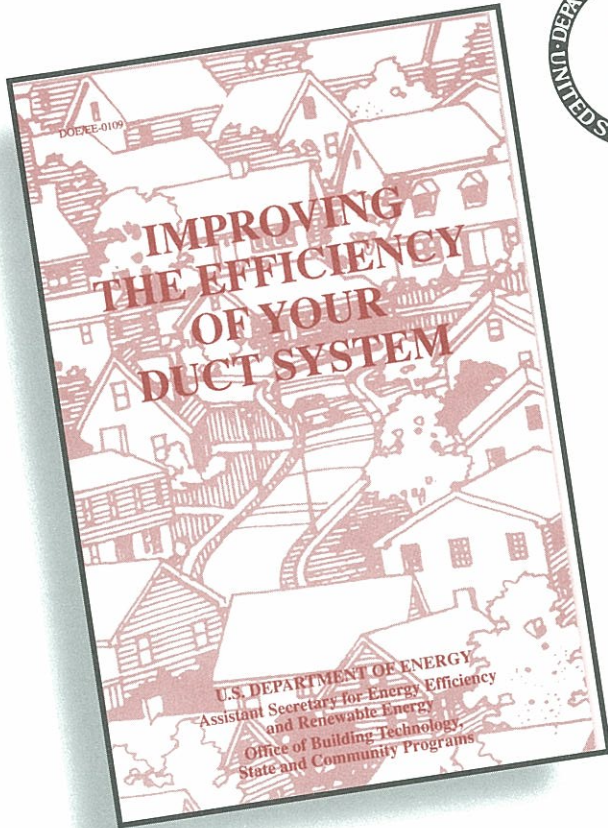


# What the U.S. Department of Energy is telling homeowners about **air ducts**:



1996 DOE Research Report



## **Energy Losses and Comfort**

“Typical duct systems lose 25 to 40 percent of the heating or cooling energy put out by the central furnace, heat pump, or air conditioner.”

“Homes with ducts in a protected area such as a basement may lose somewhat less than this while some other types of systems (such as attic ducts in hot, humid climates) often lose more.”

“Duct repairs could be the most important energy improvement measure you can do ...”

## **Health Hazards**

“Leakage in the duct system can be hazardous to your health. Especially problematic are leaky returns in an enclosed space or garage that also contains the furnace.”

## **Get A Professional!**

“You should not attempt to repair duct leaks. Safe duct repair requires a licensed heating, ventilating and air conditioning contractor ... one that has sent their technicians to a good duct repair school.

One of the special tools that would be used by a technician is a blower door.”

- Planning to buy a new Heating and Cooling System?
- Have rooms that just won't get comfortable?
- Tired of overpaying the utility companies?
- Does dust reappear soon after house cleaning?
- Anyone suffering from allergies or asthma?

**Authorities recommend that you ask your heating and cooling contractor for a blower door test.**



Infiltrometer Blower Door Test Instrument