

# Draught Detective

One of the biggest sources of heat loss in winter and cooling loss in summer is due to infiltration. Infiltration is what happens when the air from outside your house is coming in through gaps around windows and doors as well as unsealed parts of the house such as dog or cat doors, fireplaces and exhaust fans.

If your house is draughty, you can feel a lot colder than it actually is due to the wind chill factor. In a very draughty house, the air from the entire house can be replaced as often as once every fifteen minutes!

## Things to Get

- Plastic Food Wrap
- Sticky Tape
- Pencils

## Things to Do

1. Construct a draft meter by cutting a 12x25cm strip of plastic wrap and tape one of the 12cm sides to a pencil.
2. Gently blow the plastic wrap to test how freely the plastic moves when air is blowing on it.
3. Hold or pin the draft meter near the edge of the window or door and watch to see if the plastic wrap moves.
4. Test all of the windows and doors around the room and draw up a floor plan, showing where all of the draughty areas are in the room with a cross (X).

## Results

Draw your floor plan on the back of this page.

## Things to Talk About

Why did we only test around the doors and windows for drafts?

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Is there anywhere that we should have tested?

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What can done to stop the drafts around the doors and windows?

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