

# Energy Efficient Homes for Dummies (Thorndike Health, Home Learning)

*Rik DeGunther*

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**Rik DeGunther : Energy Efficient Homes for Dummies (Thorndike Health, Home Learning)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Energy Efficient Homes for Dummies (Thorndike Health, Home Learning):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Good for basics, not for experienced energy saversBy CWardThis was excellent for the basics, and gave some good info on various energy efficient ways to heat your home such as solar power, radiant heat, etc, but otherwise pretty basic.The last chapter gives 30 ways to be more energy efficient. Of these, the least helpful was to skip the dishwasher drying cycle, and the most helpful was a tie between sealing the HVAC ducts and getting a solar hot water heater and going DIY to save \$\$Good if you need a basic reference, not so good if you're already well on the path of saving energy.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Save your money or buy a different book.By BKW JRI took exception with several things this writer said. For one, he puts down energy auditors and says they aren't needed. I'm all for people doing what they can on their own, but true home performance analysis should be done by a qualified individual if you want to have your home scientifically analyzed. It takes highly calibrated, specialized equipment to do such a thing. Not the kind of everyday tools people have just lying around.I get that he wants people to be able to do it themselves, but it should be understood that that is limited and not a comprehensive home analysis.The other problem I have is that he gets many things just wrong, to the point that I had to put the book away as I saw how wrong he was in the areas I was familiar with, I could only imagine how

bad the areas I'm not familiar with were. All in all I can't recommend this book. There are many other books that are much more accurate than this. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. GreatBy Deni OI was looking for several options to stay energy efficient and this book offered more than I expected. Great book, written in an easy jargon for everyone.....

Hands-on, practical solutions to save money by making smart energy changes One of the best and most affordable strategies people can employ to combat global warming is to improve the energy and water efficiency of their homes. *Energy Efficient Homes For Dummies* provides homeowners with advice, tips, and projects to reduce costs, increase energy efficiency, and cut down on waste and pollution. After performing a do-it-yourself home energy audit, readers create an action plan based on their personal goals. Readers are presented with a wide range of potential solutions, from making better use of blinds and awnings to exploring geothermal options in order to reduce household costs and their impact on the planet. Rik DeGunther (Rescue, CA) is the founder of Efficient Homes, an energy consulting firm that focuses on home energy audits and the design of efficient heating and cooling systems.

From the Back Cover Learn to: Make smart, practical energy changes at home Conduct your own home energy audit Reduce your costs and impact on the planet Improve your household energy efficiency Save money with hands-on, smart household energy solutions! Want to make eco-friendly changes in your house that will save energy? This practical guide is packed with tips and projects for increasing your home's energy efficiency while reducing costs and cutting down on waste and pollution. You'll see how to put together your own energy action plan based on your needs and make your lifestyle more comfortable and enjoyable. Learn from an energy expert the author draws on his extensive experience to provide the best, most effective solutions Evaluate your energy usage perform a home energy audit and identify the areas that need improvement Reduce inefficiencies inside and out banish contaminants, seal and insulate your home, get more from your heating and air conditioning, fix leaks, and more Cut costs in every room use the right lights and switches, stop wasting water, and lessen the load on appliances Open the book and find:  
Explanations of energy costs Advice on changing your consumption habits Instructions for calculating your carbon footprint The ten best efficiency investments Tips for financing energy improvements The pros and cons of different energy alternatives Top solar investments The most efficient ways to reduce waste About the Author Rik DeGunther is a design engineer and energy efficiency consultant. He is the founder of Efficient Homes, an energy consulting firm that focuses on home energy audits and the design of efficient heating and cooling systems.