Find a Home Quality Mark home

Ask your new home provider about the Home Quality Mark (HQM)

For more information on HQM and how it helps you make a smarter choice go to www.homequalitymark.com

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BRE Home Quality Mark
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The Home Quality Mark (HQM) is an independently assessed standard for new homes, which uses a simple star rating to provide information on a new home’s design, construction quality and sustainability.

HQM has an increased focus on improving the built quality of new homes and reducing the performance gap. The scheme has been developed with the consumer at its heart. It recognises best practice and provides a consistent mechanism to carry out quality checks throughout the home’s development to help deliver a product that meets the expectation of the occupier.

HQM is operational now, as an independent industry-driven scheme that aims to help change the culture of housebuilding.

An impartial rating that you can trust

Developed by BRE, one of the world’s leading building science centres, and a range of industry partners, the Home Quality Mark (HQM) is the national quality mark for homes, giving consumers a better choice for a healthier, smarter and more sustainable new home.

HQM does this by providing impartial information on a new home’s quality. It will indicate to householders the overall expected running costs, health and wellbeing benefits, and the environmental footprint associated with living in the home. It will also highlight benefits such as access to local amenities and the quality of the local neighbourhood.

For housebuilders, HQM provides robust, third party certification of the quality of a new home, enabling you to communicate to potential buyers. For investors, lenders, insurers and planners, HQM provides a benchmark of quality, managing and reducing risk over the long-term.

For consumers, HQM provides a trusted mark of quality.

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Star ratings and quality indicators

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HQM is the sign of a better home, building trust in the new homes that are certified against it.

The Home Quality Mark (HQM) comprises two elements, a star rating giving a clear overall picture of the home’s quality, and a set of indicators focussed on specific performance aspects that are of particular interest to you.

What is measured?
Independent HQM assessors examine a range of issues which contribute to the overall star rating, and the following three indicators:

- My Costs
  - This indicator gives you a better idea of how much your home will cost, a higher score means lower energy bills, lower insurance risk and reduced maintenance, all of which could mean a better mortgage deal.

- My Wellbeing
  - We spend a large amount of time in our home – how does it impact our wellbeing and health? A higher score means the home has lots of natural light, good indoor air quality with few pollutants, it is easy to regulate the temperature and doesn’t get too hot, and has great sound insulation.

- My Footprint
  - It is important that we live in a way which has the smallest impact possible. A high score here means a home that produces low CO2 from the heating and hot water, has used construction materials that have a low environmental impact, that the ecology of the site has been protected and improved.