

Designing High Performance Sustainable Homes

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High Performance Homes are designed to precisely integrate the local climate in a way that maintains indoor comfort conditions while minimizing the use of depletable energy. High Performance Homes minimize their consumption of energy, their generation of greenhouse gasses, their contribution to air pollution, and their cost of operation. This is a Hands-On Seminar in which you will learn how to use HEED, a free user-friendly design tool that shows you graphically how to “fine-tune” your home for optimal energy performance. More important, HEED’s powerful graphics give you extremely sophisticated ways of visualizing the subtleties of a home’s performance, and communicating these issues to clients.

HEED starts by asking you four questions, then it automatically designs a home that meets California’s Energy Code, next it designs another home that is usually about 30% better. HEED’s Basic Design options let you easily draw in any shape floor plan, then click and drag windows onto each façade. You can quickly create up to nine schemes and can see how their performance compares on bar-charts of the annual energy costs for heating, cooling, fans, lights, and equipment. HEED’s Advanced Design options, allow you to enter more complex home design data if you wish. HEED’s many graphic screens shows you everything you need to know about your home’s performance including a detailed hour-by-hour picture of energy consumed, indoor temperature, air changes, and costs.

If you bring a laptop to this seminar we will load HEED and you will each have the chance to design a home and create your own series of design alternatives. In this seminar you will learn how to load in climate data for hundreds of stations around the world. HEED stands for Home Energy Efficient Design, but soon you will be able to use it for small non-residential buildings and for multi-zone buildings. HEED runs an 8760 hour energy balance and has been validated against DOE2 using ASHRAE Standard 140. This project is funded by the California Public Utility Commission. HEED is available at no cost from www.aud.ucla/heed.

If you have any questions about HEED, email milne@ucla.edu

Passive Design Options Included in HEED:

Weather Station _____ Latitude: _____

WINTER: Design Low Temp. _____ F Average Diurnal Temp. Difference _____ F
Average Sky Cover _____ % (Circle one): Cold-Clear Cool-Overcast Temperate

Passive Heating Strategies

Advantages in this Climate

Disadvantages in this Climate

Direct gain (with exposed mass)
Super insulation
Movable night window insulation
Absorptive (dark) exterior surfaces
Glazed atrium
Low thermal mass
Smart HVAC Control of Temperature Float
High Efficiency Furnace
High Performance Glazing
Infiltration Controls
Earth Sheltering
Night Setback Thermostat

SUMMER: ASHRAE Design High Temp. _____ F Average Wind Velocity _____ MPH
Average Diurnal Temp. Diff. _____ F (Circle One): Hot-Humid Hot Arid Temperate

Passive Cooling Strategies

Advantages in this Climate

Disadvantages in this Climate

Fixed exterior window shading
Operable exterior window shading
High Performance Glazing
Super insulation
High thermal mass
High mass with night flushing
Low thermal mass
Smart HVAC Control of Temperature Float
Economizer Cooling (whole house fan)
High Efficiency Air Conditioner
Daylighting
Energy Efficient Lights
Infiltration Controls
Shading with deciduous plant materials
Reflective (light colored) roof and/or walls
Earth sheltering
Natural cross ventilation (also wind scoops)
Water walls

There are other Passive Heating and Cooling Strategies that are not yet included in HEED, including solar chimneys, trombe walls, single stage evaporative coolers (swamp coolers), two stage evaporative coolers, convective cooling stack ventilation (if no wind), roof ponds, sun spaces, south wall collectors, the Berra-Constantini system, double envelopes, air-to-air heat exchangers, remote collection, remote storage, thermosyphonic collectors with rock bins, shaded outdoor living spaces (courtyard, patio, lanai), radiant (night sky) cooling system, the roof radiation trap, roof ponds, earth tubes, and fountains. In the future we hope to add PV (photovoltaics) and SDHW (solar domestic hot water), and also we hope to be able to add Proscriptive Performance Title 24 compliance.

Excerpts from the HEED PowerPoint Presentation (which is also available on the HEED web site)

Designing High Performance Buildings

Using HEED, Home Energy Efficient Designer

Start in the Initial Design screen by giving Four Facts about your home:

- Building Type
- Square Footage
- Number of Stories
- Zipcode.

Using this data, HEED will automatically design two basecase buildings:

- Scheme 1 that just meets the Energy Code
- Scheme 2 that is more Energy Efficient.

Make a COPY and revise it to create your own design. Try to make its Energy Costs bar chart better than the basecase designs.

Every few minutes make a new copy and continue to improve your design.

This screen explains how HEED automatically creates two different buildings based on the four initial facts you give it. You should then copy your Scheme 2 into a new Scheme 3, re-name it and try to improve your design.

Difference between Schemes 1 vs. 2

Scheme 1:

CODE MINIMUM DESIGN

- Square floor plan
- Equal area of glass on each wall
- Hypothetical Windows defined by Code
- No window shading
- Stud and Stucco walls
- Raised Wood floor
- Infiltration only, as defined by Code

Scheme 2:

ENERGY EFFICIENT DESIGN

- Rectangular floor plan facing South
- Most glass on South, min. on E & W
- Slightly Better Commercial Windows
- Overhangs shading South Windows
- High mass walls, exterior insulation
- Slab on grade floor, carpet or tile
- Whole-house Fan, up to 10 air changes/hr

Both Schemes have the same:

Floor area, Window area, Climate, Internal Loads Schedules

Scheme 1 and Scheme 2 both meet the California Energy Code for your local climate zone, but the second one is more Energy Efficient because of these simple changes that HEED made in its architectural design.

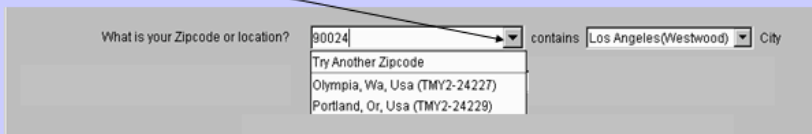
For Other Climates....

To load in climate data for any station outside California, click on **Help** at the Climate screen or see the **READ-USA.TXT** file in the c:\heed\docs folder...

It explains how HEED can directly read EnergyPlus Weather for over 700 stations around the world ...

From the HEED web site, click on the EnergyPlus site, then download your station in the .epw format and into the heed\solar5\tny folder...

Now go back to HEED's Initial Design screen and click the down arrow on the Location line...



Top switch to other climates, follow this procedure.

HEED can be downloaded at no cost from:

www.aud.ucla.edu/heed

A copy of the PowerPoint Tutorial along with our Research Documentation and our other Design Tools can be downloaded from

www.aud.ucla.edu/energy-design-tools

You can contact Murray Milne at:

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The current version of HEED is funded by the California Public Utilities Commission. It is being developed by the Energy Design Tools Group at the UCLA Department of Architecture, in Association with CTG Energetics, Malcolm Lewis President.

If you have any questions about running HEED on a building you are designing, just email me.

... Remember, once you attend one of my workshops, I am your consultant for life