

## 4 Strong Rules On Green Home Design

As a people, our current wasteful lifestyles wont be sustainable for long. This is a fact that were becoming more and more aware of every day.

Because of this, green home design is becoming a more and more mainstream part of the housing market. Many predict that green home design will eventually dominate the housing market-- which would be a very good thing.

In the United States, homes create 38% of the total carbon emissions. Especially if we want to stop global warming, building our homes with green home designs will have a significant effect on the future. If youre looking to incorporate a bit of green home design, there are a hundred small things you can do to green-up your home. But for those into truly lowering their homes impact on the environment, there are four basic green home design rules to follow.

### Green Home Design Rule 1: Smaller is Better

Theres something gloriously attractive about large, mansion-like homes. But large homes use up an incredible amount of energy for heating and cooling-- and this energy [generally](#) comes from nasty fossil fuels that muck up our environment. These homes also require more resources for building and create more waste as a result. So its important for you to build small if you want to incorporate a green home design.

### Green Home Design Rule 2: Incorporate Passive Solar Design

Passive solar heating is one of the backbones of green home design. The relatively simple concept behind passive solar design is to design a home according to the climate. In warmer climates, homes are designed to absorb less heat. In cold climates, the amount of heat lost is reduced. To do this, green home design is incorporated into the orientation of the building, the location of the windows, the flooring (stone is best), and other elements of the home to reduce the amount of energy wasted.

### Green Home Design Rule 3: Use Recyclable or Renewable Materials

Almost everything used in a traditional home harms the environment in some way, either by its manufacture (plastics and artificials) or its transport (naturals). The use of renewable or recycled materials which are manufactured locally helps to reduce the damage building can have on the environment. Consider installing bamboo or recycled wood flooring and incorporate a green home design using recycled materials, such as cellulose insulation and lumber composites, throughout the home.

### Green Home Design Rule 4: Optimize your Heating and Cooling

Heating and cooling a home accounts for the huge majority of its energy consumption. And even though the thought of the hot summer months might make an oversized air conditioning system sound pretty tempting, this kind of cooling is as anti-green home design as you can get. Large AC systems overcool the air, and tend to cycle on and off too frequently. Because of this, they dont last nearly as long as smaller systems, creating a huge amount of waste along with energy loss.

## About the Author

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