



## 2012 Requirements for New Construction

**If you apply for a building permit on or after Jan. 1, 2012**, the proposed construction must conform to the enhanced energy efficiency requirements of Ontario's Building Code.

The Building Code provides that if an application for a building permit is made on or after Jan. 1, 2012, the construction must meet the following energy efficiency requirements:

- **Houses (Part 9 residential buildings intended for occupancy on a continuing basis during the winter months)** must meet the performance level that is equal to a rating of 80 or more when evaluated in accordance with the EnerGuide Rating System (based on Hot 2000 V9.34c1, 2)[\[1\]](#) or conform to Supplementary Standard SB-12, which is referenced in the Building Code. The alternative compliance paths set out in this Supplementary Standard were referenced in an amendment to the Building Code which came into force on Jan. 1, 2010.

[ 1 ] The EnerGuide rating system was developed by Natural Resources Canada to evaluate the energy efficiency of houses.



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- More recently, on Dec. 5, 2011, SB-12 was amended to:
  - Recognize houses built to the technical specifications of Energy Star for New Homes (January 2011 version)
  - Provide additional alternative compliance paths that permit slightly lower levels of wall insulation as long as those levels are compensated for with other energy efficient building elements.
  - Include Air Barrier requirements which are more descriptive and have been moved back to Part 9 (9.25.3) of the Building Code.

See the [updated Supplementary Standard SB-12 - pdf](#).





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### Conforming to SB-12

This Supplementary Standard provides prescriptive requirements to achieve an acceptable air leakage rate and energy efficiency level as an alternative to achieving a rating of 80 when evaluated in accordance with “EnerGuide for New Houses”.

