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SUPPORT PUBLIC RADIO

FREE SERVICE CATALOGUE

www.AccurateBuilding.com/publications/catalogue.html

TO OUR READERS

The buzzword of the year is "green." We hear it everywhere and about everything, from green buildings to green business to green travel, and it's for good reason. Environmental degradation threatens all of us economically and humanistically. We all breathe the same air and live on the same planet. What happens to the environment affects everyone, and it will increasingly affect the health and well being of our children and our children's children.

Central among environmental concerns is climate change, which has been accelerated by the burning of fossil fuels. Sure, we all like to have a cool house in the summer, a warm house in the winter, ice cubes in the refrigerator and dry clothes in the laundry room. But we have to consider the environmental effects of our heavily energy-dependant lifestyles.

To that end, this issue of the Gotham City Inspector is devoted to saving energy. In these pages you'll find our popular E.Q. test so you can measure your energy quotient, and review ways in which you might be more energy efficient in your home.

As the temperature drops and we descend into the frosty days and nights of winter, this is especially important. We're turning up the thermostat, which is a major energy drain. A few simple adjustments like wearing sweaters and using an electric blanket at night may allow us to keep the thermostat a few degrees lower.

So do what you can to save energy this winter, and thank you for your continued support!

ALVIN & LARRY UBELL - The Gurus of How-To can be heard on *The Leonard Lopate Show*. Tune to WNYC-Radio the second Wednesdays of each month in the afternoon, from 1:20 to 2 PM. Radio 820 AM - 93.9 FM. <http://www.WNYC.org>.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

To help create a more energy efficient city, the New York City Department of Buildings recently enacted new requirements to comply with the state energy code. Beginning in September, new building applications and alterations for many buildings

were to start showing their compliance with the Energy Construction Code of New York State. For more details on the new requirements, go to <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dob/html/reference/ecccnys.shtml>

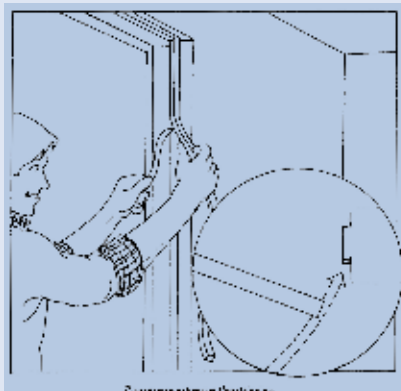
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SHOP AND SAVE...THE PLANET!

Climate Cooler is a new online store that lets you counterbalance the environmental impact of everyday purchases like jewelry, flowers, furniture and DVD's. Go to www.climatecooler.com where you can purchase items from dozens of popular national retailers. The website then calculates how many pounds of greenhouse gases were used to make, ship and sell your product, and the store pays a fee to Climate Cooler to "eliminate" the pollution caused by your purchase. Just in time for holiday shopping!



WEATHERSTRIPS FOR WINTER



Windows can be cold air culprits when the temperature goes down, so now is a good time to make sure your windows keep that toasty air inside. An easy and cheap way is to seal them with weather-stripping. Measure your windows and buy the appropriate amount of weather-stripping. Remember to install it along the sashes and the sash-frame tops and bottoms. Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions to get the most effective insulation bang for your buck, and recheck your

weather-stripping every year as it does wear out over time. **Paired it with caulking, and you'll save a bundle on energy this winter!**

RECIPES for HOME REPAIR

LAUNCHES into CYBERSPACE!



WHAT'S YOUR E.Q.?

By Alvin Ubell & George Merlis



No, not your I.Q...your E.Q.! That stands for **Energy Quotient**. Are you energy-wise or energy-foolish? Are you saving money - and the planet - or are you flushing both of them down the drain? Here's a way to grade yourself. Take this test, add up your score and see how energy efficient you are. Most of us won't score anywhere near the maximum 896 points, but along the way, you may get some ideas for what you can do around the house to **up your E.Q.**

HEATING IN WINTER

YOUR DAYTIME THERMOSTAT SETTING IS

- 74 _____ 0
- 73 _____ 3
- 72 _____ 6
- 71 _____ 9
- 70 _____ 12
- 69 _____ 15
- 68 _____ 18
- 67 _____ 21
- 66 _____ 24
- 65 _____ 27
- 64 _____ 30

YOUR NIGHTTIME THERMOSTAT SETTING IS

- 65 _____ 15
- 64 _____ 18
- 63 _____ 21
- 62 _____ 24
- 61 _____ 27
- 60 _____ 30

YOUR WATER HEATER TEMPERATURE IS SET AT

- 110F _____ 12
- 120F _____ 9
- 130F _____ 6
- 140F _____ 3
- 150F _____ 0
- 160F _____ -3
- 170F _____ -6
- 180F _____ -9

You drain sediment from water heater monthly _____ 5

You have a solar water heater 44

AIR-CONDITIONING AND VENTILATION

Your summer thermostat setting is:

- 74 _____ 0
- 75 _____ 3
- 76 _____ 6
- 77 _____ 9
- 78 _____ 15
- 79 _____ 15
- 80 _____ 18

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The E.Q. is an excerpt from "Al Ubell's Energy Saving Guide For Home Owners" and "Save Energy Save Money" books written by Alvin Ubell & George Merlis, when they were both members of the staff of ABC's Good Morning America.

George, was the Executive Producer and Alvin, was the Household Hints & Safety Reporter aka Guru of How-To.

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WINTER HABITS...YOU

- Use an electric blanket to lower the thermostat ____ 6
- Wear two sweaters indoors to lower the heat ____ 9
- Installed automatic flue damper on heat system ____ 30
- Got your heating system serviced in last 6 months ____ 15
- Change your heat system filters monthly ____ 3
- Have heating ducts without leaks or taped leaks ____ 4
- Have insulation on heating ducts or steam pipes ____ 4
- Have working draft adjuster in oil or gas burner ____ 9
- Have clear, blue flame on gas burner ____ 9
- Have electronic ignition system on gas burner ____ 10
- Have new oil burner with retention head ____ 30
- Use a humidifier during winter ____ 9
- Have radiators or air ducts free of obstructions ____ 27
- Close off rooms not in use ____ 25
- Keep your fireplace dampers shut ____ 25
- Open and close drapes to trap the sun ____ 10
- Have water heater with insulated jacket ____ 15

YOU

- Have no air-conditioning ____ 20
- Use natural ventilation and wear light clothes ____ 5
- Close drapes on hot sunny days ____ 5
- On hottest days, half open windows - top and bottom ____ 5
- Have Energy Star rated air-conditioners ____ 10
- Have shaded air-conditioners on north side of house ____ 5
- Have an attic ventilation fan ____ 15

IN THE HOUSE, YOU

- Have fluorescent bulbs in kitchen ____ 15
- Put closet lights on auto-switch or timers ____ 8
- Habitually turn off lights when leaving room ____ 15
- Have energy savings dimmer switches ____ 5
- Have motion detectors light switches ____ 10
- Have an instant on TV set ____ - 5 per set
- Turn off TV, stereo and computer when not in use ____ 15
- Fall asleep with TV on ____ -30
- Have refrigerator in a cool spot ____ 5

- Have a refrigerator using under 800 K/hr per year ____ 9
- Close the refrigerator door quickly ____ 5
- Have a manual defrost refrigerator ____ 10
- Defrost it regularly ____ 5
- Have an automatic defrost refrigerator ____ 5
- Regularly clean coils on the refrigerator ____ 5
- Ensure refrigerator door fits tightly ____ 9
- Air-dry dishes rather than use dishwasher drying ____ 6
- Have a flow restrictor in kitchen faucet ____ 6
- Have gas range with electronic ignition, not pilot ____ 29
- Wash laundry with cold water ____ 9
- Use clothesline instead of dryer ____ 9
- Turn off iron when not using it ____ 9
- Forget to turn off the iron ____ -18
- Shower rather than take baths ____ 15
- Have shower with a flow restrictor ____ 6
- Fix leaky faucets promptly ____ 15

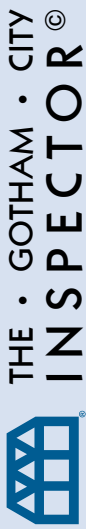
EXTRAS...YOU'VE

- Installed a thermostat programmed to day and night ____ 15
- Installed a thermostat capable for double-setback ____ 20
- Installed an energy monitor ____ 45
- Installed a wood-burning stove ____ 55
- Installed a windmill, solar, or other renewable energy source ____ 150
- BEST POSSIBLE SCORE ____ 896

IF YOUR SCORE WAS YOUR E.Q. IS

0-99	Very poor
100-199	Poor
200-299	Fair
300-399	Tin Star
400-499	Copper Star
500-599	Bronze Star
600-699	Silver Star
700-799	Platinum Star
800-896	GOLD STAR!!!

For a complete version of the E.Q. go to
http://www.accuratebuilding.com/publications/energy_guide/



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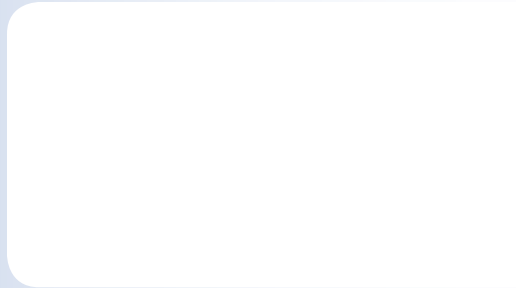
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**America Go Forth & Fix, Save Energy &
 DO IT SAFELY!®**



NEWSLETTER

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H E A D L I N E S



READ ALL ABOUT IT!

- **WHAT IS YOUR E.Q.?**
- **AMERICA GO FORTH & SAVE ENERGY & MONEY!**
- **NYC DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS NEW ENERGY CODE!!**