roof
- Landscaped buffers, retention areas on site
- Construction sediment/erosion control

Minimize Use of Environmental Hazards

- Suitable ozone friendly materials
- Minimal use of pesticides, solvents, etc.
- Low toxic wood treatments
- Catalytic wood stove (if used for heating)

Native Plant and Ecosystem Protection

- Onsite preservation of native trees, plants
- Protection of tree root system
- Landscaping with native plants
- Preserved or created wetland
- Preserved or created wildlife habitat

Favoring Green & Renewables

Suitable Green Materials

- Engineered lumber, framing systems, trim
- Concrete made with fly ash
- Recycled plastic or composite decking
- Recycled content building, finish materials
- Recyclable or salvaged materials
- Materials made from waste (mulch, bagasse, etc.)

Site Choice

- Lot within "green" development
- Site near workplace or mass transportation
- Infill site or small lot development

Shift Toward Renewable or Zero Energy

- Passive solar (house design)
- Solar water heating
- Fuel cell (when cost-effective)
- Photovoltaics

Use of Local Resources

- Local renewable natural resources
- Locally manufactured products (< 200 miles)



Durable

Decay Resistance

Moisture Control

Architectural detailing that sheds rainwater away from walls:

- Overhangs all around (2 ft. wide)
- Roof pitch between 3:12 and 6:12
- Roof drip edge
- If lacking overhangs, non-clogging gutters or diffusers
- Covered entries
- Cap flashing with drip edges above windows, doors
- Extended, sloped window sills
- Sloped porches, balconies, driveways, etc.

Roof leak reduction:

- Simple roof design
- No flat roofs
- Minimal penetrations; leak-resistant vent systems
- Properly installed flashing at penetrations, valleys
- Step and kick-out flashings if a roof intersects a wall
- Higher performance underlayment for leak-prone roofing types

Continuous drainage plane in walls exposed to rain:

- Drainage space behind cladding in high rainfall areas
- Vented space behind cladding in extreme rainfall areas
- Or, sealed masonry construction (reservoir system)
- Flashing of windows, doors, etc. that continues drainage plane
 - Shingle fashion installation of all materials
 - Flexible flashing tape, waterproof coating or sill pans and corner guards
 - Doors set in pan flashing or “seat” in slab

Hot, humid climate ideal wall assembly (zones 1A, 2A, lower part of 3A):

- Air flow retarder to the exterior
- Vapor diffusion retarder to the exterior
- Permeable interior finish (no vinyl wallpaper)
- Unfaced cavity insulation

Mixed, humid climate ideal wall assembly (zones 4A, top part of 3A):

- Air flow retarder to the interior
- Permeable interior finish (no vinyl wallpaper)

- Vapor diffusion retarder that adapts to seasons:
 - $\geq R 5$ insulating rigid foam sheathing
 - Kraft paper faced insulation
 - Special membrane that is low-perm in winter and high-perm in summer.

Water managed foundation:

- Ground slopes away from foundation
- Gasket between foundation and framing

For slab on grade house:

- Durable plastic sheeting under slab and lining the grade beam
- Coarse gravel drainage bed under slab

For raised house:

- Ground level under house higher than outside grade
- Plastic ground cover in enclosed crawl space
- Entire wood subfloor treated to resist decay
- Drainage board for any below grade walls
- Insulation system that minimizes condensation on wood framing

Other:

- Exhaust fans, clothes dryer do not vent under house or into attic
- Wood, fiber cement siding backprimed
- No plumbing within exterior walls
- Stainless steel hoses for clothes washer
- Sloped floor and drain or drain pan for clothes washer, water heater
- Air infiltration control (see Energy-efficiency section)
- Humidity control system (see Healthy/ Indoor Air section)

Long-Lasting Materials and Equipment

- ≥ 40 -year roofing warranty, 12 year total-system 100% warranty
- ≥ 50 -year cladding warranty or masonry
- ≥ 10 -year window frame, 20 year glass warranty
- pressure-treated wood, masonry, steel structural components
- fiber cement, composite or other long-life trim
- plastic lumber or pressure-treated wood decking
- appliances, equipment with longer warranties
- long-lasting floorings
- foundation designed for soil conditions

Multi-Hazard Resistance

General:

- Emergency back-up power system
- Easy access shut-offs
- Emergency kit storage
- Multiple escape exits

Flood Damage Reduction

Built above anticipated flood levels:

In non-coastal A zones, floor is 2-3 feet above BFE using one of these foundation types:

- slab on compacted fill, extending max. 2 ft. beyond house footprint
- slab cap on compacted fill within a stem wall foundation
- unfinished, floodable crawl space with flood vents
- pile, post, column or pier open foundation; enclosures vented or designed to allow entry and exit of flood water

In V zones and coastal-A zones, lowest horizontal structural member is above BFE with:

- Continuous pile, open foundation
- No or minimal obstruction as allowed by local ordinance

In areas of minimal risk (Zones C and X) near A or V zone property:

- Lowest floor is above BFE of nearest flood zone

Additional design features:

- Decks, porches built and anchored to resist flood forces
- Garage above BFE or includes flood vents if below BFE
- Garage floor, patios, etc. min. 4 in. below living floor,
- HVAC, electrical, mechanical systems elevated above BFE

Additional flood protection features:

- Backflow valve in sewer line
- Flood-resistant materials and on first floor assemblies (drainable, changeable, dryable)
- Appliance styles, installations that minimize damage in shallow floods
- In areas protected by levees, designs and materials that are submersible, drainable and easily flushed

Hurricane and Tornado Resistance

(See wind design speed map and associated wind resistant building code for specific requirements; checklist below includes general guidelines for hurricane zones)

General features:

- House is \leq 60 ft. long
- No more than two stories (levels)
- Wall height of each story is \leq 10 ft.
- Exterior cladding (siding, roofing, etc. rated for wind design speed)
- Reinforced safe-room within house
- Storm storage for outdoor items
- Outside accessories securely anchored

Walls:

For wood frame construction

- 2x4 studs spaced 16" o.c., or 2x6 studs spaced 24" o.c.
- Bottom plates anchored to foundation
- All load bearing studs anchored to bottom and top plates with metal hurricane connectors or structural sheathing with load-specific nailing pattern
- Upper story anchored to lower story
- Structural sheathing or inset shearwalls to meet shear load requirements
- No windows, doors near corners
- Corner hold-down hardware at ends of each shear wall

For masonry construction:

- Rebar connects foundation to wall (4-ft. spacing typical)
- Rebar reinforcement full height of walls
- Vertical rebar reinforcement at corners and both sides of windows and doors

For SIPS, ICF and other building systems:

- Engineered for wind speed of local wind zone

Roof, Overhangs and Attachments:

- Wind-rated connection of roof to walls
 - Hurricane straps over every rafter/truss (preferable to clips)
- Roof pitch between 3:12 and 12:12 (< 7:12 preferred)
- Hip roof design (preferred)
 - Gable roof end walls braced or balloon framed
 - Overhangs \leq 2 ft. (or engineered, if larger)
- Roof decking nailed to rafters with ring shank nails (not stapled) at 6" o.c. or to code

- In tornado zone, 5/8-inch plywood roof decking
- Roof deck seams sealed (with adhesive roof tape or membrane)
- Min. #30 roofing felt (prefer tear resistant synthetic underlayment or peel-and-stick membrane)
- Wind- and impact-rated roofing (Class H, UL Class 4 are best); shingles installed with dedicated starter strips, nailed per high wind instructions.
- Attic vents protected from wind-driven rain
- Soffits of rigid material and fastened securely to framing
- Porch, patio, carport designed, anchored for wind load
 - Columns anchored to foundation and roof beam

Windows and doors:

- Height \leq 6'-8"
- Meet code design pressure ratings (typically > DP 30)
- Glass protections (plywood panels or certified impact-rated storm shutters, panels, screens, or window/door units)
- In tornado zone, passive protection (impact rated) windows
- Pressure rated or reinforced garage door

Fire Protection

- Fire resistant wall cladding
- UL Class A roofing
- Fire resistant materials around fireplace, and in kitchen
- Smoke alarm (combination type, battery powered)
- Lightning rod and grounding system
- Residential sprinkler system
- Planned extinguisher mounting locations

Hail and Freeze Hazards

- Hail resistant roofing (UL Class 4)
- All plumbing in heated space or well insulated
- Pressure relief exterior faucets
- Pex piping (flexible)

Termite Resistance

- No untreated wood left in soil or stored near structure
- Moisture managed construction (See Moisture Control section)
- Professional soil treatment under foundation
- Termite barriers at hidden pathways
- Best: no untreated structural wood or vulnerable insulation
 - Borate-treated wall/roof framing , cellulose insulation, foams
 - Pressure-treated (not borate) or composite wood decking
- Masonry, concrete or steel construction

Slab foundation:

- Monolithic poured slab
- Slab specifications to minimize cracking
- Steel mesh epoxied pipe collars within slab
- Consider treatment of control joints and cracks
- No wood forms, stakes, etc. left in ground

Raised foundations:

- No hollow concrete blocks below grade
- Hollow block foundation walls capped with concrete
- Piers are solid, resistant material
- Termite shields between foundation and framing to force termite exposure
- Floor joists >18 in. above ground

All foundations:

- No vulnerable foam insulation under ground (below grade)
 - Min. 8-in. clearance between siding and finished grade
 - Min. 6-in. clearance between wooden steps and soil
- Foundations detailed for ease of inspection and detection

- Porches, terraces not filled with soil
- Porch supports separated from house min. 2 in.

Other:

- Downspouts, sprinklers, drain lines discharge >2 ft. from house
- Plantings placed min. 3 feet from foundation
- No mulch near house or only termite resistant types
- Plumbing and conduit off the ground, no wood supports



Healthy

Good Indoor Air Quality

Control of Mold, Dust Mites, Other Biological Pollutants

- Moisture control construction methods (see Durable)
- Air infiltration control (See Energy-efficiency)

Ventilation and dehumidification:

- Right-sized air conditioner (Manual J calculation)
- Controlled, filtered fresh air supply AND dehumidification to maintain RH < 60% and slight positive pressure via:
 - Dehumidifying whole house supply ventilation system, OR
 - Fresh air inlet with automatic flow controller to return plenum plus a separate dehumidifier, OR
 - Variable capacity air conditioner with fresh air duct and controller
- Air tight duct system (sealed connections)
- No attic power vent
- 50-80 cfm bathroom exhaust fans with timer or humidistat control
- 100-400 cfm cooktop hood exhaust to outside; hood covers all burners; make-up air for high cfm units
- Pleated HVAC filter (8-10 MERV rating)

For households with allergies, asthma:

- Central vacuum system or HEPA portable vacuum
- 11-12 MERV HVAC filter
- No carpeting in bedroom, family room
- Dehumidifier capacity to keep RH below 50%
- Entry designed for large doormats, washable rug
- Planned outdoor space for pets

Control of Combustion Pollutants

- Carport or detached garage
- OR, attached garage air sealed from living space
- Garage attic isolated from home attic
- No unvented combustion source
- Carbon monoxide detector

Protection from backdrafting:

- When located in unvented attic or other indoor space, only electric or direct vent, sealed-combustion type furnace, fireplace, and water heater
- Bedroom return-air grilles or ducts
- Dampened fresh air intake in laundry room

Control of Other Indoor Pollutants

- Integrated pest management
- Low VOC paints, stains, sealants, adhesives, cleaning products, etc.
- Low-formaldehyde materials (or seal them)
- Low emission labeled carpet, aired before installation
- Finishes free of lead arsenic, mercury, etc.
- Modern mud room at family entry (shoe bins)
- Radon home test
- Soil gas prevention system
- If hypersensitive, minimize PVC, electromagnetic field, dyes, etc.

Universal Design

Safe, functional throughout lifecycle; accommodates various ages, heights, needs, abilities and changes.

Visitability by Persons with Disabilities

- A grade level or ramped entry path and doorway
- No steps into visiting areas and one bathroom
- Min. 32 in. wide doorways to visiting areas
- One accessible bathroom (5 ft. turning circle at toilet and sink)

Universal Features

Throughout house:

- No level changes on first story
- Thresholds \leq 1/2 in. high
- All doorways \geq 32 in. wide
- Hallways, paths \geq 42 in. wide
- Lower switches (38-48 in. floor to operable part)
- Higher outlets (18 in. from floor to plug holes)
- Rocker switches or motion sensors
- Lever door handles, U-shaped cabinet pulls
- Single-lever faucet controls
- Easy to reach A/C filter
- Adjustable shelves, rods
- Rounded counter and cabinet corners
- Non-slip, no-glare, even flooring
- Contrasting color and texture visual aids
- Ample, variable light without glare, task lighting
- Space planned for "just in case" elevator shaft, if two-story

Kitchen and Laundry - adaptable and convenient for various users:

- Appliances placed for safety and universal access
 - Microwave at counter height (36 in.)
 - Front-loading clothes washer
 - Cooktop controls at side
- 42 in. pathway clearances
- 5 ft. clear turning circle at sink, range, refrigerator
- Varied counter heights
- Seated work space in kitchen (30-32 in. high)
- No center stile on cabinets where knee space might be needed (sink, cooktop)
- Some outlets, switches on sides of counters
- Roll-out shelves, baskets, drawers; easy storage access

One bedroom and bathroom fully wheelchair accessible:

- On ground floor

- 36 in. wide doorways, no thresholds
- 24 in. space on latch side of doors
- Doors open outward
- 5 ft. turning circle clear floor spaces
- Bedroom has door to outside
- Low windows and mirrors (max. 40 in. above floor)
- No deep pile carpet or slick, shiny flooring
- Knee space under lavatory (not obstructed by cabinet or plumbing)
- Reinforced walls at toilet, tub, shower for grab bars
- Non-slip decorative grab bars
- Higher toilet, accessible (not enclosed)
- Easy-transfer shower, tub with seat, or curbless shower
- Single-lever bath valve, offset for easy reach
- Higher cabinet toe space (9 in.)
- Easily adaptable to changing needs



Convenient

Functional Design

(See also Healthy/Universal Design section)

- Abundant, adaptable storage space in every room
- Sufficient, secure storage for outdoor items
- Family entry nook for electronics, mail, shoes, etc
- Consider attic designed for accessible storage space
- Controlled visitor entrance, access and view
- MBR on same level as second BR
- Efficient workflows, traffic paths
- Sound controls

Kitchen:

- Service entry (from car) convenient to kitchen
- Accommodates multiple cooks
- Accommodates social interaction
- Layout follows space guidelines (see Ref. Guide)
- Work triangle perimeter within 15-26 ft.

Low Maintenance

- Long lasting materials and equipment
- Materials that need infrequent or no refinishing
- Mildew- and algae-resistant materials
- Heat, cold, sun and water resistant materials
- Scratch- and stain-resistant materials, finishes
- Easy to clean surfaces, appliances, etc.

- Min. dust collecting surfaces
- Space at entry for shoes, outerwear
- Easy access to HVAC and filters

Advanced Wiring & Automation

- Structured wiring, central control
- High capacity cabling
- Easily upgradeable installation route
- Integrated multi-hazard and security systems
- Energy-management control system
- Home office equipped for telecommuting
- Automated lighting controls
- Whole house wireless networking
- Assistive technologies
- Design for technology

Adaptable For Changing Needs

- Open planning of social zones
- Multi-purpose, adaptable room
- Usable attic space
- Expandable floor plan (future additions)
- Tandem rooms with movable partition



Practical

- Life-cycle cost-effective building systems, products
- Locally available or easily obtained products, installers, maintenance
- Reduces labor cost or construction time
- Enhances or protects market value

**For explanations of each item on this checklist,
basic building science concepts to avoid problems,
more research-based information on housing topics,
educational events and seminars,
online training center,
and a photo gallery of the high-performance features of**



visit

www.LSUAgCenter.com/LaHouse



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Revised Jan. 2016



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Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service
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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service provides equal opportunities in programs and employment