

# Evolution of the American Home

Homes built today are dramatically different than they were 40 years ago. Not only are they larger, but they have more amenities that can severely stress your electrical system. The Electrical Safety Foundation International recommends all homes over 40 years old undergo an electrical inspection to ensure your home's electrical system can handle modern demands.

In 1973, 17% of U.S. homes had central A/C and 30% contained window units. Today about 65% of homes have central A/C and another 21% have window units.



The residential energy sector accounted for 25% of the total energy consumption in 2010, yet remained the least energy efficient largely due to the use of incandescent lamps.

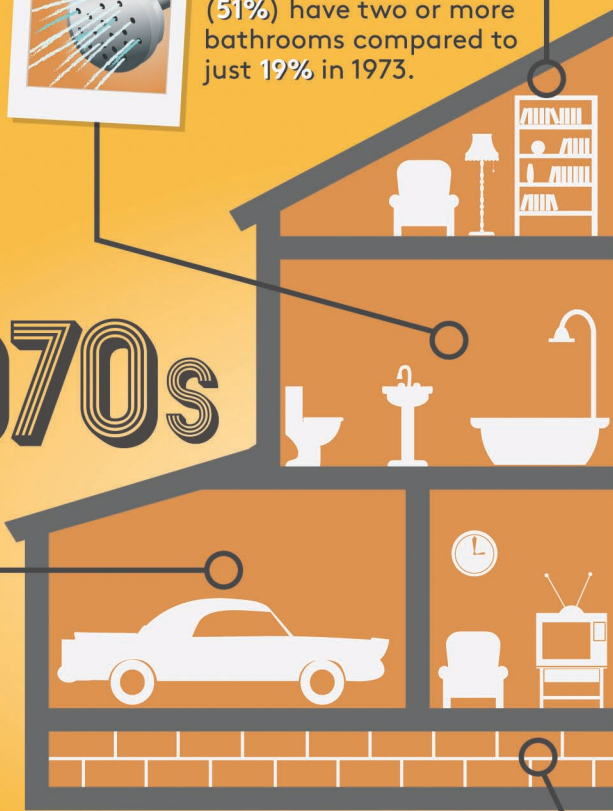


Over half of U.S. homes (51%) have two or more bathrooms compared to just 19% in 1973.



The median square footage of single-family homes built between 2005-2009 is 2,200. The median in the 1970s or earlier was 1,700 ft<sup>2</sup>.

## 1970s



## 2010s



In 1973 48% of new homes had garages for 2 or more cars compared to 80% in 2008.



54% of homes in the U.S. had 3 or more TVs in 2009.



More than four in ten (44%) of the nation's housing stock was built before 1970.



A 2009 study found 26% of homes had a second refrigerator and that number is growing 1% per year.

