



## SAMPLE TOWNHOUSE REPORT

1234 Townhouse Terr.  
Hanover MD 21076

Sarah Sample  
AUGUST 12, 2018



Inspector

**Henry Toman**

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The summary is meant to organize the defects or important repairs needed in the home. Most anything can be repaired in a home, although some repairs can be very expensive to complete. Generally, normal maintenance issues are left out of the summary unless they would lead to water leaks or expensive repairs if not completed in a timely way. Roof maintenance issues will be included in the summary because of the severe damage that may be caused by the neglect of roof maintenance.

#### **Please Read The Entire Report**

There is important information about home maintenance, materials used in the construction of this home, and appliance use and maintenance that should be read to gain an understanding of how to care for your home.

#### **Qualified Contractors**

Qualified contractors should be properly licensed and insured in the state of Maryland. Documentation of repairs to include the contractor's invoice, details of work completed, contact information and license number should be provided for the buyer's records.

#### **Recommended Contractors**

Any contractor recommendations are made for my client's or their agent's convenience. I do not accept kickbacks or referral fees from any contractors, EVER

# SUMMARY

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- 🔧 10.6.1 Plumbing - Gas System: Paint Rusty Pipes at Meter

# 1: INSPECTION DETAILS

## Information

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### In Attendance

Client, Client's Agent

### Weather Conditions

Clear, 85-90 degrees

### Home Style

Townhouse



## Using This Report

### Thank you for choosing 1st American Home Inspections, LLC for your Home Inspection!

The inspection performed to provide data for this report was visual in nature only, and non-invasive. The purpose of this report is to reflect as accurately as possible the visible condition of the home at the time of the inspection. This inspection is not a guarantee or warranty of any kind, but is an inspection for system and major accessible component defects and safety hazards.

### The Inspection is not Pass/Fail

A property does not "Pass" or "Fail" a General Home inspection. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about either the report or the property. The goal of this inspection report is not to make a purchase recommendation, but to provide you with useful, accurate information that will be helpful in making an informed purchase decision.

### Read the Report

Please read your entire inspection report carefully. Although the report has a summary that lists the most important considerations, the body of the report also contains important information. There is important information about home maintenance, materials used in the construction of this home, and appliance use and maintenance that should be read to gain an understanding of how to care for your home.

### Using the Summary

The summary is meant to organize the defects or important repairs needed in the home. Most anything can be repaired in a home, although some repairs can be very expensive to complete. Generally, normal maintenance issues are left out of the summary unless they would lead to water leaks or expensive repairs if not completed in a timely way. Most roof maintenance issues will be included in the summary because of the severe damage that may be caused by the neglect of roof maintenance.

### Repairs, Evaluations and Corrections

For your protection, and that of others, all repairs, corrections, or specialist evaluations should be performed by qualified contractors or licensed professionals. Safety hazards or poorly performed work can continue to be a problem, or even be made worse when home sellers try to save money by hiring inexpensive, unqualified workmen, or by doing work themselves.

### Recommended Contractors

Any contractor recommendations are made for my client's or their agent's convenience. I do not accept kickbacks or referral fees from any contractors, **EVER**.

### Do a Final Walk-Through

Because conditions can change very quickly, we recommend that you or your representative perform a final walk-through inspection immediately before closing to check the condition of the property, using this report as a guide.

We're Here to Help!

If you have questions about either the contents of this report, or about the home, please don't hesitate to contact us for help, no matter how much time has passed since your home inspection. We'll be happy to answer your questions to the best of our ability.

Notice to Third Parties

This Report is the joint property of 1st American Home Inspections, LLC and the Client(s) listed above. Unauthorized transfer to any third parties or subsequent buyers is not permitted. This report and supporting inspection were performed according to a written contract agreement that limits its scope and the manner in which it may be used. Unauthorized recipients are advised to not rely upon the contents of this report but instead to retain the services of the qualified home inspector of their choice to provide them with an updated report.

Explanation of Ratings

**I = Inspected.** This means the system or component was inspected and found to be functioning properly, or in acceptable condition at the time of the inspection. No further comment is necessary but whenever possible additional information about materials used in the construction and how to care for or maintain the home

**NI = Not Inspected.** This indicates that at least part of a system or component could not be inspected or inspected as thoroughly as I would like. This would rarely mean that the system or component could not be inspected at all. This amounts to a limitation and will include an explanation.

**NP = Not Present** This indicates that a system or component was not present at the time of inspection. If the system or component should have been present, a comment will follow.

**O = Observation.** This indicates that an action is recommended. Observations are color coded to indicate the importance of the observation.

- **Blue** - Means maintenance should be performed. This falls short of being an actual defect and **will not be included in the report summary.**
- **Orange** - Means that a system or component should be repaired or replaced.
- **Red** - Means that a correction or **repair is needed to eliminate a potential health or safety hazard.**



For Agents

**Viewing the summary may be a more efficient use of your time!** You can click the summary button under my name and license # for viewing online or on the right side is the PDF button that allow you to view or print the summary only. On the top edge is the "Agent Tools" button that opens a window you can easily copy/paste from.

**Thank you for all the hard work that you put into this transaction!**

Henry "Sonny" Toman



2: ROOF

		IN	NI	NP	O
2.1	Roof Covering	X			
2.2	Flashing / Penetrations	X			
2.3	Drainage System	X			X
2.4	Chimney and Flue Condition	X			

IN = Inspected      NI = Not Inspected      NP = Not Present      O = Observations

Information

<b>Inspection Method</b>	<b>Roof Type / Style</b>	<b>Roof Covering: Covering Materials</b>
By a drone with a high resolution camera	Side Gable	Architectural Shingles

Roof Covering: Architectural Shingles

The roof was covered with laminated fiberglass asphalt shingles, also called "architectural" or dimensional" shingles. Laminated shingles are composed of multiple layers of a fiberglass mat embedded in asphalt and covered with ceramic-coated mineral granules. Shingles with multiple layers bonded together are usually more durable than shingles composed of a single layer.



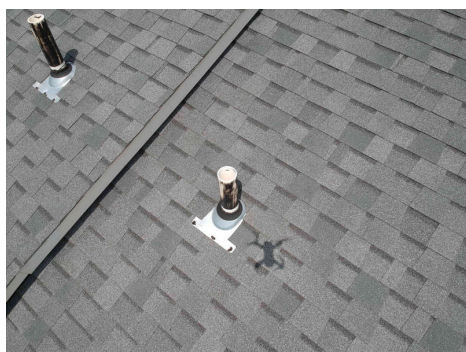
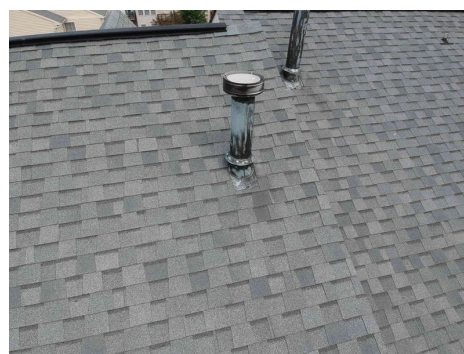
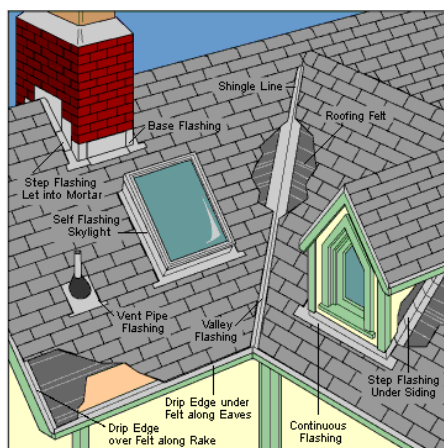
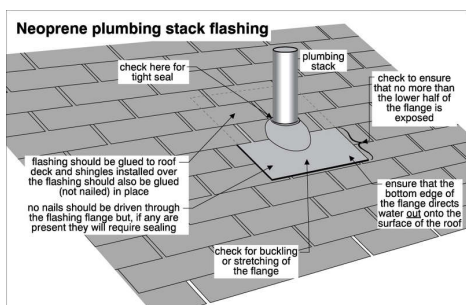


## Flashing / Penetrations: About Flashing & Penetrations

Roof penetrations describe the vents or flues that pass through the roof sheathing and covering materials. These penetrations will typically include flashing and boots designed to keep water out. The rubber boots that are used on penetrations will need to be replaced periodically.

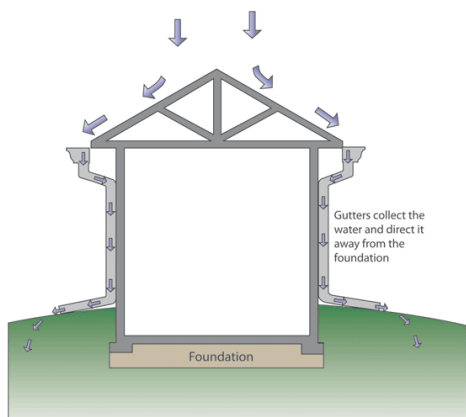
Flashing is a general term used to describe sheet metal fabricated into shapes and used to protect areas of the roof from moisture intrusion. Inspection typically includes inspection for condition and proper installation of flashing in the following locations: - roof penetrations such as vents, electrical masts, chimneys, mechanical equipment, patio cover attachment points, and around skylights; - junctions at which roofs meet walls; - roof edges; - areas at which roofs change slope; - areas at which roof-covering materials change; and - areas at which different roof planes meet (such as valleys). Flashing is often installed behind or underneath materials that conceal it from your inspector.

The photo shows examples of where roof flashing might be found under ideal conditions.



## Drainage System: About Roof Drainage

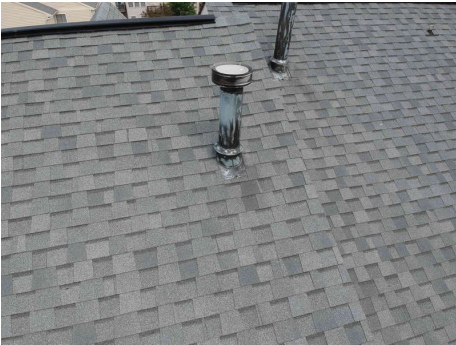
Proper design and maintenance of the roof drainage system is critical for protecting the foundation and keeping the basement dry. Keeping the rain gutters clear to prevent overflow and extending the downspouts away from the foundation are the two most important aspects of maintaining a properly designed system. Home owners should consider using a contractor who specializes in cleaning and maintaining the roof drainage system. This is dangerous work and even a short fall from a ladder can be fatal or cause serious injury.



Chimney and Flue Condition:

Chimney Type

Metal Chimney



Observations

2.3.1 Drainage System

Recommended Repairs

RAIN GUTTER BLOCKED, HOLDING WATER

Rain Gutters are blocked, holding water and overflowing. This condition can cause water damage in the home if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified roofing professional.



2.3.2 Drainage System

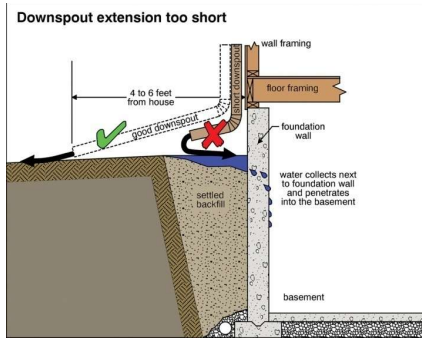
Recommended Repairs

DISCHARGES TO FOUNDATION

Downspouts discharge next to the foundation and should take water at least several feet away from the home. This is the most common cause of foundation damage and wet basements.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



### 2.3.3 Drainage System

## LOOSE RAIN GUTTERS

### REAR

This condition may allow the gutters to fall off or cause water to overflow the gutters and collect near the foundation. This is a primary cause of wet basements and foundation damage.



Recommended Repairs



## 3: EXTERIOR

		IN	NI	NP	O
3.1	Driveway / Sidewalk / Patio	X			X
3.2	Steps / Porch / Deck	X			X
3.3	Doors / Windows	X			X
3.4	Siding / Trim / Flashing	X			X
3.5	Grading / Trees / Shrubs	X			

IN = Inspected

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O = Observations

### Information

#### Driveway / Sidewalk / Patio:

##### Materials

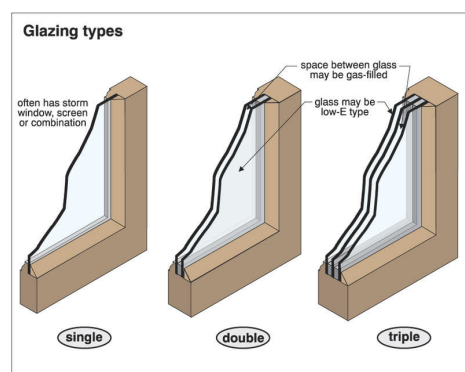
Concrete Driveway, Concrete Walkway

#### Doors / Windows: Glazing Type

Double Glazed

Windows provide our homes with light, warmth, and ventilation, but they can also negatively impact a home's energy efficiency. You can reduce energy costs by installing energy-efficient windows in your home. If your budget is tight, energy efficiency improvements to existing windows can also help.

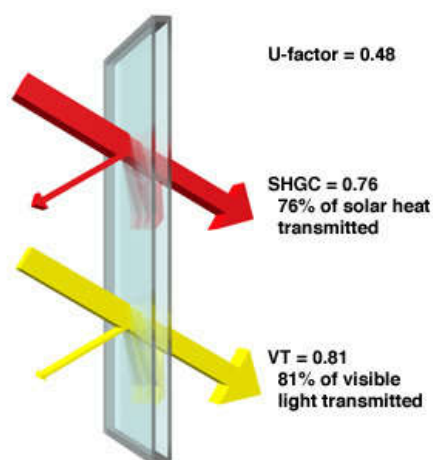
[Learn More](#)



## Doors / Windows: Double-Glazed

A typical clear, double-glazed unit has two lites of glass with the inner and outer layers of glass both being clear and separated by an air gap. Double glazing, compared to single glazing, cuts heat loss in half due to the insulating air space between the glass layers. In addition to reducing the heat flow, a double-glazed unit with clear glass will allow the transmission of high visible light and high solar heat gain.

[Learn More](#)



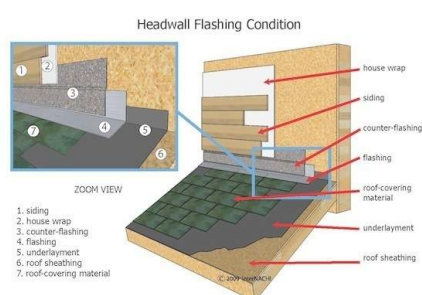
## Siding / Trim / Flashing: Siding Type

Brick, Vinyl Siding

## Siding / Trim / Flashing: About Flashing

Flashing is a thin layer of waterproof material that keeps water from getting into places it doesn't belong. It is usually a metal but can be vinyl, PVC or an adhesive bituminous material similar to tape. You would typically expect to find it at gaps between different materials like siding and windows or doors, decks and siding, trim and siding and on roofs. Flashing is better than caulk in most instances because it doesn't shrink and separate from materials like caulk does. Flashing is used more in newer than in older homes but has been in use for hundreds of years. Often materials will need to be removed to install flashing on older homes. Any change of siding, trim, doors and windows is a good opportunity to ensure that flashing is being used where it should be. Better contractors will know how to use flashing effectively to keep water out of your home. Proper use of flashing will add cost to the project but it is money well spent!

The included photo shows an example of perfect conditions which are rarely found on any home but it does demonstrate how flashing is used to protect the home from water leakage.



## Grading / Trees / Shrubs: Explain Grade

Grade refers to the slope of the soil around the home. Improper sloping of the soil near the home can lead to surface water, rain or melting snow, being directed towards the foundation. This condition is responsible for most wet basements and damaged foundations. The soil around the home should be sloped away from the home at least an inch per foot for 5 or 6 feet ideally.

## Limitations



Grading / Trees / Shrubs

EXPLAIN LIMITS

Trees and shrubs are inspected for evidence of a condition which contributes to a problem that would have a negative impact on the home only.

Observations

3.1.1 Driveway / Sidewalk / Patio

Maintenance Issues

REPAIR CONCRETE CRACKS

There are normal cracks in the concrete which should be filled with an appropriate material to slow the rate of deterioration caused by the freeze/thaw cycle.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



3.1.2 Driveway / Sidewalk / Patio

Recommended Repairs

DETERIORATED TOP-COAT

FRONT DRIVEWAY

The driveway appears to have been top-coated or resurfaced and the top coat is coming off. The surface underneath will be irregular and the concrete may deteriorate more rapidly.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified concrete contractor.



3.2.1 Steps / Porch / Deck

Maintenance Issues

DECK SHOULD BE SEALED

Sealing your deck will extend the life of the wooden materials that it is constructed with.

[Learn More](#)

Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project



## 3.2.2 Steps / Porch / Deck

**DETERIORATED PLANKING**

## DECK

Planking is deteriorated and should be replaced.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



Recommended Repairs



## 3.2.3 Steps / Porch / Deck

**PROTRUDING NAILS OR SCREWS**

## DECK

Protruding nails or screws should be set to prevent personal injury and/or eliminate a trip hazard.

## Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project



Safety Issue



## 3.2.4 Steps / Porch / Deck

**RAISED PLANKING TRIP HAZARD**

## DECK

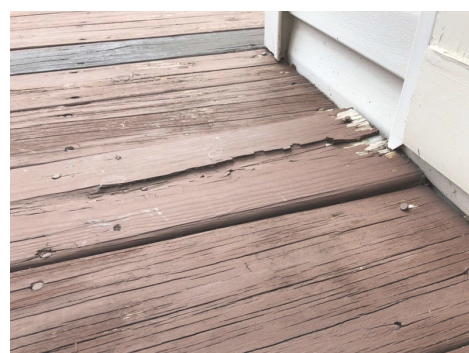
Loose or raised planks should be secured to eliminate a trip hazard.

## Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project



Safety Issue



## 3.3.1 Doors / Windows

**DAMAGED SCREEN DOORS**

## REAR DECK

The damaged screen door should be repaired to keep pests out.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



Maintenance Issues

## 3.3.2 Doors / Windows

**RUSTED LINTEL ABOVE DOOR**

## FRONT DOOR, GARAGE DOOR

The lintel above this door in the brick wall is rusted. This condition may damage the brick and will eventually structurally weaken the lintel.



Maintenance Issues



Recommendation  
Contact a qualified painting contractor.



3.3.3 Doors / Windows

**SLIDING DOOR WON'T LATCH**

REAR DECK

One or more sliding doors won't latch and can't be secured against unauthorized access.

Recommendation  
Contact a qualified handyman.

 Recommended Repairs

3.3.4 Doors / Windows

**TRIM OR ADJUST DOOR**

FRONT DOOR

One or more exterior doors needs to be trimmed or adjusted to function properly.

Recommendation  
Contact a qualified handyman.

 Recommended Repairs

3.3.5 Doors / Windows

**DOOR BELL NOT WORKING**

The door bell at the main entrance was not working when tested.

Recommendation  
Contact a qualified electrical contractor.

 Recommended Repairs

3.4.1 Siding / Trim / Flashing

**LOOSE SIDING**

REAR

Portions of the siding is loose and should be secured to prevent wind damage and more expensive repairs.

Recommendation  
Contact a qualified siding specialist.

 Recommended Repairs



## 3.4.2 Siding / Trim / Flashing

**SIDING WARPED BY GRILL OF SUNLIGHT**

## REAR DECK

Siding is warped. This is possibly caused by a grill or light reflecting from the patio door. This appears to be cosmetic.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified siding specialist.



## Recommended Repairs



## 3.4.3 Siding / Trim / Flashing

**GAPS AT PENETRATIONS**

There are gaps at wires, pipes or other penetrations. This condition may allow water into the structure, water damage and possibly mold growth if not corrected.

## Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project



## Maintenance Issues



## 3.4.4 Siding / Trim / Flashing

**NO FLASHING ABOVE LEDGER**

## REAR DECK

The ledger attaching the deck structure to the home structure interrupted the exterior wall covering and was inadequately flashed. No flashing was installed above the ledger. Flashing is designed to protect the wall assembly from moisture intrusion where the deck attaches to the home. There are water stains above the door beneath the deck.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified deck contractor.



## Recommended Repairs



Water spots below ledger in basement

4: STRUCTURE

		IN	NI	NP	O
4.1	Roof Structure	X			
4.2	Ceiling Structure	X			
4.3	Wall Structure	X			
4.4	Floor Structure	X			
4.5	Foundation	X			

IN = InspectedNI = Not InspectedNP = Not PresentO = Observations

Information

**Roof Structure: Inspection Access**  
Inspected in attic

**Roof Structure: Roof Structure Materials**  
Truss System, Plywood Sheathing

**Ceiling Structure: Ceiling Structure Materials**  
Bottom chords of the roof truss system

Most if not all of the ceiling structure will be concealed by attic insulation or ceiling finishes such as drywall or plaster. Any evidence of structural failure will be noted in the report.

**Wall Structure: Wall Structure Materials**  
Wooden framing

Many homes will have a wall structure made of multiple materials such as wooden framing built on top of cement block or poured cement. Some homes will have one or more additions made with different materials. Sometimes wall finishes and soil will totally conceal the wall structure from view. Any evidence of structural failure will be noted in this report.

**Floor Structure: Floor Structure Materials**  
Concrete slab

Most if not all of the floor structure will be covered by floor covering, ceiling finishes or insulation. Any evidence of structural failure will be noted in the report.

**Foundation: Foundation Access**  
Inspected from exterior, Inspected from interior

The foundation may be concealed by soil on the exterior, wall finishes and insulation on the interior or all of the above. Any evidence of structural failure will be noted in this report.

**Foundation: Foundation Configuration**  
Walkout basement above grade exit

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**Foundation: Foundation Materials**

Poured cement slab on grade

A foundation transfers the load of a structure to the earth and resists loads imposed by the earth. A foundation in residential construction may consist of a footing, wall, slab, pier, pile, or a combination of these elements. A footing is installed before the foundation wall to provide a level surface for construction of the foundation wall; to provide adequate strength, in addition to the foundation wall, to prevent differential settlement of the building in weak or uncertain soil conditions; to place the building foundation at a sufficient depth to avoid frost heave or thaw weakening.

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**Limitations**

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Roof Structure

**ROOF STRUCTURE CONCEALED BY INSULATION**

Portions of the roof structure was concealed by insulation. Evidence of a defect would be noted in this report.

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Ceiling Structure

**CEILING STRUCTURE CONCEALED BY INSULATION AND FINISHES**

The ceiling structure is concealed by insulation in the attic and ceiling finishes.

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Wall Structure

**WALL STRUCTURE CONCEALED BY FINISHES**

The wall structure, or the majority of it, was concealed by wall finishes and could not be inspected visually. Any evidence of a defect or failure will be noted in this report.

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Floor Structure

**FLOOR STRUCTURE CONCEALED BY FINISHES**

Acess to view the floor structure was limited by floor covering and ceiling finishes. Any indication of a structural defect will be noted in this report.

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Foundation

**FOUNDATION CONCEALED BY SOIL**

Exterior portions of the foundation were partially or completely covered with soil. This prevented a thorough inspection of the foundation and may have concealed a defect. Any evidence or indications of a structural defect or failure of the foundation or footings will be noted in this report.

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5: ATTIC / INSULATION / VENTILATION

		IN	NI	NP	O
5.1	Attic Condition	X			
5.2	Insulation Condition	X			X
5.3	Ventilation / Exhaust Fans	X			X

IN = Inspected      NI = Not Inspected      NP = Not Present      O = Observations

Information

Attic Condition: Attic Access

Inspected in the attic

Many of the defects found in an attic may be listed in the related sections of this report. Sometimes there is no attic or no access to the attic space. These conditions would be noted in this report.

Attic Condition: Ventilation Method

Ridge and Soffit vents

Attic ventilation is not an exact science and a standard ventilation approach that works well in one type of climate zone may not work well in another. The performance of a standard attic ventilation design system can vary even with different homesite locations and conditions or weather conditions within a single climate zone.

The typical approach is to thermally isolate the attic space from the living space by installing some type of thermal insulation on the attic floor. Heat that is radiated into the attic from sunlight shining on the roof is then removed using devices that allow natural air movement to carry hot air to the home exterior. This reduces summer cooling costs and increases comfort levels, and can help prevent roof problems that can develop during the winter such as the forming of ice dams along the roof eaves.

Natural air movement is introduced by providing air intake vents low in the attic space and exhaust vents high in the attic space. Thermal buoyancy (the tendency of hot air to rise) causes cool air to flow into the attic to replace hot air flowing out the exhaust vents. Conditions that block ventilation devices, or systems and devices that are poorly designed or installed can reduce the system performance.

Illustrations are for general information only and may not reflect the ventilation methods of your home.

**Baffles for soffit vents**

**Turbine vents**

**Types and locations of vents**

Attic Condition: Insulation

Materials

Blown in cellulose, Faced batts

## Attic Condition: Insulation Depth

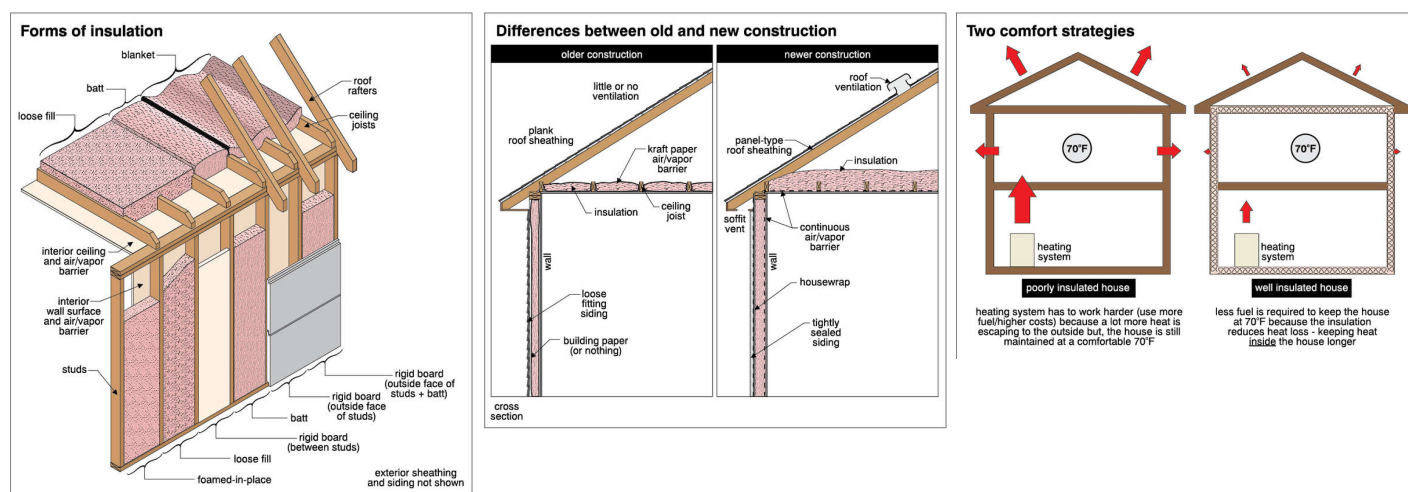
Approximately 4 inches, Approximately 8 inches

The recommended insulation levels in Maryland are a minimum of R-38 all the way up to R-60 or a depth between 12" and 22". This is just a recommendation and not a requirement for a new home.

[To learn more visit](#)

## Insulation Condition: Insulation Characteristics

The amount of insulation used in a home will determine how much energy is wasted heating and cooling the home. Proper insulation techniques allow for adequate ventilation and reduce accumulations of excess moisture in the air. A lack of adequate insulation will cause higher heating and cooling costs and can make the occupants uncomfortable during extreme weather conditions. Improper insulation techniques can cause excess moisture to collect and cause water damage and possibly mold growth. Newer homes are usually better insulated and more energy efficient than older homes. Newer homes are also "tighter" and allow less air flow or fewer "air changes" per hour. This sometimes makes newer homes more susceptible to mold growth. Insulation in the walls cannot be visually inspected.



## Ventilation / Exhaust Fans: About Kitchen Ventilation

Kitchens are often ventilated by an over the stove exhaust hood / fan or built in microwave exhaust fan or window. Ventilation is a means of removing heat, steam and odors produced by cooking in a kitchen. Cooking can increase the relative humidity in the home, which in turn can create condensation on cooler surfaces and contribute to moisture related problems such as mold. Inhalation of cooking fumes can have a negative impact on your health.

[Learn more about health effects of cooking fumes](#)

### Ventilation / Exhaust Fans: Bathroom Ventilation Method

Bathrooms Vented to Exterior

### Ventilation / Exhaust Fans: Kitchen Ventilation Method

Built in Microwave Vented to Kitchen

## Limitations

Insulation Condition

### CONCEALED BY FINISHES

A visual inspection of areas which should be insulated was prevented by wall and/or ceiling finishes which may have concealed a defect. Any defects observed will be noted in this report.

## Observations



## 5.2.1 Insulation Condition

**INADEQUATE INSULATION IN ATTIC**

The insulation of the attic is insufficient by modern standards. This condition will cause higher than necessary heating and cooling costs.

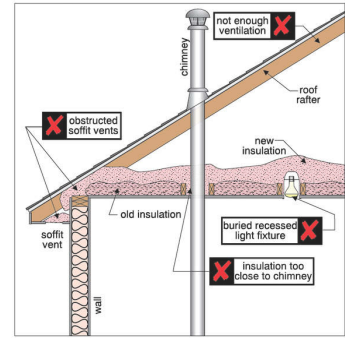
## Recommendation

Contact a qualified insulation contractor.



## Recommended Repairs

## Risks of adding more insulation



## 5.2.2 Insulation Condition

**NO HATCH INSULATION**

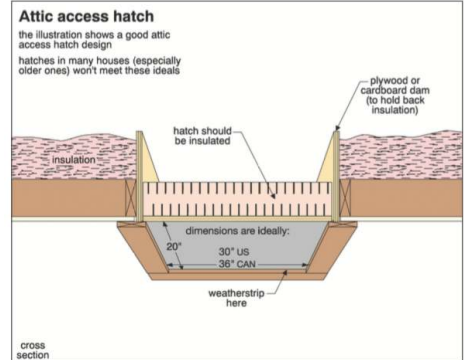
Insulation is missing at the attic hatch. This will result in energy loss and higher heating and cooling bills.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified insulation contractor.



## Recommended Repairs



## 5.3.1 Ventilation / Exhaust Fans

**NO EXHAUST VENT IN ROOM WITH SHOWER**

## MASTER BATHROOM

Although the room containing the toilet had an exhaust fan, the room containing the shower had no exhaust fan. This condition can cause excessively high humidity which may cause problems such as corrosion or microbial growth.

## Recommendation

Recommend monitoring.



## Recommended Repairs



## 6: INTERIOR

		IN	NI	NP	O
6.1	Walls / Ceilings / Floors	X			X
6.2	Windows / Doors / Closets	X			X
6.3	Cabinets / Countertops	X			X
6.4	Stairways / Railings	X			
6.5	Smoke Alarms	X			

IN = Inspected

NI = Not Inspected

NP = Not Present

O = Observations

### Information

#### Walls / Ceilings / Floors: Existing Homes

Settlement cracks and nail pops are normal signs of aging in a home. As moisture content in the air changes from season to season, the building materials in the home expand and contract. This will cause small cracks and nail pops in the ceiling that will require normal maintenance. Just as we develop wrinkles with age, so will any home.

Water stains and evidence of prior repairs are very commonly found in existing (not new construction) homes. Unless the area is wet it may be impossible to determine whether the problem has been resolved. Because water flows downhill, it may not be possible to determine the source of the water stain. The purpose of this comment is to explain that some water stains are not always explainable.

Floors in older homes are often irregular and squeaky. This may or may not indicate a structural problem.

#### Windows / Doors / Closets: Cord Strangulation Warning

Almost every month, on average, a child dies from window cord strangulation, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Any long, knotted cords that are potentially within the reach of small children should be removed to prevent strangulation and possibly brain damage or death.



ABC7 Eyewitness News @ABC7 - Oct 1  
Ikea removes window blinds w/pull cords blamed for strangulation deaths, injuries to children abc7.la/1hdiHrE

#### Stairways / Railings: About Stairway Safety

Care should be exercised on stairways as more injuries occur on stairways than other parts of the home. Even a slight variation between steps can lead to a fall and serious injury or even death. Handrails should be present at every stairway with 4 or more risers and may be desirable on shorter stairways. Handrails should be sturdy, graspable and carefully maintained as they may be used to prevent a fall.

Stairways in older homes were built to different standards than stairways in modern homes. Consumer safety wasn't foremost in the minds of most builders and there were fewer building codes, if any. The homes were smaller on average and stairways had to be fit into the space available. Basements weren't finished and basement ceiling heights may have been lower. As these homes are updated and basements are finished, stairways are used more and consumer safety becomes more important. Your home inspector may point out issues with older stairways that are very difficult or impossible to resolve without making expensive, and sometimes impractical, changes to the homes. It is also important to remember that there is no requirement for an older home to comply with modern building codes. Nevertheless, your mind knows where that step is supposed to be and variations in step height, tread depth, pitch and other issues can lead to falls and serious injury. Handrail installation becomes more important in older homes for this very reason.

## Smoke Alarms: New Maryland Law

This is a summary of the new smoke alarm law as I understand it:

1. Replace battery-only operated smoke alarms with units powered by sealed in, ten-year/long-life batteries with a silence/hush feature. **Do Not replace a hardwired smoke alarm with a battery only smoke alarm.**
2. Upgrade smoke alarm placement in existing residential occupancies to comply with minimum specified standards. These standards vary according to when the building was constructed. The deadline for compliance with the new law is January 1, 2018.
3. Replace smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

## Observations

### 6.1.1 Walls / Ceilings / Floors

#### CRACKED FLOOR TILES

KITCHEN, MASTER BATHROOM

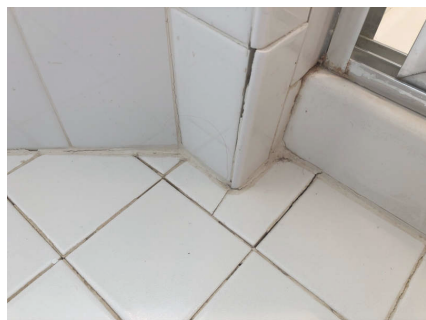
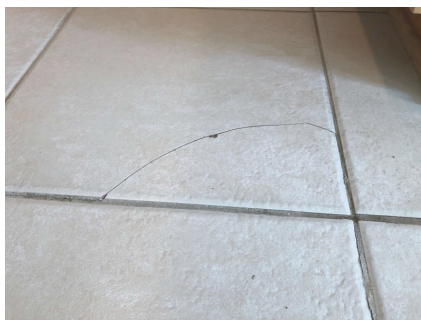
There are cracked floor tiles. This condition may worsen if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified tile contractor



Recommended Repairs



### 6.1.2 Walls / Ceilings / Floors

#### LOOSE FLOOR TILES

KITCHEN

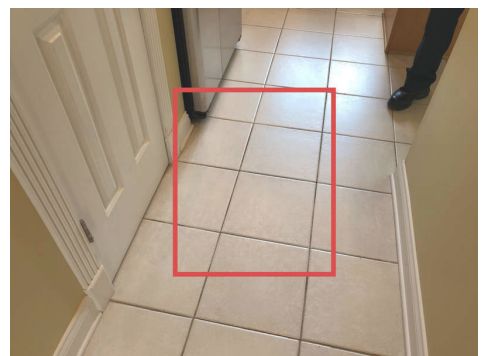
There are loose floor tiles in this area. The tiles may not have been installed properly or there may be movement in the sub-floor

Recommendation

Contact a qualified tile contractor



Recommended Repairs



### 6.1.3 Walls / Ceilings / Floors

#### MISSING GROUT BETWEEN FLOOR TILES

MAIN FLOOR HALF BATH, KITCHEN, MASTER BATHROOM

There is grout missing between the floor tiles in this area.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified tile contractor



Recommended Repairs



## 6.2.1 Windows / Doors / Closets

**DAMAGED SCREENS**

BREAKFAST NOOK, FRONT BEDROOM

There are damaged window screens which should be repaired or replaced to keep pests out.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



Maintenance Issues

## 6.2.2 Windows / Doors / Closets

**DOORS NEED TRIMMING OR ADJUSTMENT**

MASTER BATHROOM

One or more doors need to be trimmed or adjusted to work properly.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified handyman.



Maintenance Issues

## 6.2.3 Windows / Doors / Closets

**FOGGED WINDOW PANEL**

LIVING ROOM, BREAKFAST NOOK, BEDROOMS

There are one or more window panels that have failed seals. The seal should keep air and moisture out of the window panel.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified window repair/installation contractor.



Recommended Repairs

## 6.2.4 Windows / Doors / Closets

**CASEMENT WINDOWS WORK POORLY**

MASTER BATHROOM

The casement windows in this area are not working properly.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified window repair/installation contractor.



Recommended Repairs



## 6.2.5 Windows / Doors / Closets

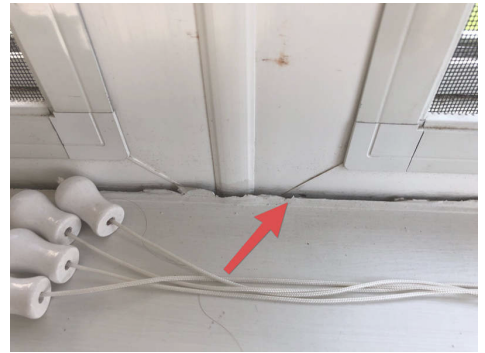
**GAPS AROUND WINDOWS**

## MASTER BATHROOM

There are gaps around the windows which should be caulked to prevent the loss of conditioned air and higher energy costs.

Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project

**Recommended Repairs**

## 6.3.1 Cabinets / Countertops

**SINK BASE COLLAPSING**

## MASTER BATHROOM

The sink base cabinet is collapsing. This condition may worsen if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified cabinet contractor.

**Recommended Repairs**

## 7: APPLIANCES

		IN	NI	NP	O
7.1	Disposal	X			
7.2	Dishwasher	X			X
7.3	Microwave / Exhaust Fan	X			X
7.4	Range / Cooktop / Oven	X			X
7.5	Refrigerator	X			
7.6	Clothes Washer / Dryer	X			

IN = Inspected

NI = Not Inspected

NP = Not Present

O = Observations

### Information

#### Appliances Present

Microwave, Gas range, Dishwasher, Disposal, Refrigerator with ice maker

The inspection of appliances is not required by the State of Maryland Standards of Practice but we try to confirm safety and basic functionality.

#### About Conveyance

Some appliances may not "convey" or be included with the home. This should be spelled out in your contract. Typically appliances that are permanently installed and directly wired to the electrical or plumbing system may be considered as "fixtures". Your home inspector doesn't determine what should be included with the sale of the home. If you are not certain about what is include or "conveys" check the contract or ask your agent.

#### Owner's Manuals

An owner's manual is very useful for learning how to operate an appliance, order parts and for general maintenance. If the owner's manual isn't provided by the seller it may be available online at the manufacturer's website. You would need the model number to select the correct manual.

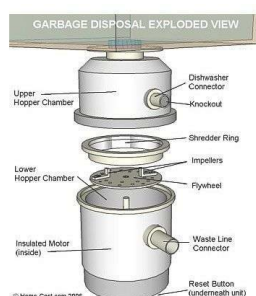
#### Disposal: About Garbage Disposals

The garbage disposal is mounted to the underside of a sink and is designed to store waste food in a hopper chamber (just beneath the sink drain and the upper part of the disposal). When turned on, the motor spins the flywheel and attached impellers at almost 2,000 RPM.

The attached impellers work to throw the waste food against the shredder ring and together they grind and pulverize the garbage. Water from the kitchen faucet flushes the pulverized waste material out the waste lineconnector discharge outlet and down the sewer system, or in some cases, into the septic system. (NOTE: Disposal usage may have some limitations with septic systems in some municipalities. Check with your local building code official.)

Your garbage disposal is different from your actual garbage can. Not all food scraps and liquids are meant to be poured into your disposal. Your should NEVER POUR GREASE down your sink drain or into a disposal.

To learn more



## Dishwasher: About Dishwashers

Dishwashers are used to clean dishes and some work better than others. Your home inspector doesn't determine whether the dishwasher will do a good job, just whether it is functional when inspected. Most dishwashers don't actually sanitize dishes the just wash them. Higher temperatures are required to sanitize your dishes and dishwashers will typically just wash them. Not everything can be cleaned in a dishwasher and dishwashers with exposed heating elements may melt some things. Dishwashers drain into the disposal or directly into a drain. Either way food that isn't dissolved by the dishwasher can clog the dishwasher discharge hose or drain. Bones and small pieces of hard items that won't be dissolved should not be put into a dishwasher.

## Microwave / Exhaust Fan: About Microwave Ovens

A microwave oven cooks food because the water molecules inside it absorb the microwave radiation and thereby heat up and heat the surrounding food. Microwaves could affect your tissue in a similar way if they were able to escape from the microwave oven. Modern microwave ovens are designed to allow essentially no leakage of microwaves, however. The only time for concern would be if the door is broken or damaged, in which case the oven should not be used.

Microwave ovens installed directly above a cooktop, or range (stove) will need to have an exhaust fan do deal with steam, grease and odors. The exhaust fan of a microwave oven will not usually work as well as an exhaust hood which is designed for the purpose of exhausting steam and grease and may not vent to the home exterior. Your inspector will try to determine if the fan is working but can't know how effective it will be. Filters should be cleaned or replaced regularly to prevent grease build up and allow the fan to exhaust as well as possible. Most filters can be purchase at hardware stores or online but the model number and possibly the serial number may be required. Measuring the size might work if the model number isn't available.

Your home inspector doesn't determine whether the microwave oven will cook food or whether it is leaking microwave radiation, but will note if it is damaged.

## Range / Cooktop / Oven: Free Standing Gas Range

A free standing gas range, often referred to as a stove, includes gas burners on the top and in the oven. These burners are controlled by the knobs or digital control panel which are used to regulate gas flow. Typically the burners on the top stay on but use more or less gas to determine the amount of heat needed for the setting.

**Caution should be exercised when cooking with oil on a gas range as oil may be ignited by the burners if spilled or overheated and start a kitchen fire.**

It is always advisable to use the exhaust fan when cooking with gas as carbon monoxide is created by combustion. A carbon monoxide detector should be installed on every level of the home when gas appliances are used.

It is important to read and understand the owner's manual so that the gas appliance is used safely and proper maintenance is performed. If the owner's manual isn't provided by the seller, you can probably go to the manufacturer's website to download or print one.

If cooking with oil, the residual oil should be cleaned off of the range regularly to avoid a dangerous build up of combustible material. If neglected the oily residue can be very difficult or impossible to remove without damaging the finish.

Your home inspector doesn't determine if the range will cook well, only if it is functional or damaged. Oven temperatures may not be what the controls indicate and an oven thermometer can be useful as you "get to know" your oven.

## Refrigerator: About Refrigerators

The refrigerator and freezer use refrigerant to remove heat in almost the same way that an air conditioner does. And like an air conditioner it has coils that should be cleaned to maintain proper function, use energy as efficiently as possible, and extend the useful lifespan.

Refrigerators may stop working at any time and cause food spoilage. Having a cooler around to store food is a good way to prevent spoilage when the refrigerator does stop working. If you don't own a cooler, you'll need to decide if purchasing one is worth the expense compared to the cost of food replacement. Refrigerators often require delivery that may take several days. If the refrigerator will need to be taken up stairs the deliverer should be informed at the time of purchase.

An ice maker requires a water supply and sometimes has a filter that will need to be replaced regularly to prevent bacteria buildup. The water supply may leak if the refrigerator is moved or pulled out for cleaning. It is a good idea to know the location of the shut off for the water supply when one exists.

An owner's manual is useful for replacing parts and understanding maintenance requirements. If the seller doesn't provide an owner's manual it may be available at the manufacturer's website for download or printing.



**Clothes Washer / Dryer: Clean Dryer Vent Duct**

The dryer ventilation duct should be cleaned or replaced when you move in and cleaned or replaced annually to prevent lint buildup. Lint buildup will restrict airflow and causes over 20,000 house fires annually.

**Clothes Washer / Dryer: Dryer  
Energy Source**

Electric

**Observations**

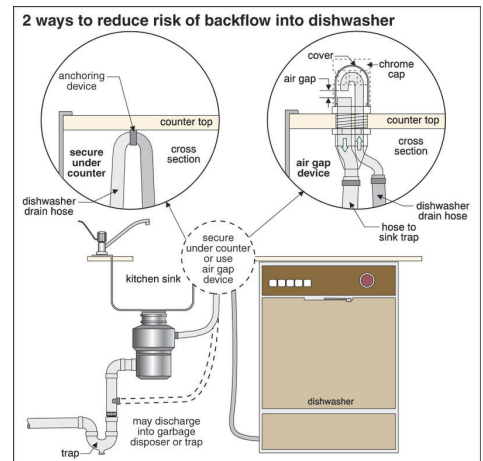
## 7.2.1 Dishwasher

**NEED AIR GAP**

A licensed plumbing contractor should install an air gap in the dishwasher discharge hose or otherwise correct the installation of the hose to prevent the siphoning of water from the sink into the dishwasher.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified plumbing contractor.

**Recommended Repairs**

## 7.3.1 Microwave / Exhaust Fan

**LIGHT DOES NOT WORK**

The surface light bulb should be replaced to ensure the surface light is working properly. The light may require repair it that doesn't work.

## Recommendation

Contact a qualified appliance repair professional.

**Recommended Repairs**

## 7.3.2 Microwave / Exhaust Fan

**DIRTY FILTERS IN MICROWAVE**

Exhaust fan filters in the microwave are dirty. This condition will reduce the effectiveness of the exhaust fan. Filters are typically available online or in hardware stores. Use model number to choose correct filter.

## Recommendation

Recommended DIY Project

**Maintenance Issues**

## 7.4.1 Range / Cooktop / Oven

**LOOSE BURNER CONTROL  
KNOB**

The gas burner control knob is loose. This condition may worsen if not corrected.

**Recommended Repairs**



### Recommendation

Contact a qualified appliance repair professional.



## 8: ELECTRICAL

		IN	NI	NP	O
8.1	Service Entry / Service Rating	X			
8.2	Service Panel / Main Disconnect	X			X
8.3	Wiring / Grounding / Junction Boxes	X			
8.4	Outlets / Lights / Ceiling Fans	X			X

IN = Inspected

NI = Not Inspected

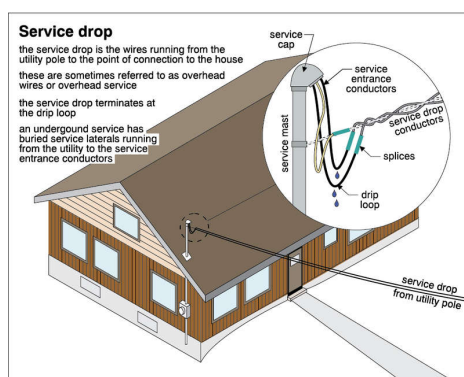
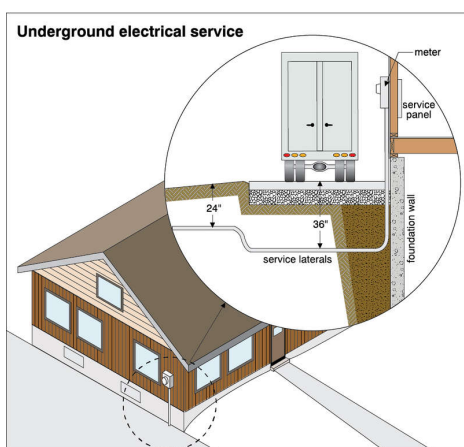
NP = Not Present

O = Observations

### Information

#### Service Entry / Service Rating: Type of Service

##### Underground Service Lateral



#### Service Entry / Service Rating:

##### Service Rating

200 amps

#### Service Panel / Main Disconnect: Main Disconnect / Panel in Basement

The main electrical shutoff (disconnect) is located in the basement. It is important to maintain easy access to the main service panel so that power can be turned off or back on in the event of an emergency. This is a very good place to keep a flashlight.



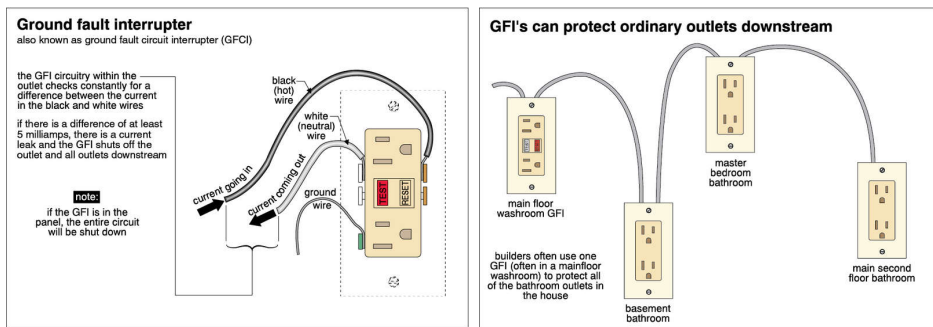
#### Wiring / Grounding / Junction Boxes: Wiring Materials

Nonmetallic Sheathed Wire

## Outlets / Lights / Ceiling Fans: GFCI Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

A ground fault circuit interrupter (**GFCI**), is a device that shuts off an electric power circuit when it detects that current is flowing along an unintended path, such as through water or a person.

**Underwriters Laboratory recommends testing the GFCI outlets monthly by pushing the test button.**



## Observations

### 8.2.1 Service Panel / Main Disconnect

#### SERVICE PANEL LATCH STUCK



The latch that keeps the service panel cover closed is stuck.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified electrical contractor.



### 8.4.1 Outlets / Lights / Ceiling Fans

#### MISSING WALL PLATE

GARAGE



There are one or more missing wall plates which should be replaced to prevent accidental electrocution.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified electrical contractor.

### 8.4.2 Outlets / Lights / Ceiling Fans

#### FLOOR OUTLET MISSING COVER

LIVING ROOM



One or more electrical outlets were installed in the floor and lacked an appropriate cover. Electrical outlets installed in the floor are more accessible to children and may collect dirt, dust, or liquids if not properly covered.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified electrical contractor.



## 9: HEATING AND COOLING

		IN	NI	NP	O
9.1	Heating Equipment	X			X
9.2	Thermostat / Shutoff	X			
9.3	Combustion Air / Venting	X			
9.4	Distribution of Heating / Cooling	X			X
9.5	Condensate disposal	X			
9.6	Cooling System	X			X
9.7	Fireplace / Stove	X			X

IN = Inspected

NI = Not Inspected

NP = Not Present

O = Observations

### Information

#### Heating Equipment: Heating System Age

2002

The age of the appliance is determined by use of an online database and cannot be guaranteed by your inspector.

#### Heating Equipment: Heating Fuel / Energy Source

Natural Gas

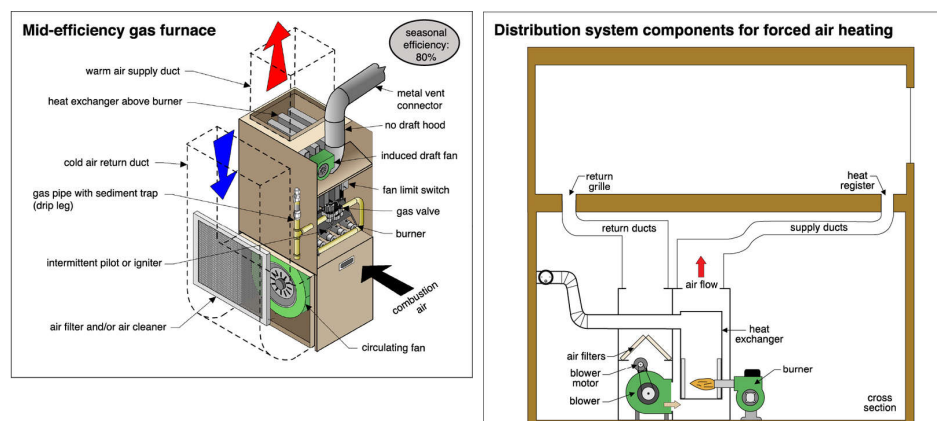
While electricity and natural gas are supplied directly from a utility, other fuels such as propane gas and heating oil require a scheduled delivery by an independent contractor. You should be careful to avoid running out of heating oil or propane in the during the winter months or you may experience frozen water pipes which may burst and cause a great deal of damage. Home owner's insurance typically won't cover damage caused by a failure to heat your home.

#### Heating Equipment: Heating System Manufacturer

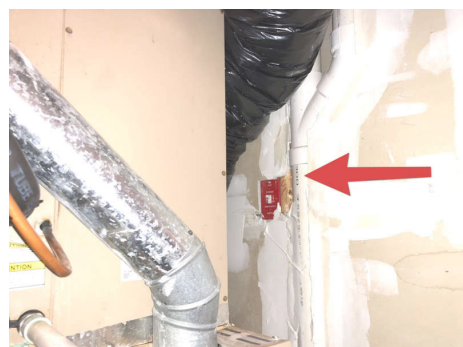
York

## Heating Equipment: Mid-Efficiency Gas Furnace

A mid-efficiency gas furnace is equipped with a naturally aspirating gas burner and a pilot light. The pilot light is shut off when the furnace is not in operation, when the thermostat is not calling for heat. The heat exchanger is more efficient than one inside a conventional furnace. There's no draft hood. There may be a small fan installed in the flue pipe to create an induced draft, so these furnaces are sometimes referred to as induced-draft furnaces. A mid-efficiency gas furnace is also equipped with automatic controls, blower and motor assembly, venting, and air filtration. A mid-efficiency furnace has an AFUE rating of 78 to 82%. The intermittent-pilot is the main distinguishing characteristic. Some mid-efficiency furnaces have a motorized damper installed in the exhaust flue pipe. A mid-efficiency



## Thermostat / Shutoff: Shutoff with heating equipment.



## Distribution of Heating / Cooling: About Cleaning Ducts

Knowledge about air duct cleaning is in its early stages, so a blanket recommendation cannot be offered as to whether you should have your air ducts in your home cleaned. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urges you to read this document in its entirety as it provides important information on the subject.

[Learn more](#)

## Distribution of Heating / Cooling: Air Filter Maintenance

Furnace Air Filters should be checked monthly and replaced as needed. Failure to change the filter when needed may result in the following problems:

- Reduced blower life due to dirt build-up on vanes, which increasing operating costs.
- Reduced effectiveness of air filtration resulting in deterioration of indoor air quality.
- Increased resistance resulting in the filter being sucked into the blower. **This condition can be a potential fire hazard.**
- Frost build-up on air-conditioner evaporator coils, resulting in reduced cooling efficiency and possible damage.
- Reduced air flow through the home.
- Dirty filter cause **dirty refrigerant coils which are the #1 cause of major repairs.**



## Distribution of Heating / Cooling: Filter Size

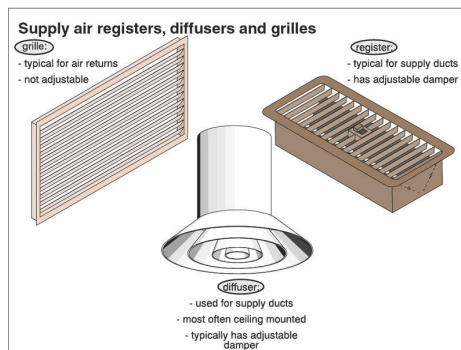
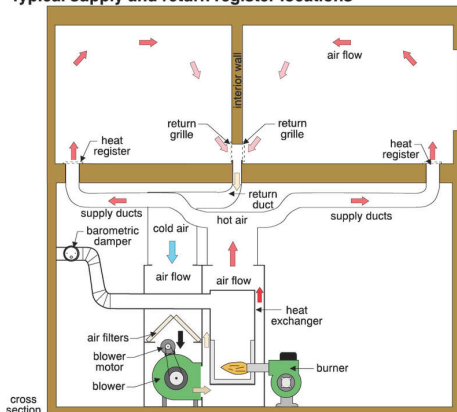
16x20x1

Air filters should be checked monthly and replaced when dirty. Air filters trap dust, dirt and pollen that would otherwise collect on the refrigerant coils or be recirculated throughout the home. High quality air filters will trap smaller particles and improve the air quality as well as keep the coils cleaner. Dirty Refrigerant Coils are the #1 cause of major repairs such as failed compressors.

## Distribution of Heating / Cooling: Forced Air Distribution

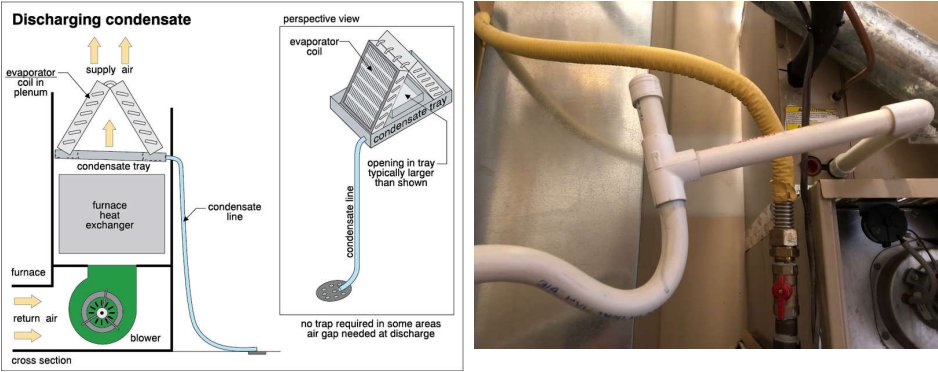
Once the temperature is set at the thermostat, cold air from the home is pulled into the system where it passes through the air filter, removing allergens like pollen and dust. It then blows the air through the air handler where it is warmed via the furnaces heat source and spread to the home through the ducts via the blower motor.

Typical supply and return register locations



Condensate disposal: About Condensate Disposal

The condensate disposal system, usually PVC piping, will require regular cleaning to prevent a blockage which would lead to leakage. The cooling system can remove quite a bit of moisture from the air during the cooling season. Leakage can create a significant amount of water damage and even mold growth. Your Inspector recommends annual cleaning and that you consider having a float switch installed (if there isn't already one) in the trap to shut down the air conditioning system if the trap becomes blocked.



Cooling System: Cooling System Age

2002

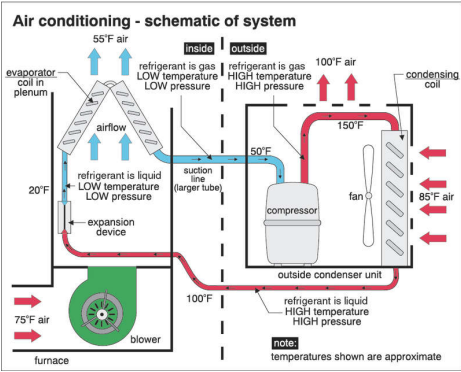
The age of the appliance is determined by use of an online database and cannot be guaranteed by you inspector.

Cooling System: Cooling System Manufacturer

York

Cooling System: Split System Installed

The air conditioning system is a split system in which the cabinet housing the compressor, cooling fan and condensing coils was located physically apart from the evaporator coils. As is typical with split systems, the compressor/condenser cabinet was located at the home's exterior so that the heat collected inside the home could be released to the outside air.

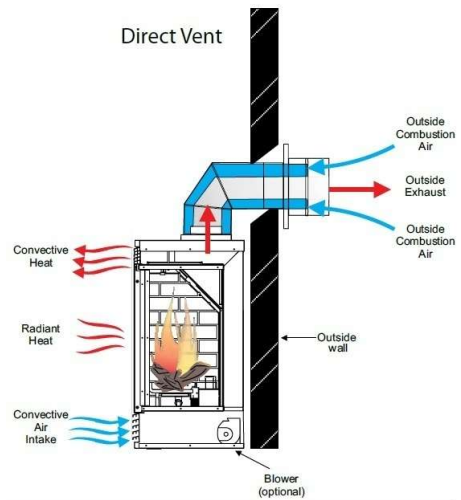




## Fireplace / Stove: Factory Built Natural Gas

The fireplace was a factory built, natural gas burning fireplace. A factory-built fireplace is made up of a firebox enclosed within a steel cabinet, and a steel chimney or flue. Factory-built fireplaces pass rigorous testing standards established by the Underwriters Laboratories and the American Gas Association. Properly installed, factory-built fireplaces have an excellent safety record. However, as in any situation where an open flame is involved, there are some things to keep in mind in order to avoid any risk of fire hazard. In order to ensure safe and optimal operation, normal maintenance and cleaning are required, similar to those used for a traditional fireplace.

Your Inspector recommends annual cleaning and inspection if the fireplace is used.



## Fireplace / Stove: Fireplace Vent Gets Hot

The exterior vent termination of a direct vent fireplace can get hot enough to burn you badly. This isn't a defect as it is venting hot gasses from the fireplace on the other side of the wall but you should use caution around the vent termination when the fireplace is in use.

## Observations

### 9.1.1 Heating Equipment

#### CORROSION INSIDE FURNACE

Corrosion inside of the furnace may indicate that there is a condensate leak from the evaporator coil above. This condition may affect the operation lifespan of the equipment.

#### Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor



## 9.4.1 Distribution of Heating / Cooling

**INSULATION ON DUCTWORK IS DAMAGED**

## UTILITY CLOSET

Insulation on the heating and cooling ductwork is damaged. This condition may continue to worsen if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project

**Recommended Repairs**

## 9.4.2 Distribution of Heating / Cooling

**DIRTY AIR FILTER**

The air filter for this furnace was dirty and should be changed. Filters should be checked every month and replaced when they are dirty enough to restrict air flow.

Recommendation

Recommended DIY Project

**Maintenance Issues**

## 9.6.1 Cooling System

**COOLING SYSTEM NOT WORKING**

The cooling system was not working when operated with the thermostat.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor

**Recommended Repairs**

## 9.6.2 Cooling System

**OLD COOLING SYSTEM, BUDGET TO REPLACE**

Based on the date of manufacture, the cooling system has exceeded the predicted life expectancy for our region of the country. Your Inspector recommends annual servicing of the equipment and budgeting to replace it at any time.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor

**Recommended Repairs**

## 9.6.3 Cooling System

**DIRTY CONDENSER**

The condenser coils (outside unit) were observed to be dirty. Dirty refrigerant coils are the primary cause of major repairs to air conditioning equipment.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor

**Recommended Repairs**

9.6.4 Cooling System

**INSULATION MISSING  
DETERIORATED**

A licensed heating and cooling contractor should replace the missing or deteriorated insulation on the refrigerant lines.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor

 Recommended Repairs



9.7.1 Fireplace / Stove

**FIREPLACE WOULD NOT LIGHT**

The gas fireplace would not light and could not be tested by the inspector.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified heating and cooling contractor

 Recommended Repairs

10: PLUMBING

		IN	NI	NP	O
10.1	Water Supply Piping / Shutoff	X			
10.2	Bathtubs / Showers	X			X
10.3	Faucets / Sinks / Toilets	X			X
10.4	Drain, Waste and Vent Piping	X			X
10.5	Water Heating	X			
10.6	Gas System	X			X
10.7	Sump Pump			X	

IN = Inspected      NI = Not Inspected      NP = Not Present      O = Observations

Information

Water Supply Piping / Shutoff: Main Shutoff Location

Basement  
Shutoffs are not operated during inspections as they have a tendency to leak when used.



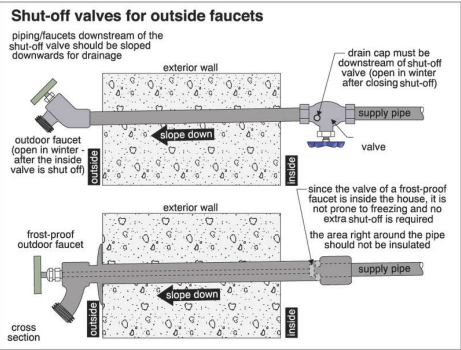
**Water Supply Piping / Shutoff:**  
**Water Source**  
Public Utility

**Water Supply Piping / Shutoff:**  
**Water Service Materials**  
1 inch copper  
  
This is the main pipe coming from the street.

**Water Supply Piping / Shutoff:**  
**Supply Pipe Materials**  
1/2", 3/4", Copper, CPVC  
  
These are the pipes running throughout the house.

Water Supply Piping / Shutoff: Remember To Winterize

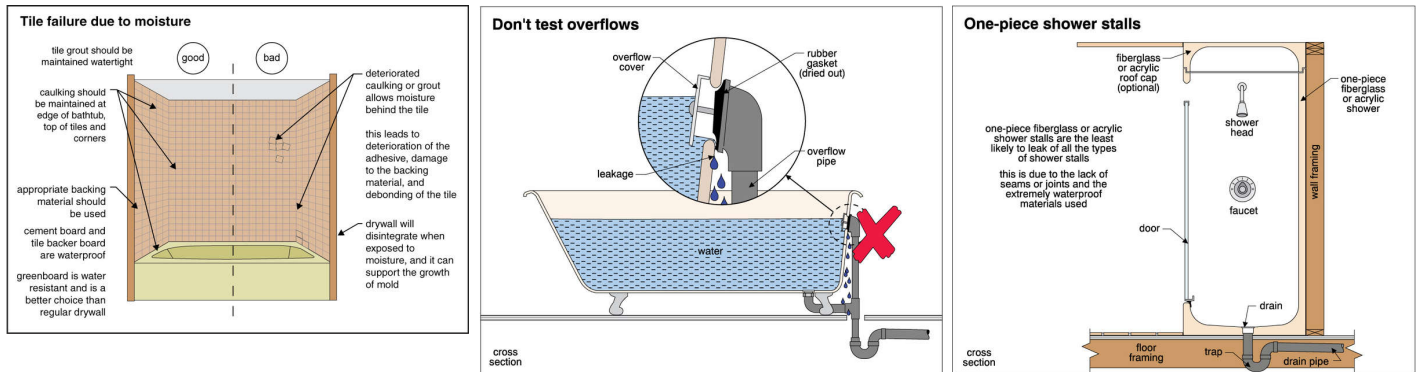
Remember to turn off the water supply to the exterior water faucets which would supply water for the garden hose. Turn them off in October or November to prevent the pipes from freezing and then bursting. Open the outside valves so that water may escape.



## Bathtubs / Showers: Maintenance

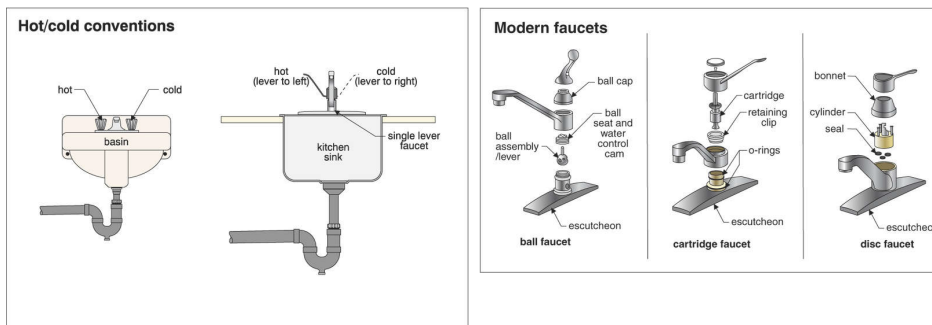
Bathtubs and showers are a regular source of water leakage in residential homes. They have plumbing fixtures that require more piping than other fixtures. The piping will typically have more couplings or connectors which can leak on the supply side and the bathtub has an overflow that is likely to leak on older tubs. Because of the common leakage, difficulty in finding those leaks and possible damage done by water leakage, overflows are generally not tested. While an overflow is designed to prevent overflow of the bathtub, it would only work if the water was flowing very slowly.

Maintaining the surround (walls around a tub or shower) is important because any gaps between wall tiles can allow water leakage. The gap between the tub or shower pan and the surround should be caulked and the caulk maintained to prevent leakage also. One piece shower surrounds are less likely to leak and require less maintenance.



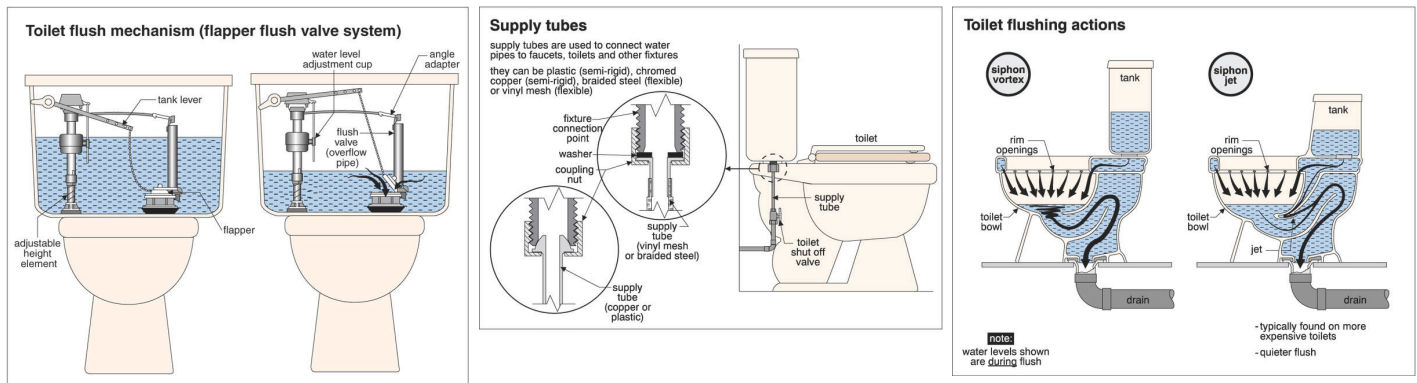
## Faucets / Sinks / Toilets: About Sinks & Faucets

Connections to sink drains and faucets are a common source of leakage in a home. Faucets require occasional maintenance to function properly. Faucets purchased at the big box stores are typically of a lower quality than faucets purchased at an actual plumbing supply house. Plumbing contractors will usually need to charge more for these fixtures and they expect them to last longer.



## Faucets / Sinks / Toilets: About Toilets

Toilets are a regular source of water leakage and damage to a home. Toilets require maintenance to prevent water leakage and water waste as well. When the flapper leaks, it can cause large water bills or even burn up a well pump. When a toilet becomes loose at the connection to the floor (closet flange) a slow leak of waste can develop and that often damages the structure or creates mold growth. Maintenance is much cheaper than the resulting repairs, especially if mold remediation is required.





Drain, Waste and Vent Piping:  
Materials  
PVC

Water Heating: Water Heater  
Age  
2015

Water Heating: Water Heater Life Expectancy

Most tank-type water heaters last 10 to 20 years, with the average age of replacement between 12 and 14 years. But there are four variables that affect the lifespan:

1) Quality of manufacture - As your would expect, the premium-priced water heaters with the longer warranties and features like a porcelain-lined tank, larger heating elements, and better insulation will hold up longer.

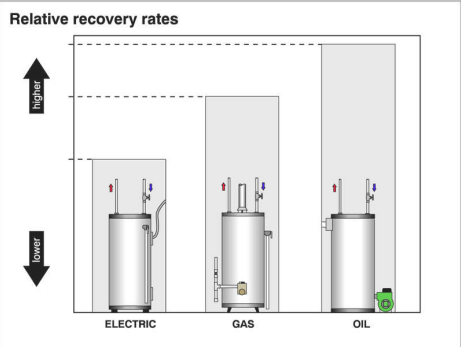
2) Rate of usage - A 40-gallon water heater serving a family of six is not going to last as long as one serving an older couple with no children.

3) Installation - A homeowner or handyman installation can shorten the life of a water heater, especially a gas-fired one.

4) Maintenance - The simplest and easiest maintenance item is draining the water heater to flush out sediment accumulation at the bottom every two years, or sooner if you have a lot of sediment in the water.

Most water heaters fail by leaking and we recommend that you give it a careful examination twice a year, looking for any telltale small, rust-colored drip strains on the top or sides, and especially around pipe connections may be evidence of the beginning of tank failure. Some water heating fuels will allow the water heater to recover, or reheat the water water faster. This will vary by the efficiency of the model as well as fuel source.

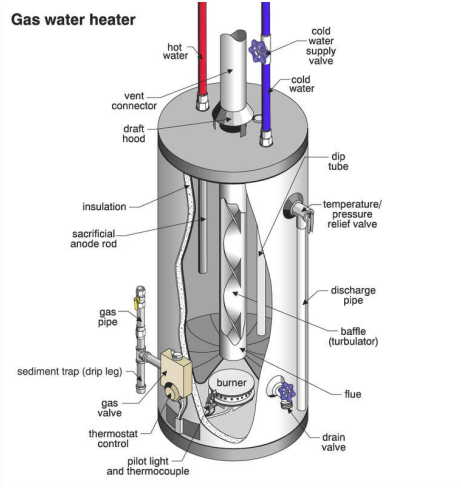
This information is not meant to be any kind of warranty.



Water Heating: Water Heater  
Manufacturer  
A.O. Smith

Water Heating: Gas Fired Natural Draft Water Heater

This water heater burns gas to heat water in a storage tank. The water is heated whether in use or not and the gases created by combustion are vented through a metal connector. Whenever gas or any other fossil fuel is burned carbon monoxide is a byproduct. Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed to detect leakage which is poisonous.





**Water Heating: Water Heater**  
**Energy Source / Capacity**  
74 gallons

**Gas System: STATE REQUIRED NOTICE:**  
The home had corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) installed as gas pipe. This pipe can be recognized by its yellow coating. A licensed master electrician review the bonding of the CSST. This notice is required by the state of Maryland.

**Gas System: Type of Gas Piping**  
Black Steel, C.S.S.T.

Limitations


Water Supply Piping / Shutoff  
**MOST SUPPLY PIPING NOT VISIBLE**  
Most water supply pipes were not visible due to wall, floor and ceiling coverings. Any evidence of a defect will be noted in this report.

Drain, Waste and Vent Piping  
**MOST DRAIN PIPES NOT VISIBLE**  
Most drain, waste and vent pipes are often concealed by wall and ceiling finishes and run underground to the public sewer system, and are not visible for inspection. Any defects will be noted in this report.

Sump Pump  
**NONE**  
No sump pump was present.

Observations

10.2.1 Bathtubs / Showers

 Maintenance Issues

**DETERIORATED GROUT IN SHOWER**  
MASTER BATHROOM  
There is deteriorated grout between the tiles. This condition may allow water damage and more expensive repairs if not corrected.  
Recommendation  
Contact a qualified tile contractor



10.2.2 Bathtubs / Showers

 Maintenance Issues

**DETERIORATED GROUT IN TUB**  
UPPER HALLWAY BATHROOM

There is deteriorated grout between the tiles. This condition may allow water damage and more expensive repairs if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified tile contractor



10.2.3 Bathtubs / Showers

RECAULK TUB

MASTER BATHROOM

Caulk is missing or separated and should be replaced to keep water out of the wall space.

Recommendation

Contact a handyman or DIY project

 Maintenance Issues



10.3.1 Faucets / Sinks / Toilets

ACTIVE LEAK AT SINK

BASEMENT BATHROOM

There is an active leak at this sink. This condition may cause water damage and possibly mold growth if not corrected.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified plumbing contractor.

 Recommended Repairs

10.3.2 Faucets / Sinks / Toilets

FAULTY SINK FAUCET

LEFT HAND SINK MASTER BATHROOM

There are one or more sink faucets which are not working properly.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified plumbing contractor.

 Recommended Repairs

10.3.3 Faucets / Sinks / Toilets

FAULTY SINK STOPPER

BASEMENT BATHROOM, UPPER HALLWAY BATHROOM

One or more sink stoppers were not working when tested.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified plumbing contractor.

 Recommended Repairs

## 10.4.1 Drain, Waste and Vent Piping

**CORRUGATED PIPE UNDER SINK**

BASEMENT BATHROOM, UPPER HALLWAY BATHROOM

Flexible corrugated pipe was used at one or more sink drains. This method is incorrect and often used by a handyman. Drain pipe should be smooth, without shoulders or irregularities.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified plumbing contractor.



## 10.6.1 Gas System

**PAINT RUSTY PIPES AT METER**

A licensed contractor should remove the rust from the exterior gas piping near the meter and paint it to prevent further corrosion and leakage of natural gas.

Recommendation

Contact a qualified painting contractor.

