

Dear Homebuyer/Homebuilder/Realtor:

Many new homes today are completely equipped with the communications wiring infrastructure necessary to fully benefit from the extraordinary advances in home entertainment, home networking and home automation.

Unfortunately, some homebuilders are not offering basic communications wiring and too few homebuyers are prepared to ask the right questions to tell the difference.

The best time to install structured wiring is when a home is built. Retrofitting is possible; however, when structured wiring is built into a new home, the possibilities are unlimited — and at a more reasonable cost.

This report card focuses on the basic infrastructure of the home. The simple checklist is intended primarily for prospective buyers of new homes, but it can also be used with existing homes. If you are a homebuilder and have received “unsatisfactory” in one or more categories, then perhaps it’s time to improve the performance of the structured wiring in the new homes you build.

For more information, or to learn how you can improve your grades, contact the Copper Development Association at the address below, or visit www.copper.org.

Happy House Hunting!

Sincerely,

John Cowie

John Cowie
Manager of Communications Wiring
The Copper Development Association

The Copper Development Association Inc., 260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, is affiliated with the International Copper Association and is the information, education, market and technical development arm of the copper, brass and bronze industry in the United States.

STRUCTURED WIRING REPORT CARD

Location of Home _____

Builder/Realtor _____

Prospective Homebuyer _____

Date _____

A Service of



Blank report card is downloadable from www.copper.org/applications/telecomm.

OVERALL BASIC RATING

	O	S	I	U	N	Notes
1. Structured Wiring Data Capacity						
a. Telecom (requires Cat 5e or better)						
b. Video (requires RG-6, solid copper center conductor)						
2. Communications Wiring Configuration						
a. "Star" or "Home Run" (best)						
b. Daisy-chaining (substandard)						
3. Range or Extent of Communications Wiring						
a. Living room						
b. Home office						
c. Bedrooms						
d. Kitchen						
e. Others:						
4. Central Distribution Device						
a. Good location						
b. Adequate capacity						
c. Room for expansion						
5. Finishing						
a. Enough faceplates and outlets						
b. Convenient locations						
c. Proper plugs and connectors						
Overall Basic Rating						

Instructions: Check one box per row. KEY: O = outstanding, S = satisfactory, I = needs improvement, U = unsatisfactory, N = not applicable.

BONUS PERFORMANCE*

	O	S	I	U	N	Notes
1. Home Theater / Entertainment Center						
Notes						
2. Whole House Audio						
Notes						
3. Security System						
Notes						
4. Home Automation						
Notes						
Overall Bonus Rating (this page)						
Notes						
Overall Basic Rating (previous page)						
Notes						
Overall Rating						
Notes						

*See www.ce.org/TechHomeRating for the Tech Home Rating System, sponsored by the Consumer Electronics Association. It provides a more detailed formula for rating tech homes.