



TAKE THE **SMART-BUY CHALLENGE**

Ask a Meritage team member how to complete these six insider checks that reveal if a home really makes the grade.

1. CHECK THE TEMPERATURE

If it changes when you're wandering around the house—especially from the first to second floor—the house isn't well insulated.



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OTHER

2. TOUCH THE WINDOWS

If it changes when you're wandering around the house—especially from the first to second floor—the house isn't well insulated.





3. LISTEN FOR OUTSIDE NOISE

Blast music on your phone, leave it outside, and close the door. The less you can hear from inside, the better the home's framing, insulation, and windows.





4. LOOK FOR WATER-SAVING APPLIANCES

Ask whether or not the appliances are certified by WaterSense. If they are, you'll use less water and energy without sacrificing function.





5. FIND THE AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

Notice the size, because it matters: the bigger the air conditioner (or the more units you see), the worse the interior insulation.





6 STUDY THE HVAC RETURN

Big? Small? The larger it looks, the more likely it is that the filter and fan inside can better remove dust and allergens to help improve your home's air quality.





CHAT WITH A MEMBER OF THE MERITAGE TEAM FOR MORE SMART-HOMEBUYER TIPS.

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