

What is Passive House?



Building a Better World In Four Steps

1. Education

Passive House training connects the dots and changes the way we think and work. It creates a new language of building that prioritizes health, safety, and comfort.

Learn with us



2. Certification

Certifying your building provides assurance that it will perform as intended. Certification drives optimization, controls costs, and protects your investment. It also gives you the globally recognized Passive House seal.

Find a Certifier



3. Community

You'll learn more from peers than books, so we want to connect you to the global Passive House community. One way is to attend your local Passive House Chapter Meetings and experience the generosity and openness of our can-do community.

Join a Chapter



4. Advocacy

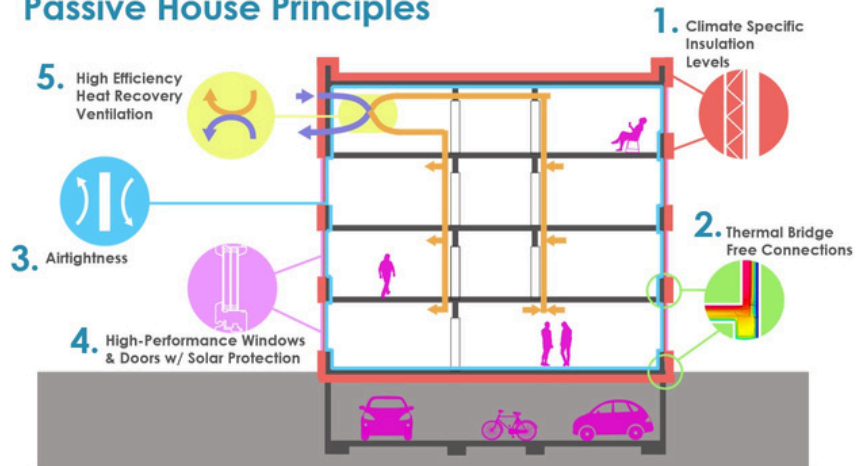
We advocate for change through education, certification, and community building. You can help us realize comfortable, healthy, all-electric buildings that support our renewable-energy future.

Change the World



Passive House is a design and construction standard that produces dramatic reductions in building energy use and carbon emissions. Passive House building standards also prioritize human comfort and health. The Passive House methodology focuses on five things:

Passive House Principles



It's not rocket science—it's simple building science, intentionally applied. It's also the best tool we have to provide cost-efficient, reliable reductions in building energy use and carbon emissions, prioritizing occupant comfort, health, and safety.

The Built Environment

Our building standards directly effect our environment, both inside out outside. Our extreme weather makes inefficient buildings use more power to heat and cool our buildings. This inefficiency uses more energy and releases more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, exacerbating our climate crisis. But it doesn't have to be that way.

With proper ventilation and an airtight envelope, you can keep out pests, allergens, mold, smoke, and pollution. High performance windows & doors and proper insulation ensure a building can efficiently reach comfortable temperatures throughout the year, without excessive use of your heater or air conditioner. You can stay safe and comfortable even when the power goes out in dangerous temperatures.

Every Passive House built or retrofit brings us closer to a safer, healthier, more sustainable future.



We spend 90% of our time indoors.



75% of our Electricity is Used by Buildings



71% of U.S. adults experienced extreme weather in the last 5 years.

5 Ways Passive House Supports Fire Resilience



Passive House delivers high-quality homes that are healthy, comfortable, efficient, and resilient. Passive house characteristics can also make your home more resistant to wildfire and smoke damage.

Here's how:

1. A Simpler Form

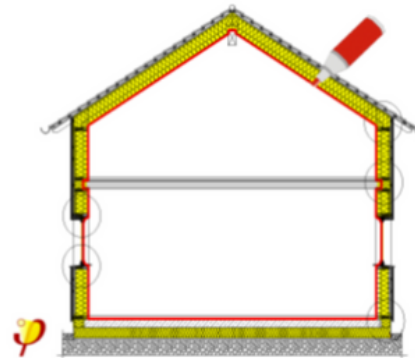
With fewer enclosure junctions, such as the ins and outs of dormers, eaves, overhangs, rooflines, and floorplans, a simpler form denies burning embers the opportunity to lodge in the building construction.



Sunflower Sanctuary, Shape Architecture

2. Continuous Insulation

Installed like a protective blanket around the entire structure, non-combustible insulation can shield the building from fire and deny the fire its fuel.



Wrapped in insulation & airtightness

3. Airtightness

The airtight enclosure keeps wind-driven burning embers and smoke out.

4. High-Performance Windows

Triple-pane windows, surrounded by robust frames, provide views, daylight, natural ventilation, and fire protection.



Robust glazing & frames

5. High-Performance Ventilation System

Filtered fresh air is continuously supplied while exhausting the stale air, providing healthy indoor air quality in polluted, smoky surroundings.

Be sure to take other common-sense measures like eliminating fossil fuels, using Class A fire-resistant materials at the exterior, and surrounding your home with fire-smart landscaping. Facing extreme conditions, let's design and build for a resilient future with Passive House.