

# Sustainable Building Design Principles

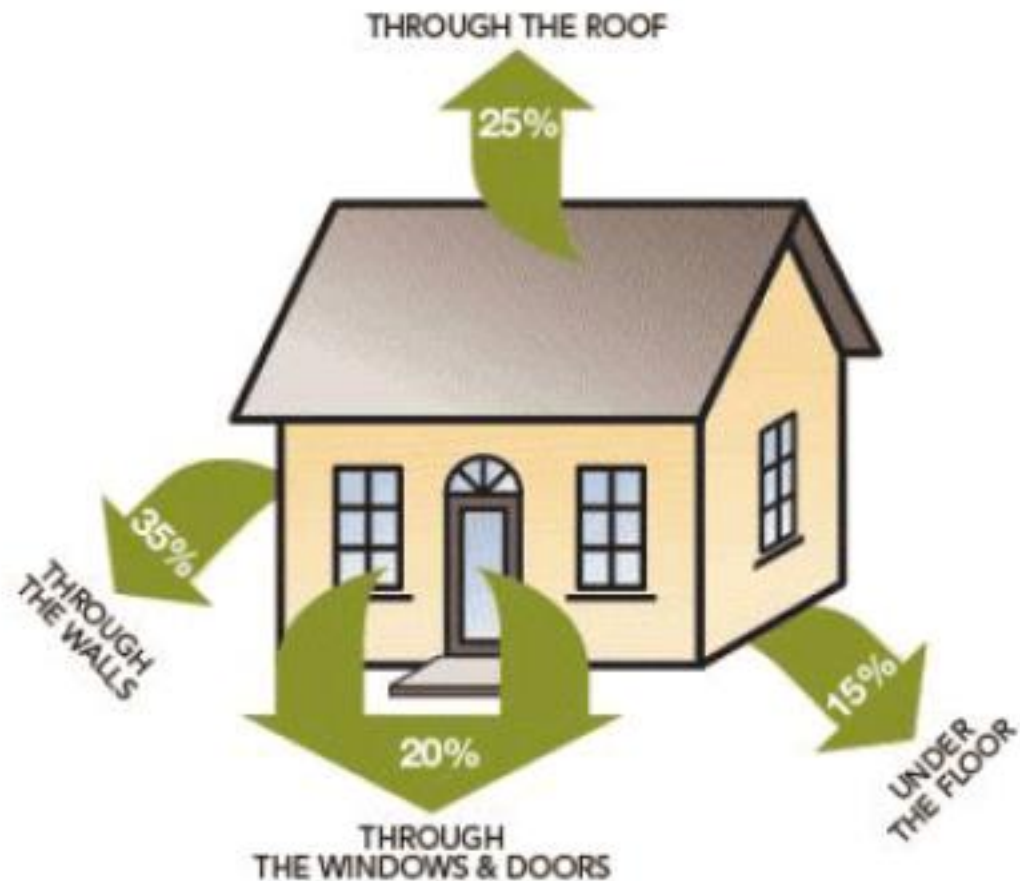
A photograph showing a large array of solar panels installed on a rooftop. The panels are dark blue and arranged in neat rows. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a clear blue sky, featuring several tall buildings and a prominent spire. The foreground shows the structural supports and mounting hardware of the solar panels.

**STUDY TOUR 18/10/2018**

# STRUCTUREFIRST – SERVICES SECOND – TECHNOLOGY LAST

## FIRST REDUCE HEAT DEMAND

- by improving insulation and cutting heat lost to the outside





## **THEN IMPROVE EFFICIENCY OF ENERGY USED**

- by fitting the best boilers, lighting and control systems



## **FINALLY CONSIDER USING RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGY**

- in order to generate your own energy in the most sustainable way

# “Build Tight, VentilateRight”

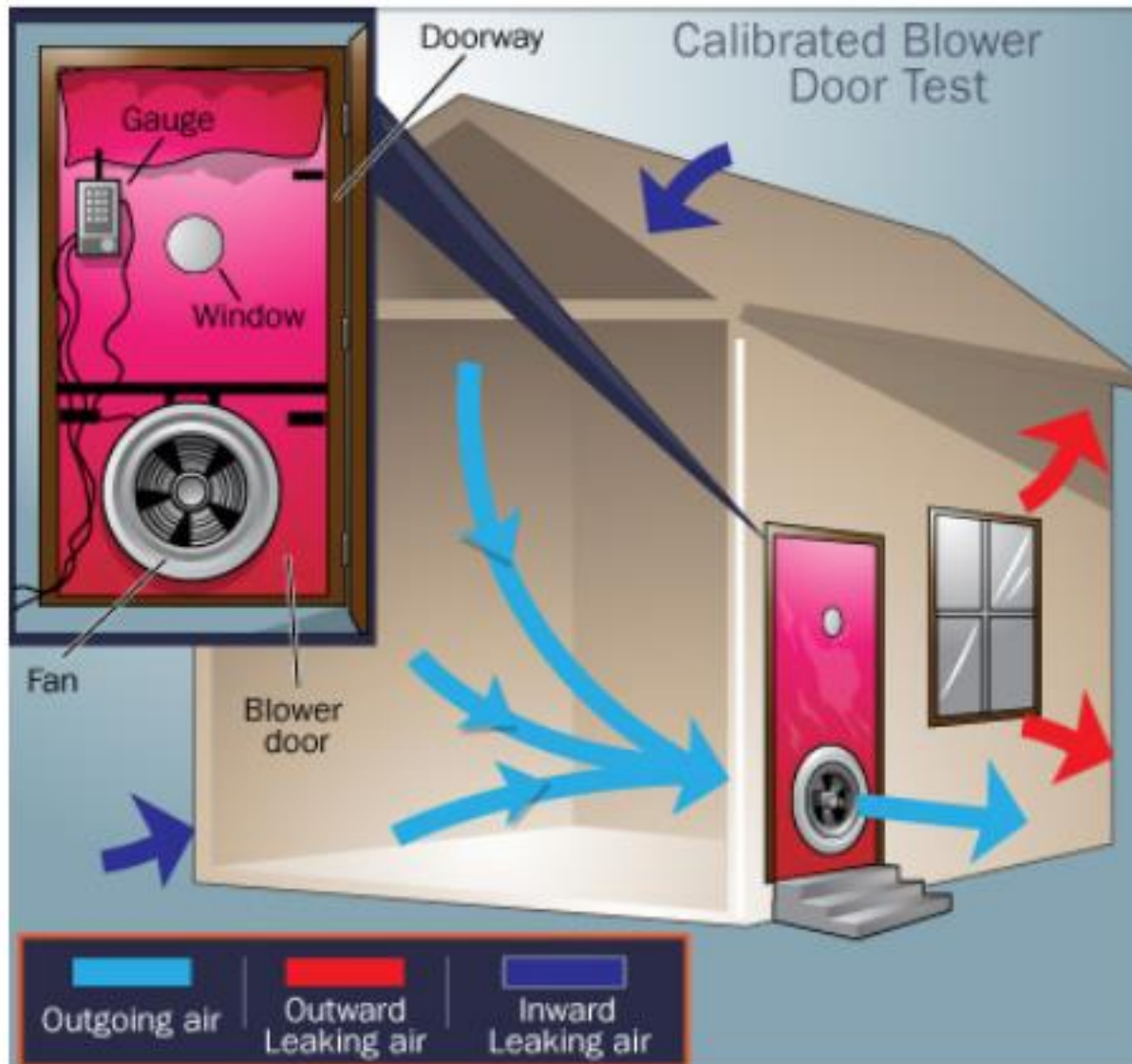
Airtightness

Dr Arne Elmroth,  
Professorat the Royal Institute  
of Technology,  
Stockholm1980





# Building air tightness test



All of the air leakage paths occurring within a dwelling will have particular aerodynamic characteristics that are dependent upon the direction in which the air is flowing.

# Air permeability results. Comparisons in dwellings

	Building Regulations 2010	Code for Sustainable Homes levels 1,2,3	Code for Sustainable Homes levels 4,5,6	Good Practice Energy Efficiency	Best Practice Energy Efficiency
Air permeability at 50 Pascal, $m^3/(m^2h)$	10	3.0	1.0	4 (dwelling with HRV) 7 (dwelling with other ventilation systems)	3

Passivhaus require 0.6

***Solar gain*** is the name given to the increase in temperature in a space, object or structure due to solar radiation, i.e. the heat from the sun .



# Making the most of the sunlight....

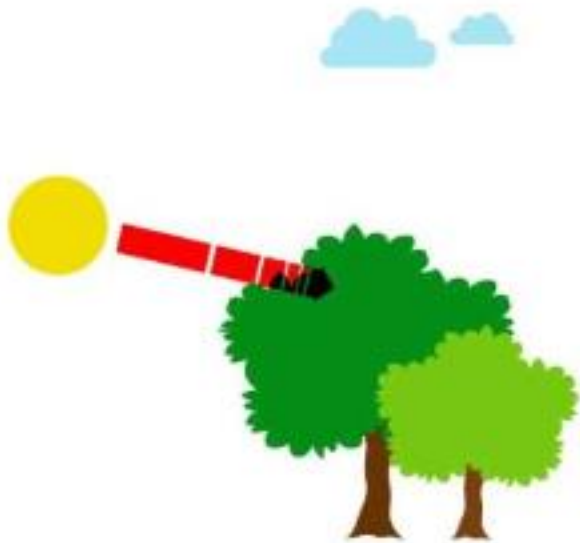
- **Solar gain can be optimised by:**
- Altering the location/size number of windows
- Building orientation
- Using construction materials with a high thermal mass



# Too much sunlight....

- **Solar gain can be reduced by:**
- Limiting the size and area of openings such as doors and windows
- Shading or orientating doors and windows from direct sunlight
- Using reflective materials on the glass and building fabric
- Ventilating roof spaces

# Passive design



Summer



Winter



# Factors that determine thermal mass



## Specific heat capacity

Specific heat capacity refers to a material's capacity to store heat for every kilogram of mass. A material of 'high' thermal mass has a high specific heat capacity. Specific heat capacity is measured in  $\text{J/kg.K}$ .



## Density

The density refers to the mass (or 'weight') per unit volume of a material and is measured in  $\text{kg/m}^3$ . A high density material maximises the overall weight and is an aspect of 'high' thermal mass.



## Thermal conductivity

Thermal conductivity measures the ease with which heat can travel through a material. For 'high' thermal mass, thermal conductivity usually needs to be moderate so that the absorption and release of heat synchronises with the building's heating and cooling cycle. Thermal conductivity is measured in units of  $\text{W/m.K}$ .



# Passivhaus design



Passivhaus is a performance-based set of design criteria for very low energy buildings, which can help create buildings which use around 90% less energy than standard UK buildings.

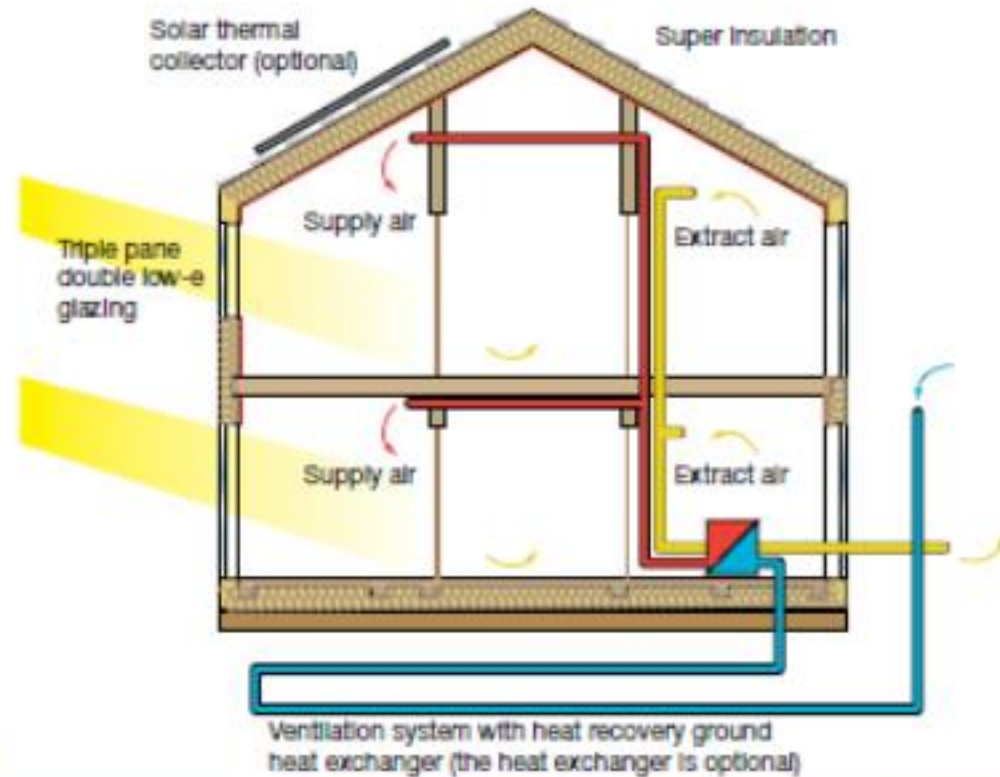
Developed in Germany at the beginning of the 1990s by Professor Wolfgang Feist with Professor Bo Adamson from Lund University, Sweden, Passivhaus design is based on well researched and proven building physics.



# Passivhaus design criteria

Building energy performance	
Specific heating demand	$\leq 15 \text{ kWh/m}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$
or Specific Peak load	$\leq 10 \text{ W/m}^2$
Specific cooling demand	$\leq 15 \text{ kWh/m}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$
Primary energy demand	$\leq 120 \text{ kWh/m}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$
Elemental performance requirements	
Airtightness	$\leq 0.6 \text{ ac/h (n50)}$
Window U value	$\leq 0.80 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{K}$
Window installed U value	$\leq 0.85 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{K}$
Services performance	
MVHR heat recovery efficiency	$\geq 75\%*$
MVHR electrical efficiency	$\leq 0.45 \text{ Wh/m}^3$

Sustainable Building Futures



Source: BRE 'Passivhaus Primer – Designer Guide.'

# Efficient space planning ?





# The Productive worker

Neil Usher - ex Director of Workplace at Sky Central - often seen as Europe's most innovative and agile work space.

Move away from designing the workplace based on *image* to one that creates a *positive environment* for workers.



1 <b>Da</b> Daylight				2 <b>Co</b> Connectivity
3 <b>Sp</b> Space	4 <b>Ch</b> Choice	5 <b>In</b> Influence	6 <b>Cn</b> Control	7 <b>Re</b> Refresh
8 <b>Se</b> Sense	9 <b>Cf</b> Comfort	10 <b>Ic</b> Inclusion	11 <b>Wa</b> Wash	12 <b>St</b> Storage