



HERS Index (ERI)

55 ▶ 45

Base Stretch



## Home Details

- 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Large Single Family
- 5 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA

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of Energy Resources

**PSD**

MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Electric

## Costs and Benefits to Meet Stretch Code\*

|                                | COSTS  |  | BENEFITS <sup>4</sup>  | NET                                    |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Total Added Construction Costs | \$3,062<br>Cost Savings                          |  | \$7,500<br>Incentives <sup>1</sup>                           | \$10,562<br>Cost Compared to Base Code |
| HOME BUYER                     | \$1,056<br>Reduction to Downpayment <sup>3</sup> | \$710<br>Reduction to Annual Mortgage Payment <sup>3</sup> | \$122<br>Estimated Energy Cost Savings per Year <sup>2</sup> | \$832<br>Buyer Annual Net Savings      |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.
2. Energy costs for all-electric homes are based on 22.95 cents/kWh. Massachusetts has a reduced cost per kWh for heat pumps of \$0.172 between November and April, and an average cost per kWh of \$0.287, so this is a blended rate between the two.
3. 30-year mortgage assumes 10% down payment at 6.35% APR.
4. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plants, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population.



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Electric

HERS Index (ERI)

55 ▶ 45  
Base Stretch



4000 ft<sup>2</sup> Large Single Family  
5 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Stretch Code

| FEATURE                  | BASE CODE <sup>3</sup>               | STRETCH CODE <sup>4</sup>           | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX <sup>6</sup>  | 52                                   | 42                                  |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.25, 0.29 SHGC                    | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC                   | -\$4,110                       |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                 | HPWH, 50 gal, 2.35 EF               | -\$316                         |
| Heating                  | Gas, 98% AFUE                        | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ducted            | -\$35                          |
| Cooling                  | SEER 14.2                            |                                     |                                |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | 2 CFM25 per 100ft <sup>2</sup> , R-6 | In Conditioned Space                | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation    | NA                                   | NA                                  | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation         | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                 | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | \$0                            |
| Walls Insulation         | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.                | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.               | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                             | 100% LED                            | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | Ceiling R-49, Vented                 | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | -\$1,847                       |
| Air Infiltration         | 3 ACH50                              | 1.5 ACH50                           | \$3,246                        |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                             | HRV, 75%                            | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>5</sup>  | N/A                                  | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>5</sup> | N/A                                  | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                    |                                      |                                     | -\$3,062                       |

1. Additional Cost are the costs above Base Code to reach Stretch Code.
2. Cost included in basement and/or attic thermal boundary change.
3. Base Code home features are based on an analysis of typical practices for achieving a HERS 52 using HERS Provider data on previously built homes in Massachusetts.
4. Stretch Code home features are based on cost optimization modeling using BEopt software. Some individual features are less efficient than the Base Code home, but they are more than offset by other features that are more efficient. One benefit of using a HERS Index target as the basis of the Stretch Code is that it give builders the flexibility to make different design choice to allow for optimization of cost effectiveness, work around other design constraints, and accommodate client-specific requests. The stretch code model was developed used REM/rate Version 16.1.1.
5. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to the Base or Stretch Code.
6. Please note that an all-electric home qualifies for a three-point increase in the HERS Index, reducing the stringency from HERS 52 to 55 when following the Base Code, and HERS 42 to 45 when following the Stretch Code. For the purposes of this analysis, a HERS Index of 52 (for Base Code) and 42 (for Stretch and Specialized Code) have been used in the energy models for the all-electric scenario.

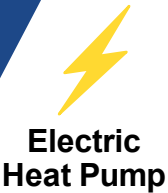
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HERS Index (ERI)  
**45 ▶ 45**  
Stretch Specialized



Home Details

- 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Large Single Family
- 5 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025  
**Large Single Family - Electric**

**Costs and Benefits to Meet Specialized Code**

|                               | COSTS <sup>1,2</sup>         | BENEFITS          | NET                                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Pre-Wiring Costs <sup>3</sup> | \$0<br>Total Pre-Wiring Cost | \$0<br>Incentives | \$0<br>Cost Compared to Stretch Code |
| Solar Costs                   | \$0<br>Total Solar Cost      | \$0<br>Incentives | \$0<br>Cost Compared to Stretch Code |

1. For All-Electric buildings, there is no cost difference between the Stretch Code and the Specialized Code because the requirements are the same.
2. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to all-electric buildings.
3. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.





MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Electric

HERS Index (ERI)

45 ▶ 45

Stretch Specialized



4000 ft<sup>2</sup> Large Single Family  
5 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Specialized Code

| FEATURE                   | STRETCH CODE                        | SPECIALIZED CODE                    | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX <sup>4</sup>   | 42                                  | 42                                  |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)    | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC                   | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC                   | \$0                            |
| DHW                       | HPWH, 50 gal, 2.35 EF               | HPWH, 50 gal, 2.35 EF               | \$0                            |
| Heating                   | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ducted            | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ducted            | \$0                            |
| Cooling                   |                                     |                                     |                                |
| Duct Leakage to Outside   | In Conditioned Space                | In Conditioned Space                | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation     | NA                                  | NA                                  | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation          | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | \$0                            |
| Walls Insulation          | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.               | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.               | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting    | 100% LED                            | 100% LED                            | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation        | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | \$0                            |
| Air Infiltration          | 1.5 ACH50                           | 1.5 ACH50                           | \$0                            |
| Mechanical Ventilation    | HRV, 75%                            | HRV, 75%                            | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>2,3</sup> | N/A                                 | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>2</sup>  | N/A                                 | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                     |                                     |                                     | \$0                            |

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1. For All-Electric buildings, there is no cost difference between the Stretch Code and the Specialized Code because the requirements are the same.
2. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to all-electric buildings.
3. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.
4. Please note that an all-electric home qualifies for a three-point increase in the HERS Index, reducing the stringency from HERS 52 to 55 when following the Base Code, and HERS 42 to 45 when following the Stretch Code. For the purposes of this analysis, a HERS Index of 52 (for Base Code) and 42 (for Stretch and Specialized Code) have been used in the energy models for the all-electric scenario.



HERS Index (ERI)

52 ▶ 42

Base

Stretch



Gas

## Home Details

- 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Large Single Family
- 5 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA

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# Large Single Family - Gas

## Costs and Benefits to Meet Stretch Code\*

|                                | COSTS   |   | BENEFITS <sup>4</sup>  | NET                                    |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Total Added Construction Costs | \$10,892<br>Extra Costs                         |   | \$0<br>Incentives <sup>1</sup>                               | \$10,892<br>Cost Compared to Base Code |
| HOME BUYER                     | \$1,089<br>Increase in Downpayment <sup>3</sup> | \$732<br>Increase in Annual Mortgage Payment <sup>3</sup> | \$598<br>Estimated Energy Cost Savings per Year <sup>2</sup> | \$134<br>Buyer Annual Net Cost         |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.
2. Energy costs are based on 28.7 cents/kWh, \$2.08/therm, and \$3.62/gal propane
3. 30-year mortgage assumes 10% down payment at 6.35% APR
4. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plants, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Gas

HERS Index (ERI)

52 ▶ 42

Base

Stretch



Gas

4000 ft<sup>2</sup> Large Single Family  
5 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Stretch Code

| FEATURE                  | BASE CODE <sup>3</sup>               | STRETCH CODE <sup>4</sup>           | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX               | 52                                   | 42                                  | \$0                            |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.25, 0.29 SHGC                    | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC                   | \$4,951                        |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                 | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                | \$0                            |
| Heating                  | Gas, 98% AFUE                        | Gas, 98% AFUE                       | \$0                            |
| Cooling                  | SEER 14.2                            | SEER 16                             | \$553                          |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | 2 CFM25 per 100ft <sup>2</sup> , R-6 | In Conditioned Space                | -\$361                         |
| Foundation Insulation    | NA                                   | NA                                  | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation         | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                 | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | \$0                            |
| Walls Insulation         | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.                | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c., R-5 XPS      | \$4,728                        |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                             | 100% LED                            | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | Ceiling R-49, Vented                 | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | -\$2,226                       |
| Air Infiltration         | 3 ACH50                              | 1.5 ACH50                           | \$3,246                        |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                             | HRV, 75%                            | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>5</sup>  | N/A                                  | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>5</sup> | N/A                                  | N/A                                 | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                    |                                      |                                     | \$10,892                       |

1. Additional Costs are the costs above Base Code to reach Stretch Code.
2. Cost included in basement and/or attic thermal boundary change.
3. Base Code home features are based on an analysis of typical practices for achieving a HERS 52 using HERS Provider data on previously built homes in Massachusetts.
4. Stretch Code home features are based on cost optimization modeling using BEopt software. Some individual features are less efficient than the Base Code home, but they are more than offset by other features that are more efficient. One benefit of using a HERS Index target as the basis of the Stretch Code is that it give builders the flexibility to make different design choice to allow for optimization of cost effectiveness, work around other design constraints, and accommodate client-specific requests. The stretch code model was developed used REM/rate Version 16.1.1.
5. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to the Base or Stretch Code.

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HERS Index (ERI)

42 ▶ 0

Stretch Specialized



Gas

## Home Details

- 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Large Single Family
- 5 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA

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MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Gas

## Costs and Benefits to Meet Specialized Code\*

|                               | COSTS  | BENEFITS <sup>3</sup>  | NET   |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Pre-Wiring Costs <sup>5</sup> | <b>\$9,000</b><br>Additional Pre-Wiring Cost | \$0<br>Incentives <sup>1,2</sup>                             | <b>\$9,000</b><br>Cost Compared to<br>Stretch Code  |
| Solar Costs                   | <b>\$22,902</b><br>Additional Solar Cost     | <b>\$1,000</b><br>Incentives <sup>1,2</sup>                  | <b>\$21,902</b><br>Cost Compared to<br>Stretch Code |
| Total Costs                   | <b>\$30,902</b><br>Total Additional Costs    | <b>\$2,273</b><br>Annual Energy<br>Bill Savings <sup>4</sup> |   |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.
2. Projects with solar installed may be eligible for a 15% MA State tax credit of the solar cost, up to \$1,000.
3. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plants, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population
4. The PV Watts Calculator was used to determine the total kWh saving of the project, using defaults for module type, array type, system losses, tilt, azimuth, etc. The kWh savings was compared to the total kWh used in the energy model. The savings calculation estimates an energy cost of 28.7 cents/kWh.
5. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Large Single Family - Gas

HERS Index (ERI)

42 ▶ 0

Stretch Specialized



Gas

4000 ft<sup>2</sup> Large Single Family  
5 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Specialized Code

| FEATURE                  | STRETCH CODE                        | SPECIALIZED CODE                    | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX               | 42                                  | 0                                   | \$0                            |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC                   | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC                   | \$0                            |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                | \$0                            |
| Heating                  | Gas, 98% AFUE                       | Gas, 98% AFUE                       | \$0                            |
| Cooling                  | SEER 16                             | SEER 16                             | \$0                            |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | In Conditioned Space                | In Conditioned Space                | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation    | NA                                  | NA                                  | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation         | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | R-30 Fiberglass Batt                | \$0                            |
| Walls Insulation         | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c., R-5 XPS      | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c., R-5 XPS      | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                            | 100% LED                            | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | R-38 Open Cell Spray Foam, Unvented | \$0                            |
| Air Infiltration         | 1.5 ACH50                           | 1.5 ACH50                           | \$0                            |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                            | HRV, 75%                            | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>4</sup>  | N/A                                 | Yes                                 | \$9,000                        |
| Solar Array <sup>2</sup> | N/A                                 | 6.14 kW <sup>3</sup>                | \$21,902                       |
| TOTAL                    |                                     |                                     | \$30,902                       |

1. Additional Costs are the costs above Stretch Code to reach Specialized Code.
2. Solar costs are based on the [Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Solar Costs Comparison Tool](#), using the median dollar per watt of \$3.73 as of July 30, 2024. The model does not take credit for any solar energy kWh generation.
3. This number is project specific and subject to change. The PV Watts calculator was used to determine which size array would equal the total energy use of the project, using defaults for module type, array type, system losses, tilt, azimuth, etc. In our energy model, a 6.14 kW array offsets the total energy use of the project.
4. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.





MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Electric

## Costs and Benefits to Meet Stretch Code\*

HERS Index (ERI)


55

▶

45

Base

Stretch



Electric Heat Pump

|                                | COSTS  |  | BENEFITS <sup>4</sup>                                       | NET                                    |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Total Added Construction Costs | \$11,597<br>Cost Savings                         |  | \$7,500<br>Incentives <sup>1</sup>                          | \$19,097<br>Cost Compared to Base Code |
| HOME BUYER                     | \$1,910<br>Reduction to Downpayment <sup>3</sup> | \$1,283<br>Reduction to Annual Mortgage Payment <sup>3</sup> | \$66<br>Estimated Energy Cost Savings per Year <sup>2</sup> | \$1,349<br>Buyer Annual Net Savings    |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

### Home Details

- 2100 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Small Single Family
- 3 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.

2. Energy costs for all-electric homes are based on 22.95 cents/kWh. Massachusetts has a reduced cost per kWh for heat pumps of \$0.172 between November and April, and an average cost per kWh of \$0.287, so this is a blended rate between the two.

3. 30-year mortgage assumes 10% down payment at 6.35% APR

4. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plans, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population

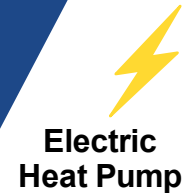


MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Electric

HERS Index (ERI)

55 ▶ 45  
Base Stretch



2100 ft<sup>2</sup> Small Single Family  
3 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Stretch Code

| FEATURE                  | BASE CODE <sup>3</sup>               | STRETCH CODE <sup>4</sup>      | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX <sup>6</sup>  | 52                                   | 42                             |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC                    | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC              | -\$5,343                       |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                 | HPWH, 50 gal                   | -\$316                         |
| Heating                  | Gas, 95% AFUE                        | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ductless     | -\$2,487                       |
| Cooling                  | SEER 14.2                            |                                |                                |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | 2 CFM25 per 100ft <sup>2</sup> , R-6 | Ductless                       | -\$6,749                       |
| Foundation Insulation    | NA                                   | NA                             | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation         | Basement Ceiling R-30                | Basement Ceiling R-30          | \$0                            |
| Wall Insulation          | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.                | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.          | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                             | 100% LED                       | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | Ceiling R-49, Vented                 | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | \$2,511                        |
| Air Infiltration         | 3 ACH50                              | 2 ACH50                        | \$787                          |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                             | HRV, 75%                       | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>5</sup>  | N/A                                  | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>5</sup> | N/A                                  | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                    |                                      |                                | -\$11,597                      |

1. Additional Costs are the costs above Base Code to reach Stretch Code.
2. Cost included in basement and/or attic thermal boundary change
3. Base Code home features are based on an analysis of typical practices for achieving a HERS 52 using HERS Provider data on previously built homes in Massachusetts.
4. Stretch Code home features are based on cost optimization modeling using BEopt software. Some individual features are less efficient than the Base Code home, but they are more than offset by other features that are more efficient. One benefit of using a HERS Index target as the basis of the Stretch Code is that it give builders the flexibility to make different design choice to allow for optimization of cost effectiveness, work around other design constraints, and accommodate client-specific requests. The stretch code model was developed used REM/rate Version 16.1.1.
5. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to the Base or Stretch Code.
6. Please note that an all-electric home qualifies for a three-point increase in the HERS Index, reducing the stringency from HERS 52 to 55 when following the Base Code, and HERS 42 to 45 when following the Stretch Code. For the purposes of this analysis, a HERS Index of 52 (for Base Code) and 42 (for Stretch and Specialized Code) have been used in the energy models for the all-electric scenario.

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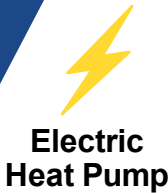
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MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Electric

HERS Index (ERI)  
**45 ▶ 45**  
Stretch Specialized



### Home Details

- 2100 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Small Single Family
- 3 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA



## Costs and Benefits to Meet Specialized Code

|                               | COSTS <sup>1,2</sup>                 | BENEFITS                  | NET   |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Solar Costs                   | <div>\$0</div> Total Solar Cost      | <div>\$0</div> Incentives | <div>\$0</div> Cost Compared to Stretch Code  |
| Pre-Wiring Costs <sup>3</sup> | <div>\$0</div> Total Pre-wiring Cost | <div>\$0</div> Incentives | <div>\$0</div> Costs Compared to Stretch Code |

1. For All-Electric buildings, there is no cost difference between the Stretch Code and the Specialized Code because the requirements are the same.
2. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to all-electric buildings.
3. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.





MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Electric

HERS Index (ERI)

45 ▶ 45

Stretch Specialized



2100 ft<sup>2</sup> Small Single Family  
3 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Specialized Code

| FEATURE                   | STRETCH CODE                   | SPECIALIZED CODE               | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX <sup>4</sup>   | 42                             | 42                             |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)    | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC              | U-0.28, 0.29 SHGC              | \$0                            |
| DHW                       | HPWH, 50 gal                   | HPWH, 50 gal                   | \$0                            |
| Heating                   | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ductless     | SEER 20, 12 HSPF, Ductless     | \$0                            |
| Cooling                   |                                |                                |                                |
| Duct Leakage to Outside   | Ductless                       | Ductless                       | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation     | NA                             | NA                             | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation          | Basement Ceiling R-30          | Basement Ceiling R-30          | \$0                            |
| Wall Insulation           | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.          | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.          | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting    | 100% LED                       | 100% LED                       | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation        | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | \$0                            |
| Air Infiltration          | 2 ACH50                        | 2 ACH50                        | \$0                            |
| Mechanical Ventilation    | HRV, 75%                       | HRV, 75%                       | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>2,3</sup> | N/A                            | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>2</sup>  | N/A                            | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                     |                                |                                | \$0                            |



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1. For All-Electric buildings, there is no cost difference between the Stretch Code and the Specialized Code because the requirements are the same.
2. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to all-electric buildings.
3. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.
4. Please note that an all-electric home qualifies for a three-point increase in the HERS Index, reducing the stringency from HERS 52 to 55 when following the Base Code, and HERS 42 to 45 when following the Stretch Code. For the purposes of this analysis, a HERS Index of 52 (for Base Code) and 42 (for Stretch and Specialized Code) have been used in the energy models for the all-electric scenario.



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025


# Small Single Family - Gas

## Costs and Benefits to Meet Stretch Code\*

HERS Index (ERI)

52 ▶ 42

Base      Stretch



Gas

|                                | COSTS   |   | BENEFITS <sup>4</sup>  | NET                                    |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Total Added Construction Costs | \$14,064<br>Extra Costs                         |   | \$0<br>Incentives <sup>1</sup>                                   | \$14,064<br>Cost Compared to Base Code |
| HOME BUYER                     | \$1,406<br>Increase in Downpayment <sup>3</sup> | \$945<br>Increase in Annual Mortgage Payment <sup>3</sup> | \$190<br>Estimated Additional Energy Costs per Year <sup>2</sup> | \$1,135<br>Buyer Annual Net Cost       |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.
2. Energy costs are based on 28.7 cents/kWh, \$2.08/therm, and \$3.62/gal propane
3. 30-year mortgage assumes 10% down payment at 6.35% APR
4. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plants, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population

### Home Details

- 2100 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Small Single Family
- 3 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Gas

HERS Index (ERI)

52 ▶ 42

Base

Stretch



Gas

2100 ft<sup>2</sup> Small Single Family  
3 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Stretch Code

| FEATURE                  | BASE CODE <sup>3</sup>               | STRETCH CODE <sup>4</sup>      | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX               | 52                                   | 42                             |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC                    | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC              | \$0                            |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF                 | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF           | \$0                            |
| Heating                  | Gas, 95% AFUE                        | Gas, 98% AFUE                  | \$708                          |
| Cooling                  | SEER 14.2                            | SEER 16                        | \$671                          |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | 2 CFM25 per 100ft <sup>2</sup> , R-6 | In Conditioned Space           | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation    | NA                                   | Basement Walls R-21            | \$6,547                        |
| Floor Insulation         | Basement Ceiling R-30                | NA                             | -\$1,426                       |
| Walls Insulation         | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c.                | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c. R-5 XPS  | \$3,015                        |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                             | 100% LED                       | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | Ceiling R-49, Vented                 | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | \$2,187                        |
| Air Infiltration         | 3 ACH50                              | 1 ACH50                        | \$2,362                        |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                             | HRV, 75%                       | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>5</sup>  | N/A                                  | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| Solar Array <sup>5</sup> | N/A                                  | N/A                            | \$0                            |
| TOTAL                    |                                      |                                | \$14,064                       |

1. Additional Cost are the costs above Base Code to reach Stretch Code.
2. Cost included in basement and/or attic thermal boundary change.
3. Base Code home features are based on an analysis of typical practices for achieving a HERS 52 using HERS Provider data on previously built homes in Massachusetts.
4. Stretch Code home features are based on cost optimization modeling using BEopt software. Some individual features are less efficient than the Base Code home, but they are more than offset by other features that are more efficient. One benefit of using a HERS Index target as the basis of the Stretch Code is that it give builders the flexibility to make different design choice to allow for optimization of cost effectiveness, work around other design constraints, and accommodate client-specific requests. The stretch code model was developed used REM/rate Version 16.1.1.
5. Pre-wiring and solar costs are only applicable to mixed fuel projects following the Specialized code and do not apply to the Base or Stretch Code.

DER

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HERS Index (ERI)  
**42 ▶ 42**  
Stretch Specialized



Home Details

- 2100 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Small Single Family
- 3 Bedrooms
- Worcester, MA



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025  
**Small Single Family - Gas**

**Costs and Benefits to Meet Specialized Code\***

|                               | COSTS                                     | BENEFITS <sup>3</sup>                                     | NET  |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Pre-Wiring Costs <sup>5</sup> | <b>\$4,000</b><br>Total Pre-Wiring Cost   | \$0<br>Incentives <sup>1,2</sup>                          | <b>\$4,000</b><br>Cost Compared to Stretch Code  |
| Solar Costs                   | <b>\$14,920</b><br>Total Solar Cost       | <b>\$1,000</b><br>Incentives <sup>1,2</sup>               | <b>\$13,920</b><br>Cost Compared to Stretch Code |
| Total Costs                   | <b>\$17,920</b><br>Total Additional Costs | <b>\$1,482</b><br>Annual Energy Bill Savings <sup>4</sup> |  |

\*Green shaded boxes indicate cost savings, while red shaded boxes indicate added costs.

1. Incentives are calculated on a per unit basis, using Mass Save ® new construction program Base Tier Incentives of \$7,500 without any Market Transformation Adders. These incentives are not applicable to mixed fuel projects.
2. Projects with solar installed may be eligible for a 15% MA State tax credit of the solar cost, up to \$1,000.
3. Mass Save Incentives are not available in communities with municipal light plants, which are locally owned utilities which represent 52 towns that make up about 13% of the MA population.
4. The PV Watts Calculator was used to determine the total kWh saving of the project, using defaults for module type, array type, system losses, tilt, azimuth, etc. The kWh savings was compared to the total kWh used in the energy model. The savings calculation estimates an energy cost of 28.7 cents/kWh.
5. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.



MA 10th Edition Building Code | 2025

# Small Single Family - Gas

HERS Index (ERI)  
**42 ▶ 42**  
Stretch Specialized



2100 ft² Small Single Family  
3 Bedroom - Worcester, MA

## Breakdown of Construction Costs to Meet Specialized Code

| FEATURE                  | STRETCH CODE                   | SPECIALIZED CODE               | COST DIFFERENTIAL <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HERS INDEX               | 42                             | 42                             |                                |
| Windows (U-Value/SHGC)   | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC              | U-0.18, 0.29 SHGC              | \$0                            |
| DHW                      | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF           | Gas Tankless 0.94 EF           | \$0                            |
| Heating                  | Gas, 98% AFUE                  | Gas, 98% AFUE                  | \$0                            |
| Cooling                  | SEER 16                        | SEER 16                        | \$0                            |
| Duct Leakage to Outside  | In Conditioned Space           | In Conditioned Space           | \$0                            |
| Foundation Insulation    | Basement Walls R-21            | Basement Walls R-21            | \$0                            |
| Floor Insulation         | NA                             | NA                             | \$0                            |
| Walls Insulation         | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c. R-5 XPS  | R-21, 2x6, 16 in o.c. R-5 XPS  | \$0                            |
| High Efficacy Lighting   | 100% LED                       | 100% LED                       | \$0                            |
| Ceiling Insulation       | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | Roof R-38 Spray Foam, Unvented | \$0                            |
| Air Infiltration         | 1 ACH50                        | 1 ACH50                        | \$0                            |
| Mechanical Ventilation   | HRV, 75%                       | HRV, 75%                       | \$0                            |
| Pre-Wiring <sup>3</sup>  | N/A                            | Yes                            | \$4,000                        |
| Solar Array <sup>2</sup> | N/A                            | 4 kW                           | \$13,920                       |
| TOTAL                    |                                |                                | \$17,920                       |

1. Additional Cost are the costs above Stretch Code to reach Specialized Code.
2. Solar costs are based on the [Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Solar Costs Comparison Tool](#), using the median dollar per watt of \$3.73 as of July 30, 2024. The model does not take credit for any solar energy kWh generation.
3. Pre-wiring includes the costs to add a dedicated branch circuit and outlet nearby any equipment currently using fossil fuels for space heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying. This does not include the costs associated with upgrading an electrical panel.