



TechHome Rating System Survey

Thank you for your interest in home technology.

To assess your home's technology infrastructure, please complete the following brief survey.

When you are finished, you will learn if your home qualifies as TechHome Rated. You can then take the next steps to find out if your TechHome qualifies as Bronze, Gold or Platinum. Be sure to download the materials describing all the possibilities afforded to you by your TechHome at digitaltips.org/THRS.

User Instructions

This is a self-scoring survey. By answering "Yes" or "No" to the following eight questions about your home's technology infrastructure, you can determine if your home is TechHome Rated. Many of the questions have multiple parts; you must answer "Yes" to all parts to score your answer as "Yes" for the entire question.

Note: Definitions or descriptions for underlined words appearing in our survey questions can be found in a handy "Glossary" on the last page of the survey.

Please turn to page 2 to begin your survey. Estimated completion time is 10 minutes.

Thank you.



Your Home's Technology Infrastructure

Broadband Access

Do you have broadband access to the Internet in your home?

Yes _____ No _____

If you answered "Yes," please proceed to Question 1.

If you answered "No," we're sorry... your home does not qualify as TechHome Rated. You are missing Broadband access to the Internet, which is considered a required baseline technology for any TechHome.

Home Networks

Q1: Do you have a computer network wired with Ethernet cable in your home over which you can send data to other rooms/locations or access the Internet? Or, a "hybrid" network consisting of Ethernet cable hard-wired to zones with wireless (WiFi) access points attached? [Note: This excludes a completely wireless home network.]

Yes _____ No _____

Home Office

Q2: Does your home have a room whose primary use is dedicated to acting as a home office or workspace? Does this room have one or more phone line connections? Is it wired for data and Internet access with Ethernet cable connections?

Yes _____ No _____

Home Theater/Multimedia Room

Q3: Does your home have a room whose primary use is dedicated to acting as a home theater or multimedia room? And, is that room wired for 5.1 surround-sound or 7.1 surround-sound with speaker cable hidden inside walls and/or ceiling?

Yes _____ No _____

Multi-room Video System

Q4: Are you able to watch TV and video programming distributed from a centralized-source system in multiple rooms throughout your home? And, in each of these rooms, are you able to control the programming with a wall-mounted controller or remote control?

Yes _____ No _____

Multi-room Audio System

Q5: Are you able to listen to music, radio or other audio programming distributed from a centralized-source system in multiple rooms throughout your home? And, in each of these rooms, are you able to control the programming with a wall-mounted controller or remote control?

Yes _____ No _____

Home Control System

Q6: Using a centralized-control system, are you able to control lighting or heating/air conditioning or some other home comfort or convenience in multiple rooms throughout your home?

Yes _____ No _____

Home Security System

Q7: Does your home have a security system?

Yes _____ No _____

Scoring Key – Determine Your Score Here

For questions 1-7, if you answered “YES” to three or more questions...

Congratulations! Your home qualifies as TechHome Rated.

Your home may qualify for a TechHome Bronze, Gold or Platinum Rating; increasing the perceived value of your home to potential buyers, as well as to you. A TechHome provides comfort, convenience, entertainment and enjoyment—even security!

- If your home has a multi-room audio and/or video distribution system, you may qualify for a higher TechHome Rating.
- If your home has multiple runs of Ethernet cable and coaxial cable, your home’s technology infrastructure may qualify as TechHome Gold or even Platinum.

For questions 1-7, if you answered “NO” to five or more questions...

We’re sorry... Your home does not qualify as TechHome Rated. In addition to Broadband access, you must answer “YES” to having infrastructure for three of the seven technologies described.

Installing technology infrastructure may increase the perceived value of your home to potential buyers, as well as to you; not to mention the comfort, convenience, entertainment and enjoyment—even added security it provides.

Your local TechHome Professional can help you make your home a TechHome; and, in doing so, tell you about all the ways you can enhance your lifestyle and with products and services that are compatible with and operate across your home’s technology infrastructure. Find a techHome professional near you at digitaltips.org/esc-locator.

Not sure?

Because most of your home’s technology infrastructure remains hidden behind its walls, it may be difficult for you to ascertain the full extent and capability of that infrastructure. Your local TechHome Professional can assess your home’s technology infrastructure and provide you with an in-depth report telling you if your home qualifies as Bronze, Gold or Platinum; and, if not, what you can do to achieve a higher rating. Your local TechHome Professional will tell you about all the ways you can enhance your lifestyle with products and services that are compatible with and operate across your home’s technology infrastructure.

To find out more, contact your local TechHome Professional by using our “Find an Electronic Systems Contractor (ESC) tool” at digitaltips.org/esc-locator.

Helpful Tool for Selling Your TechHome

You may find page 2, which includes your answers to the seven technology questions, to be a helpful tool if you are selling your house. Since it describes the technology infrastructure and technology capability of your house, one possible use is to make copies of this page and then give these to your real estate agent or prospective homebuyers. CEA research shows that today’s homebuyers want technology in their homes. Installed technology can differentiate your house from others on the market. Don’t leave money on the table; profit from your investment in technology!

Please note: By using the TechHome Rating System or claiming that a home is TechHome Rated, you accept full responsibility for the truth and accuracy of that claim. CEA, its TechHome Division, and their officers, directors, employees and agents, assume no responsibility and shall not be liable for any losses, damages, claims or causes of action arising out of or relating to the use of the TechHome Rating System or a claim that any home is TechHome Rated.

Glossary

Term	Definition/Description
5.1 surround-sound	Five channels of surround-sound from five speakers plus a subwoofer for bass
7.1 surround-sound	Seven channels of surround-sound from seven speakers plus a subwoofer for bass
Broadband	High-speed Internet service, such as DSL, cable modem, fiber optic, or satellite
Centralized-control system	Capable of being communicated with and/or controlled by Internet Protocol (IP), Serial Data Port or infrared remote control (IR)
Control	For TV or video, the ability to change channels or video source and adjusting volume; for audio, changing audio source, tracks, discs or stations and adjusting volume
Ethernet cable	A network interconnection cable specified as either Cat5e or Cat6
Ethernet cable connections	Specified as either Cat5e or Cat6 cable with RJ 45 connections in wall plate
Broadband	High-speed Internet service, such as DSL, cable modem, fiber optic, or satellite
Ethernet cable	A network interconnection cable specified as either Cat5e or Cat6
Network	An interconnected digital communication system
Phone line connections	Specified as RJ11 connection in wall plate
Speaker cable	Specified as minimum 16-gauge stranded, two-conductor, shielded cable
Wireless (WiFi)	IEEE wireless network standard protocols 802.11b or 802.11g