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EDMONTON'S GREEN HOME GUIDE

Reduce Energy Costs with the Right-Sized Home

Choosing a home size that meets but doesn't exceed your family's needs can save you money on your monthly heating and electricity bills.

Smaller Home Sizes Make a Big Difference for Edmonton's Future

As a rule, a smaller home uses less energy than a larger one of a similar age. Attached homes like duplexes, row houses and apartments use less energy on a square footage basis than single-detached homes. Whenever less energy is used in Edmonton, it helps us contribute to our goals of using less fossil fuel and reducing greenhouse gasses, which helps mitigate climate change.

Home Size Quick Math: 500 Sq. Ft. per Person

Sometimes bigger isn't necessarily better. Look for a home that gives you the space you and your family need, but think twice about going too big. Depending on your family's needs, aim for 500 square feet per person. Look for homes that have an open plan or can be easily renovated to create an open plan in the main living areas. Open-plan homes feel more spacious even with a smaller total square footage.

Smaller Homes are Easier to Clean, Cheaper to Remodel

Small is beautiful. In addition to being more cost-effective and energy-efficient, a smaller home is also easier to clean and cheaper to remodel.

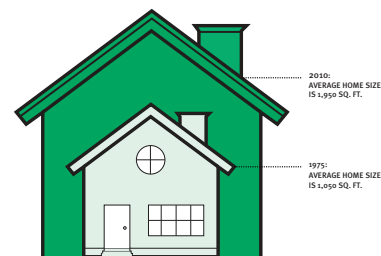
Reduce Home Space: Put a Halt to Hallways

A quick way to determine if a home uses space well is to look at how much space is taken up by hallways. Open concepts that eliminate hallways can make a smaller house feel much bigger. Additional tips for loving smaller homes can be found at: hgtv.com/topics/small-homes/index.html

Size of Homes Being Built in Edmonton (2012)



Size of Homes: Then and Now



GREEN FACTS AND TIPS: AVERAGE HOME SIZES IN CANADA

The following are considered by LEED Canada for Homes to be average home sizes. A smaller-than-average home generally costs less to buy and less in monthly energy and maintenance costs.

DETACHED HOUSE SIZE	NUMBER OF BEDROOMS
98 sq. m (1,050 sq. ft.)	1
150 sq. m (1,600 sq. ft.)	2
200 sq. m (2,200 sq. ft.)	3
280 sq. m (3,000 sq. ft.)	4

Source: LEED Canada for Homes

