



Home Inspection of 123 Oak Street, Tallahassee, FL

> Prepared for John Doe

Home Inspection Report Prepared by: Craig Howard Lic #HI3833 CMH Home Inspections, Ilc 850-567-2603 choward@CMHHomeInspections.com

### **REPORT OVERVIEW**

#### CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

SATISFACTORY - Indicates the component is functionally consistent with its original purpose but may show signs of normal wear and tear and deterioration.

MARGINAL - Indicates the component will probably require repair or replacement anytime within five years.

POOR - Indicates the component will need repair or replacement now or in the very near future.

#### THE SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION

All components designated for inspection in the NACHI Standards of Practice are inspected, except as may be noted in the "Limitations of Inspection" sections within this report.

It is the goal of the inspection to put a home buyer in a better position to make a buying decision. Not all deficiencys will be identified during this inspection. Unexpected repairs should still be anticipated. The inspection should not be considered a guarantee or warranty of any kind.

Please refer to the pre-inspection contract for a full explanation of the scope of the inspection.

#### **BUILDING DATA**

Date of Inspection:	1/5/2019
Address:	123 Oak Street
Address:	Tallahassee, FL
Client:	John Doe
Client Phone:	
Agent:	
Agent Phone:	
Approximate Age:	33 years - Built 1986
Style:	Single Family Home
State of Occupancy:	Vacant
Weather Conditions:	Clear
Recent Rain:	No
Ground cover:	Damp

#### CMH Home Inspections, LLC

### INSPECTION AGREEMENT

#### (Please read carefully)

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between CMH Home Inspections, LLC referred to as "Inspector", and, JOHN DOE referred to as "Client."

In consideration of the promise and terms of this Agreement, the parties agree as follows:

1. The client will pay the sum of \$350.00 for the home inspection, at the "Property," being the residence located at:

123 Oak Street, Tallahassee, FL. Additional services: Radon test \$100.00

2. The Inspector will perform a visual inspection and prepare a written report of the apparent condition of the readily accessible installed systems and components of the property existing at the time of the inspection. Latent and concealed defects and deficiencies are excluded from the inspection.

3. The parties agree that the (NACHI) National Association of Certified Home Inspectors Standards of Practice shall define the standard of duty and the conditions, limitations, and exclusions of the inspection and are incorporated by reference herein. If the State where the inspection is performed imposes more stringent standards or administrative rule, then those standards shall define the standard of duty and the conditions, limitations, and exclusions of the inspection.

4. The parties agree and understand that the Inspector and its employees and its agents assume no liability or responsibility for the costs of repairing or replacing any unreported defects or deficiencies either current or arising in the future or any property damage, consequential damage or bodily injury of any nature. If repairs or replacement are done without giving the Inspector the required notice, the Inspector will have no liability to the Client. The Client further agrees that the Inspector is liable only up to the cost of the inspection.

5. The parties agree and understand the Inspector is not an insurer or guarantor against defects in the structure, items, components, or systems inspected.

6. If Client is married, Client represents that this obligation is a family obligation incurred in the interest of the family.

7. This Agreement, represents the entire agreement between the parties and there are no other agreements either written or oral between them. This Agreement shall be amended only by written agreement signed by both parties. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, and if Florida laws or regulations are more stringent than the forms of the agreement, the Florida law or rule shall govern. Client has read this entire Agreement and accepts and understands this Agreement as hereby acknowledged. If no Florida regulations apply, this report adheres to NACHI Standards, which is available upon request.

8. Systems, items, and conditions which are not within the scope of the building inspection include, but are not limited to: Identifying the presence of: radon, formaldehyde, lead paint, asbestos, underground storage tanks, septic tanks, toxic or flammable materials in drywall, molds, fungi, other environmental hazards, pest infestation; Review of: security and fire protection systems, household appliances, humidifiers, paint, wallpaper and other treatments to windows, cosmetic damage to interior walls, ceilings, and floors, recreational equipment or facilities, pool/spa water purification systems (ozone generator/saltwater, etc.), underground storage tanks, energy efficiency measurements, motion or photo-electric sensor lighting, concealed systems, water wells, septic systems, overflow drains, heating system's accessories, solar heating systems, heat exchangers, sprinkling systems, load controllers, trees or plants, EIFS siding, potability of water supply; Determining compliance with governing building codes, ordinances, statutes, covenants, manufacturer specifications, recalls. Client understands that these systems, items, and conditions are excepted from this inspection. Any general comments about these systems, items, and conditions of the written report are informal only and DO NOT represent an inspection.

9. The Inspection and report are performed and prepared for the sole and exclusive use and possession of the Client. No other person or entity may rely on the report issued pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that any person, not a party to this Agreement, makes any claim against Inspector, its employees or agents, arising out of the services performed by Inspector under this Agreement, the Client agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Inspector from any and all damages, expenses, costs, and attorney fees arising from such a claim.

This report is prepared exclusively for John Doe

10. The Inspection will not include an appraisal of the value or a survey. The written report is not a compliance inspection or certification for past or present governmental codes or regulations of any kind.

11. In the event of a claim by the Client that an installed system or component of the premises which was inspected by the Inspector was not in the condition reported by the Inspector, the Client agrees to notify the Inspector at least 72 hours prior to repairing or replacing such system or component. The Client further agrees that the Inspector is liable only if there has been a complete failure to follow the standards adhered to in the report or Florida law. Furthermore, any legal action must be brought within two (2) years from the date of the inspection, or will be deemed waived and forever barred.

12. This inspection does not determine whether the property is insurable.

13. Exclusions of systems normally inspected:

#### DEFINITIONS

1. Apparent Condition: Systems and components are rated as follows:

**SATISFACTORY** (Sat.) - Indicates the component is functionally consistent with its original purpose but may show signs of normal wear and tear and deterioration.

MARGINAL (Marg.) - Indicates the component will probably require repair or replacement anytime within five years.

**POOR** - Indicates the component will need repair or replacement now or in the very near future.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES - A system or component that is considered significantly deficient, inoperable or is unsafe.

**SAFETY HAZARD** - Denotes a condition that is unsafe and in need of prompt attention.

2. Installed systems and components: structural components; exterior; interior; roofing; plumbing; electrical; heating; central air-conditioning (weather permitting); insulation and ventilation.

3. Readily accessible systems and components: only those systems and components where Inspector is not required to remove personal items, furniture, equipment, soil, snow, or other items which obstruct access or visibility.

4. Any component not listed as being deficient in some manner is assumed to be satisfactory.

Client agrees to release report to their realtor Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Signature of Client: \_

Date:\_

If contract was not signed at time of inspection, please sign and fax or email to inspector. fax 850-216-1218 email: choward@cmhhomeinspections.com

Inspector's Signature - Craig Howard: \_

Inspector's Address: 8416 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL

License/Certification # HI3833

Phone 850-567-2603

Date: 01/5/2019



1/5/2019

John Doe

### INVOICE

Home Inspection for 123 Oak Street, Tallahassee, FL	\$350.00
Wind Mitigation report (includes 50% discount with full home inspection)	50.00
Total	\$400.00

Please Mail a Check or Pay Online at the Following Link:

Pay CMH Online

CMH Home Inspections, IIc 8416 Mahan Drive Tallahassee, FL 32309

CMHHomeInspections.com 850.567.2603

		ROOF		
ROOF VISIBILITY	🛛 All	□ Partial	□ None	□ Limited by
STYLE OF ROOF Pitch	⊠ Gable □ Low	□ Hip ⊠ Medium	□ Mansard □ Steep	□ Other □ Flat
ROOF #1 ROOF #2	Type <u>Shingle</u> Type		□ Aprox. age <u>14 ye</u> □ Aprox. age	ears
Roof #1 Condition Roof #2 Condition Curling Roil popping	<ul> <li>Satisfactory</li> <li>Satisfactory</li> <li>Cracking</li> <li>Granules missing</li> <li>acement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Marginal</li> <li>Marginal</li> <li>Ponding</li> <li>Algae buildup</li> <li>Evidence of leaka</li> </ul>	☐ Poor ☐ Poor ☐ Burn spots ☐ Moss buildup ge	<ul> <li>Broken coverings</li> <li>Cupping</li> </ul>
VENTILATION	🔀 Soffit	🗖 Ridge	🔀 Gable	🛛 Roof
FLASHING	□ Not visible	⊠ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor
VALLEY FLASHING Condition	□ N/A □ Not visible	🖄 Not visible 🔯 Satisfactory	□ Galv/Alum □ Marginal	😡 Asphalt 🗖 Poor
PLUMBING VENTS	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ None
SKYLIGHTS	⊠ None □ Cracked / Broken	□ Satisfactory □ Breached seal	□ Marginal □ Rotted	□ Poor □ Evidence of leakage
CHIMNEYS Viewed from Cap/Spark Arrestor Chase Flue Condition	m 🖄 Roof 🗆 None 🗆 Stucco 🗆 Tile 🛛 Satisfactory	□ Ladder at eaves ☑ Present ☑ Framed ☑ Metal □ Marginal	□ Ground (Inspectio □ Damaged cap □ Metal □ Unlined □ Poor	on Limited) Rust □ Leakage Brick Not visible Recommend repair



3-tab asphalt shingles were about 14 years old. Typical useful life is 14-18 years. Early stages of curling at the corners of the shingles is consistent with the age of the roof. Patching noted at back of chimney. Plumbing vents were in good condition. Roof deck felt solid. Recommend keeping roof and gutters free of debris. Panel roof over back porch.



Carrier heat pump at side of home. Unit was 7 years old. Typical useful life of these components is 14-18 years.

Carrier air handler in attic. Unit was 7 years old. Typical useful life of these components is 14-18 years. The system produced a temperature differential in the normal range in the heating mode. Interior ambient temperature was too low to test system in cooling mode. Condition of interior portion of ductwork was not evaluated. Recommend annual service to optimize system. - Recommend insulating short section of exposed condensate drain line near air handler.

## ELECTRICAL

Location: Garage		Amperage <u>200</u>	Volts 120/240
🛛 Breakers	Fuses	□ Not accessible	□ Not evaluated
🖄 Yes	🗆 No		
□ Yes	🖾 No	Operable	🗖 Not Operable
🛛 Copper	🔀 Not visible	□ Aluminum - Recom	mend evaluation
🖾 Romex	□ BX cable	🖾 Conduit	🛛 Knob & tube
🗆 Double Tap	□ Undersize wire	🛛 Open knockout	Missing wire clamp
🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	$\square$ Recommend service/repair
🛛 Underground	Overhead	□ Weatherhead/Mas	t needs repair
🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Overhead wires too low
□ None	Present	<b>Q</b> Operable	🛛 Not Operable
□ Reverse polarity	Open ground	🔀 Weather proof	□ Needs weather protection
🛛 None	Present	🗖 Operable	🖾 Failed GFCI
□ Satisfactory	🛛 Marginal	🗖 Poor	Recommend GFCI
	Location: <u>Garage</u> Breakers   Yes   Yes   Yes   Copper   Romex   Double Tap   Satisfactory   Underground   Satisfactory   None   Reverse polarity   None   Satisfactory	Location: Garage	Location:       Garage       Amperage 200         Serakers       Fuses       Not accessible         Yes       No       Operable         Yes       No       Operable         Copper       Not visible       Aluminum - Recorr         Romex       BX cable       Conduit         Double Tap       Undersize wire       Open knockout         Satisfactory       Marginal       Poor         Underground       Overhead       Weatherhead/Mas         Satisfactory       Marginal       Poor         None       Present       Operable         None       Present       Operable         Satisfactory       Marginal       Poor

#### **FIXTURES**

A representative number of installed lighting fixtures, switches and receptacles located in the house, garage and exterior walls have been tested and found to be:

Problems Found Condition

- □ Reverse polarity Satisfactory
  - □ Open grounds 😡 Marginal
- **X** Faulty GFCIs D Poor
- □ Aluminum branch wire
- Recommend service/repair





Main electric panel manufactured by Square D was in the garage. 200 amp service was indicated. Copper branch wiring noted. Main shut-off at top of panel.

- For improved safety. recommend installing new GFCI protection at exterior, garage, kitchen and bathroom circuits (including jetted tub).

Recommend repair of the following:



No power at one of the outlets on back porch.



GFCI outlet in garage did not trip when tested.

## PLUMBING

WATER SERVICE				
Water entry pipe	🗵 Not visible	□ Copper/Galv	🗖 Lead	□ Plastic pvc, cpvc
Lead other than solde	r <b>□</b> Present	Not present	🔀 Unknown	Service entry
Visible Distribution	🛛 Copper	□ Galvanized	□ Plastic pvc. cpvc	🗖 Polybutylene
	Corroded	🗖 Leaking	🗖 Valve damage	
	🔀 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Functional Flow	🗴 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Drain, Waste & Vent	🖾 PVC	🖾 Cast Iron	Copper	□ ABS
	Corroded	🗖 Leaking	□ Improper slope	
	灯 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	
Functional Drainage	🔀 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
NAT GAS / LP / OIL	🛛 N/A	Main shut-off locatior	n:	
Storage Tank	□ N/A	🗖 Outside	🛛 Not visible	
Gas Lines	Black Iron	CSST	Brass/Copper	🗖 Rusted
	□ Satisfactory	Marginal	D Poor	□ Recommend evaluation
WELL PUMP	🖾 N/A	□ Well at shed	□ Shared well	□ Not visible
Pressure Gauge	□ Operable	□ Not operable	Pressure psi	
WATER HEATER #1	🔀 Electric	🗖 Gas	🗖 Solar	
Combustion venting	🖾 N/A	Present	Improper	□ Rusted
Condition	□ Satisfactory	🔀 Marginal	D Poor	□ Not Tested
SEPTIC SYSTEM	□ N/A	🗵 Present	🗵 Not inspected	



Main water shut-off at meter box in front.



Kitchen faucet was difficult to move from side to side.



Water for hall bathroom sink was turned off at valves in cabinet. No immediate evidence of leakage when faucet was tested. Inspector turned water back off at cut-off valves. Recommend review with owner.



Electric water heater was in garage. Unit was 22 years old. Typical useful life is 14-18 years. Unit functioned when tested.

## EXTERIOR





Cracking and settlement noted at driveway in a few locations. Recommend backfilling along edge of driveway and planting ground cover.



Recommend cleaning dryer duct.



Loose wood fence panel at right side.



Significant damage at chain link fence.



Recommend WDO inspection and any needed repairs. Some wood rot noted including at shutters and at beam in back porch.

# EXTERIOR

SERVICE WALKS	□ None □ Typical cracks	Concrete	<ul> <li>Flagstone</li> <li>Pitched towards ho</li> </ul>	□ Brick ome (See remarks)
Condition	Satisfactory		L Poor	L Irip hazard
DRIVEWAY	Concrete	□ Asphalt Ճ Settling cracks	□ Gravel/Dirt □ Pitched towards ho	□ Not visible ome (See remarks)
Condition	□ Satisfactory	🖾 Marginal	🗖 Poor	Trip Hazard
PORCH / COVERED	ENTRANCE	□ None		
Support Pier		□ Wood	□ Metal	
Condition	Satisfactory		D Poor	Railing recommended
PATIO	None			Block
Condition				ouse T Frosion
Finish	□ Treated	Painted/Stained	□ Wood rot □ Raili	ng/Balusters recommended
Condition	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor 🖾 Woo	od in contact with soil
DECK/PATIO/PORCH	COVERS	□ None	⊠Wood rot	
Condition	😡 Satisfactory	🙀 Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Wood in contact with soil
FENCE/WALL	□ None	□ Not evaluated		
Туре	Wood	□ Metal	□ Vinyl	Chain Link
Condition	Satisfactory		🛛 Poor	Planks missing/damaged
LANDSCAPING AFFE		ON Negative Grade	e □ Front □ Back	□ Side
Recommend ad	ditional backfill 🛛 Tr	rim back trees/shrubbe	eries D Wood with	improper clearance to soil
RETAINING WALL	None	Material		□ Rotted
Condition				
HOSE BIBS		Operable V	□ Leaking	□ Not tested
GUTTERS				
				L Holes
Condition	Satisfactory		D Poor	
SIDING	□ Metal/Vinvl	X Wood	□ Fiberboard	Composite/Cement Board
	□ Stucco	Brick/Block	EIFS Stucco (see ge	neral comments at back of report)
Condition	Typical cracks	□ Peeling paint	□ Siding Rot	Holes/damage
Condition	Satisfactory		Ll Poor	L Recommend painting
TRIM/SOFFIT/FASCIA	□ Metal/Vinyl	X Wood	□ Fiberboard	Composite Board
Condition	IVER Satisfactory		Report	Loose/Wissing/Holes     Recommend Painting
	Satisfactory			
Areas needed	U Windows			Penetrations
WINDOWS/SCREENS	□ Wood	□ Vinvl	□ Metal	Aluminum/Vinvl clad
Condition	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	□ Poor	Fogged insulated glass
Screens	Torn	🗖 Bent	□ Missing	□ Recommend repairs
EXTERIOR WALLS	🛛 Framed	□ Masonry	🖄 Not visible	
Condition	🔀 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Recommend repair
EXTERIOR DOORS	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	□ Wood rot
weather stripping	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	□ Poor	Recommend repair
SLAB/FOUNDATION	(Inspection of visible	area only)	_	
Foundation	Block	Poured concrete     Marginal	Ц	
Slab	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	Not visible

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	G	ARAGE / CAI	RPORT	
ТҮРЕ	□ Detached Ճ 1-Car	⊠ Attached □ 2-Car	□ 3-Car	□ 4-Car
POWER OPENER	□ None	⊠ Present	🛛 Operable	□ Not operable
Safety Reverse	⊠ Operable	□ None	🖾 Needs adjusting	□ Safety hazard
FLOOR	∑ Concrete	□ Asphalt	□ Gravel	<ul> <li>Dirt</li> <li>Offset cracks</li> <li>Yes/Safety hazard</li> <li>Recommend evaluation</li> </ul>
Condition	☑ Typical cracks	□ Spalling	□ Ponding	
Burners less than 18'	' above floor	⊠ N/A	□ No	
Condition	♀ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	□ Poor	
SILL PLATES	🛛 Not visible	□ Floor level	⊠ Elevated	□ Recommend repair
Condition	🔀 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	□ Rotted/damaged	
OVERHEAD DOOR	□ N/A	□ Wood	⊠ Metal	<ul> <li>Fiberglass</li> <li>Recommend repair</li> </ul>
Condition	⊠ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	□ Poor	
SERVICE DOOR	□ N/A	🖾 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor
OUTLETS	□ None □ Reverse polarity □ Extension cord wir	☑ Present □ Open ground ing	⊠ Operable □ GFCI □ Handyman wiring	□ Not Accessible ▲ Recommend GFCI
FIRE SEPARATION	□ N/A	Ă Present	□ Missing	
Fire Door	☑ Satisfactory	□ Not Verifiable	□ Not a fire door	
WALLS / CEILING	☐ Moisture stains ⊠ Satisfactory	□ Typical cracks □ Marginal	□ Wall Damage □ Poor	





For improved safety, recommend lowering reverse sensors for overhead door to within 6" of the ground.

## INTERIOR



Some patching noted at back panel of fireplace. Recommend monitoring for future wear and replace as needed.



Insulation was in contact with fireplace flue in attic. Recommend moving all combustibles away from flue and fireplace in attic. A 2" clearance should be maintained.



Recommend moving insulation away from blocked soffit vents in attic.



Recommend ducting master bathroom fan to roof or gable vent in attic.

KITCHEN				
COUNTERS	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Recommend caulking
CABINETS	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Recommend repair
PLUMBING Functional Flow Functional Drainage COMMENTS	<ul> <li>Faucet leaks</li> <li>Satisfactory</li> <li>Satisfactory</li> </ul>	□ Drain leaks □ Marginal □ Marginal	□ Pipes corroded □ Poor □ Poor	□ Sink chipped
WALLS / CEILING Condition	□ Typical cracks ☑ Satisfactory	□ Holes / damaged □ Marginal	□ Moisture stain □ Poor	
HEATING / COOLING	S SOURCE	🔀 Present	□ Missing	
FLOOR Condition	□ Sloping ⊠ Satisfactory	□ Squeaks □ Marginal	□ Moisture damage □ Poor	Recommend repairs
APPLIANCES Dishwasher airgap	<ul> <li>Refrigerator</li> <li>Stove</li> <li>Oven</li> <li>Dishwasher</li> <li>Disposal</li> <li>Hood Fan</li> <li>Microwave Oven</li> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>No</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not operable</li> <li>Xot operable</li> <li>Xot operable</li> <li>Xot operable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not tested</li> </ul>
ELEC. OUTLETS Condition GFCI Protection	<ul> <li>Present</li> <li>Reverse Polarity</li> <li>Present</li> </ul>	□ Not Present □ Open Ground ⊠ Not Present	<ul> <li>Operable</li> <li>Safety Hazard</li> <li>Operable</li> <li>FCI protection was not point</li> </ul>	present at kitchen outlets.

		LAUNDRY R	OOM	
Appliances Present	🛛 Washer	🗴 Dryer	🛛 Water heater	□ HVAC
Washer hook-ups	Leaking	Corroded	Not visible	
Dryer Venting	🖾 Through wall	🗖 Through floor	Ceiling	🛛 None / Safety hazard
Plastic dryer vent duct not recommended				
Laundry Sink	Present	Faucet leaks	🗖 Drain leaks	$\Box$ Cross connections
Electrical Outlets	ଯ Present	Not present	🖾 Operable	Not operable
	Reverse polarity	🗖 Open ground	Safety hazard	
GFCI Protection	□ Present	🔀 Not present	Operable	Recommend GFCI
Gas Shut-off Valve	🗶 N/A	Present	Not visible	🛛 None / Safety hazard
Heat Source	Present	🗖 Not present	Room vented	Room not vented

# BATHROOMS

#1 LOCATION	Master Bathroom		_	
Sinks	🕱 Faucet operable	Faucet leaks	🖄 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Tub 🛛 N/A	🗴 Faucet operable	Faucet leaks	🛛 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Shower 🛛 N/A	😡 Faucet operable	Faucet leaks	🔀 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Whirlpool 🗖 N/A	🛛 Operable	🛛 Not operable	□ Not tested	□ No access panel
Shower/Tub Surround	🛛 Ceramic	□ Plastic/Fiberglass	🗖 Masonite	□ Solid panels
	Caulking needed	□ Grout cracks	Damaged floor	Damaged walls
	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	
Toilet	😡 Operable	□ Bowl loose	🗖 Leaks	Runs Continously
Water flow	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Drainage	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Moisture Stains	□ Walls	Ceiling	🗖 Floor	□ Cabinets
Windows / Doors	🙀 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Heat Source	🛛 Present	□ Not present		
Exhaust Fan	🖾 Present	□ Not present	🖾 Operable	□ Not Operable
ELEC. OUTLETS	🛛 Present	Not Present	🔽 Operable	□ Not operable
Condition	□ Reverse Polarity	Open Ground	□ Safety Hazard	I
GFCI Protection	□ Present	🗴 Not Present	□ Operable	□ Not operable
COMMENTS Motor	r for tub jets activated	when tested		

#2 LOCATION	Hall Bathroom			
Sinks	🛛 Faucet operable	□ Faucet leaks	🛛 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Tub 🛛 N/A	🖄 Faucet operable	Faucet leaks	🛛 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Shower 🛛 N/A	🛛 Faucet operable	Faucet leaks	🗴 Drain operable	Drains Slowly
Whirlpool 🖄 N/A	□ Operable	🗖 Not operable	□ Not tested	□ No access panel
Shower/Tub Surround	🛛 Ceramic	□ Plastic/Fiberglass	□ Masonite	□ Solid panels
	□ Caulking needed	□ Grout cracks	Damaged floor	Damaged walls
	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	D Poor	-
Toilet	🛛 Operable	Bowl loose	🗖 Leaks	Runs Continously
Water flow	🖄 Satisfactory	Marginal	D Poor	
Drainage	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	
Moisture Stains	□ Walls	Ceiling	🗖 Floor	Cabinets
Windows / Doors	🔀 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	
Heat Source	🛛 Present	□ Not present		
Exhaust Fan	😡 Present	□ Not present	🙀 Operable	□ Not Operable / Noisy
ELEC. OUTLETS	🛛 Present	Not Present	🛛 Operable	□ Not operable
Condition	□ Reverse Polarity	🗖 Open Ground	□ Safety Hazard	1
GFCI Protection	□ Present	🖄 Not Present	□ Operable	□ Not operable
COMMENTS Water	for hall bathroom sink w	vas turned off at valves ir	n cabinet. No immediate	evidence of leakage when faucet

was tested. Inspector turned water back off at cut-off valves. Recommend review with owner.

		ROOMS		
OOM/LOCATION	Master Bedroom		_	
Walls & Ceilings	□ Typical cracks	🗖 Damaged	□ Moisture stains - lo	ocation
	🔀 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Floors	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	D Poor	🗖 Slopes / Squeaks
Windows / Doors	Faulty hardware	Missing hardware	Cracked glass	□ Thermal pane breach
	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Ceiling Fan	D N/A	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor
Egress Restricted	D N/A	🗖 No	□ Yes / Safety hazard	k
Heat Source	🛛 Present	Not present		
Electrical Outlets	🔀 Present	□ Not Present	🖄 Operable	🗖 Not operable
	Reverse Polarity	🗖 Open Ground	□ Safety Hazard	
COM/LOCATION	Back Bedroom			
Walls & Ceilings	□ Typical cracks	Damaged	☐ Moisture stains - lo	ocation
	Satisfactory		Poor	
Floors	Satisfactory			□ Slopes
Windows / Doors	□ Faulty hardware	□ Missing hardware	Cracked glass	Thermal pane breach
	🛛 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	
Ceiling Fan	□ N/A	🖾 Satisfactory	🗖 Marginal	🗖 Poor
Egress Restricted	□ N/A	🗖 No	□ Yes / Safety hazaro	ł
Heat Source	🛛 Present	Not present		
Electrical Outlets	🔀 Present	Not Present	🛛 Operable	Not operable
	Reverse Polarity	Open Ground	Safety Hazard	
	Front Bedroom			
Walls & Ceilings		Damaged	- □ Moisture stains - la	ocation
Walls & Cellings	Satisfactory			
Floors	X Satisfactory	Marginal	□ Poor	<b>D</b> Slopes
Windows / Doors	$\square$ Faulty hardware	Missing hardware		Thermal nane breach
	Satisfactory			
Ceiling Fan	$\square N/\Delta$	Satisfactory	□ Marginal	<b>D</b> Poor
Faress Restricted	$\square N/\Delta$	No	T Yes / Safety hazar	4
Lyress Nestricieu	Present	Not present	L 1637 Jarety Hazalt	A
Haat Source				
Heat Source	M Procont			
Heat Source Electrical Outlets	Present		Cofoty Horard	

		ROOMS		
ROOM/LOCATION	Living Room			
Walls & Ceilings	□ Typical cracks	Damaged	□ Moisture stains - lo	ocation
	灯 Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Floors	🖾 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	🗖 Slopes / Squeaks
Windows / Doors	Faulty hardware	Missing hardware	Cracked glass	□ Thermal pane breach
	🔀 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor	
Ceiling Fan	D N/A	🛛 Satisfactory	Marginal	🗖 Poor
Egress Restricted	□ N/A	🙀 No	□ Yes / Safety hazard	
Heat Source	🔀 Present	Not present		
Electrical Outlets	😡 Present	Not Present	🖳 Operable	Not operable
	Reverse Polarity	🗖 Open Ground	🗆 Safety Hazard	
COMMENTS				
Walls & Ceilings	Typical cracks	<b>D</b> Damaged	□ Moisture stains - Ic	ocation
Walls & Cellings	$\square$ Satisfactory	□ Marginal		
Floors	□ Satisfactory	☐ Marginal		□ Slopes
Windows / Doors	Faulty bardware	Missing hardware		Thermal pane breach
Windows / Doors	$\square$ Satisfactory			
Ceiling Fan	$\square N/\Delta$	Satisfactory		<b>D</b> Poor
Eaross Restricted			□ Marginal □ Yes / Safety bazard	
Heat Source	D Present	Not present		
Flectrical Outlets		Not Present	<b>D</b> Operable	□ Not operable
	Reverse Polarity		D Safety Hazard	
Walls & Ceilings	Typical cracks	Damaged	_ □ Moisture stains - lo	ocation
	□ Satisfactorv	□ Marginal	□ Poor	-
Floors	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor	□ Slopes
Windows / Doors	☐ Faulty hardware	☐ Missing hardware	□ Cracked glass	Thermal pane breach
	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	1
Ceiling Fan	N/A	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor
Egress Restricted	□ N/A	No	☐ Yes / Safety hazard	
Heat Source	Present	Not present	· · <b>,</b> · · · ·	
Electrical Outlets	□ Present	□ Not Present	Operable	□ Not operable
	□ Reverse Polaritv	Open Ground	□ Safety Hazard	1

## INTERIOR

WINDOWS / GLASS	<ul> <li>Representative num</li> <li>Faulty hardware</li> <li>Need adjustment</li> <li>Satisfactory</li> </ul>	mber of windows oper Missing hardware Safety glazing nee Marginal	rated Cracked glass ded - Safety hazard Poor	<ul> <li>Repairs needed</li> <li>Thermal pane breach</li> </ul>
Security Bars COMMENTS	Present	□ Not tested	□ Test mechanism before moving in & periodicall	
FIREPLACE	□ None	🖄 Wood Burning	🗖 Gas	□ Wood burning stove
Material	□ Masonry	🛛 Prefabricated	□ Cast iron / Metal	□ Stove insert
Damper	😡 Operable	🗖 Not operable	Missing	Modified for gas
Blower	□ Present	□ Operable	🗖 Not operable	Not tested
Condition	🛿 Hearth adequate	$\Box$ Hearth short	□ Mantel loose	$\square$ Doors in need of repair
	□ Open joints in fire	brick/panels	□ Recommend flue	cleaning
	🛛 Satisfactory	🛛 Marginal	🗖 Poor	Not Tested
COMMENTS Some p	atching noted at back pa	anel of fireplace. Recomr	mend monitoring for futu	ure wear and replace as needed.
STAIRS/BALCONIES	🛛 None	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	🗖 Poor
Handrails	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	Safety hazard
	□ Recommend hand	rail		
Risers / Tread	□ Satisfactory	□ Marginal	D Poor	□ Uneven
SMOKE DETECTORS	S 🗆 Missing	🖄 Present	🖄 Not Tested	🛛 Recommend Installing New
ATTIC	□ N/A	□ Stairs	🗖 Pulldown	🛛 Scuttle
Inspected from	□ Attic-full access	🔀 Attic-partial access	🛛 🛛 From ladder	Not accessible
Flooring	Complete	Partial	🖄 None	
Insulation	□ Batts	🔀 Loose fill	🛛 Fiberglass	🗖 Cellulose
	🛛 Displaced	Compressed	□ Missing	Depth <u>4″ - 12</u> ″
	🛛 Installed between	ceiling joists	□ Installed on under	side of roof deck
	Recommend addit	tional insulation	insulation 🛛 Recommend baffles	
Vapor Barrier	□ Kraft/Foil faced	Plastic	🔀 Not visible	□ None/Improperly installed
Ventilation	Appears adequate	e 🙀 Recommend addit	ional Ventilation	
Fans Exhaust to	🗖 Outside	Not visible	🛛 Attic	
HVAC Ducts	🗖 None	🛛 Satisfactory	🛛 Not visible	🗖 Leaking
	Disconnected	🗖 Repair	Recommend insul	ation
Chimney Chase	□ N/A	Satisfactory	Not visible	🛛 Needs repair
Roof Structure	🙀 Wood	□ Metal	Not visible	
	🛛 Trusses	Rafters	Collar ties	□ Knee walls
Roof Sheathing	□ OSB	🔀 Plywood	Planking	Spaced planking
-	Moisture stains	□ Wood rot	Delamination	🛛 Not visible
Ceiling Joists	🔀 Wood	🗖 Metal	Not visible	
Firewalls	😡 N/A	Present	Missing	Repairs needed
Electrical	□ Open junction bo>	🕻 🗖 Handyman Wiring	□ Knob and tube	Extension cord wiring
COMMENTS <u>Ins</u> ulati	on in contact with firepla	ace flue in attic. Recomm	end moving all combust	ibles away from flue and fire-
place in attic. A 2" c	learance should be main	tained.		

Recommend moving insulation away from blocked soffit vents in attic.

Recommend ducting master bathroom fan to roof or gable vent in attic.

### SUMMARY

#### ITEMS DAMAGED OR NOT OPERATING

HVAC: Recommend insulating short section of exposed condensate drain line near air handler

Electric: No power at one outlet on porch

Failed GFCI outlet in garage

Recommend installing new GFCI protection to exterior, garage, kitchen and bathroom circuits (including jetted tub)

Plumbing: Kitchen sink faucet was difficult to move from side to side Water was turned off at hall bathroom sink - review with owner

- Exterior: Some fence damage A few areas of wood rot Some cracking and settlement at driveway
- Garage: Recommend lowering garage door reverse sensors to within 6" of the floor Recommend cleaning dryer duct
- Interior: Some patching noted at back panel of fireplace Insulation in contact with flue in attic Clear insulation away from blocked soffit vents Duct master bathroom fan to roof or gable vent

**DEFERRED COST ITEMS** Items that have reached or are reaching their normal life expectancy and may require repair or replacement anytime during the next five (5) years.

Roof Water heater

\* Items listed in this report may inadvertently have been left off the Summary Sheet.

Customer should read the entire report, including the Remarks.

#### AN INSPECTION VERSUS A WARRANTY

A home inspection is just what the name indicates, an inspection of a home...usually a home that is being purchased. The purpose of the inspection is to determine the condition of the various systems and structures of the home. While an inspection performed by a competent inspection company will determine the condition of the major components of the home, no inspection will pick up every minute latent defect. The inspector's ability to find all defects is limited by access to various parts of the property, lack of information about the property and many other factors. A good inspector will do his or her level best to determine the condition of the home and to report it accurately. The report that is issued is an opinion as to the condition of the home. This opinion is arrived at by the best technical methods available to the home inspection industry. It is still only an opinion.

A warranty is a policy sold to the buyer that warrants that specific items in the home are in sound condition and will remain in sound condition for a specified period of time. Typically, the warranty company never inspects the home. The warranty company uses actuarial tables to determine the expected life of the warranted items and charges the customer a fee for the warranty that will hopefully cover any projected loss and make a profit for the warranty seller. It is essentially an insurance policy.

The service that we have provided you is an inspection. We make no warranty of this property. If you desire warranty coverage, please see your real estate agent for details about any warranty plan to which their firm may have access.

MECHANICAL DEVICES MAY OPERATE AT ONE MOMENT AND LATER MALFUNCTION; THEREFORE, LIABILITY IS SPECIFICALLY LIMITED TO THOSE SITUATIONS WHERE IT CAN BE CONCLUSIVELY SHOWN THAT THE MECHANICAL DEVICE INSPECTED WAS INOPERABLE OR IN THE IMMEDIATE NEED OF REPAIR OR NOT PERFORMING THE FUNC-TION FOR WHICH IS IT WAS INTENDED AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION.



### **INSPECTION REPORT PREPARED BY:** Craig Howard Lic #HI3833 and #R2239 CMH Home Inspections, Ilc 8416 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32309 850-219-9400 Cell 850-567-2603 choward@CMHHomeInspections.com



Craig

HOWARD

NACHI12010602

### GROUNDS

#### SERVICE WALKS/DRIVEWAYS

Spalling concrete cannot be patched with concrete because the new will not bond with the old. Water will freeze between the two layers, or the concrete will break up from movement or wear. Replacement of the damaged section is recommended. Walks or driveways that are close to the property should be properly pitched away to direct water away from the foundation. Asphalt driveways should be kept sealed and larger cracks filled so as to prevent damage from frost.

#### PATIOS

Patios that have settled towards the structure should be mudjacked or replaced to assure proper pitch. Improperly pitched patios are one source of wet basements/crawlspaces.

All surfaces of untreated wood need regular applications of paint or special chemicals to resist damage. Porch or deck columns and fence posts which are buried in the ground and made of untreated wood will become damaged within a year or two.

Decks should always be nailed with galvanized, stainless steal or aluminum nails. Decks that are not painted or stained should be treated with a water sealer.

#### GRADING AND DRAINAGE

Any system of grading or landscaping that creates positive drainage (moving water away from the foundation walls) will help to keep a basement and crawlspace dry. Where negative grade exists and additional backfill is suggested, it may require digging out around the property to get a proper pitch. Dirt shall be approximately 6" below the bottom sill and should not touch wood surfaces.

Flower beds, loose mulched areas, railroad ties and other such landscaping items close to the foundation trap moisture and contribute to wet basements. To establish a positive grade, a proper slope away from the house is 1" per foot for approximately 5-6 feet. Recommend ground cover planting or grass up to foundation.

#### ROOF AND SURFACE WATER CONTROL

Roof and surface water must be controlled to maintain a dry basement and crawlspace. This means keeping gutters cleaned out and aligned, extending downspouts, installing splashblocks, and building up the grade so that roof and surface water is diverted away from the building.

#### WINDOW WELLS

The amount of water which enters a window well from falling rain is generally slight, but water will accumulate in window wells if the yard is improperly graded. Plastic window well covers are useful in keeping out leaves and debris.

#### **RETAINING WALLS**

Retaining walls deteriorate because of excessive pressure buildup behind them, generally due to water accumulation. Conditions can often be improved by excavating a trench behind the retaining wall and filling it with coarse gravel. Drain holes through the wall will then be able to relieve the water pressure.

Retaining walls sometime suffer from tree root pressure or from general movement of topsoil down the slope. Normally, these conditions require rebuilding the retaining wall.

#### RAILINGS

It is recommended that railings be installed for any stairway over 3 steps and porches over 30" for safety reasons. Balusters for porches, balconies, and stairs should be close enough to assure children cannot squeeze through.

#### DEFINITIONS

SATISFACTORY - Indicates the component is functionally consistent with its original purpose but may show signs of

normal wear and tear and deterioration.

MARGINAL - Indicates the component will probably require repair or replacement anytime within five years.

**POOR** - Indicates the component will need repair or replacement now or in the very near future.

Valleys and flashing that are covered with shingles and/or tar or any other material are considered not visible and are not part of the inspection.

Tar and Gravel Roofs - This type of covering on a pitched roof requires ongoing annual maintenance. We recommend that a roofing contractor evaluate this type of roof. Infra-red photography is best used to determine areas of potential leaks.

Flat Roofs are very vulnerable to leaking. It is very important to maintain proper drainage to prevent the ponding of water. We recommend that a roofing contractor evaluate this type of roof.

ROOF TYPE	LIFE EXPECTANCY	SPECIAL REMARKS
Asphalt Shingles	15-20 years	Used on nearly 80% of all residential
		roofs; requires little maintenance.
Asphalt Multi-Thickness Shingles*	20-30 years	Heavier and more durable than regular
		asphalt shingles.
Asphalt Interlocking. Shingles*	15-25 years	Especially good in high-wind areas.
Asphalt Rolls	10 years	Used on low slope roofs.
Built-up Roofing	10-20 years	Used on low slope roofs; 2 to 3 times as
		costly as asphalt shingles.
Wood Shingles*	10-40 years	Treat with preservative every 5 years to
		prevent decay.
Clay Tiles*,	20 + years	Durable, fireproof, but not watertight, *
Cement Tiles*	20 + years	requiring a good subsurface base.
Slate Shingles*	30-100 years 2	Extremely durable, but brittle and
		expensive.
Asbestos Cement Shingles*	30-75 years	Durable, but brittle and difficult to
		repair.
Metal Roofing	15-40 + years	Comes in sheets & shingles; should be
		well grounded for protection from
		lightning; certain metals must be painted.
Single Ply	15-25 years	New material; not yet passed test of time.
Membrane (mfgr's claim) Polyurethane	5-10 years 1	Used on low slope roofs.
with Elastomenic Coating		

\* Not recommended for use on low slope roof

Depending on local conditions and proper installation

<sup>2</sup> Depending on quality of slate

Roof coverings should be visually checked in the spring and fall for any visible missing shingles, damaged coverings or other defects. Before re-roofing, the underside of the roof structure and roof sheathing should be inspected to determine that the roof structure can support the additional weight of the shingles.

Wood shakes and shingles will vary in aging, due to the quality of the material, installation, maintenance, and surrounding shade trees. Ventilation and drying of the wood material is critical in extending the life expectancy of the wood. Commercial preservatives are available on the market, which could be applied to wood to impede deterioration.

### EXTERIOR

#### CHIMNEYS

Chimneys built of masonry will eventually need tuckpointing. A cracked chimney top that allows water and carbonic acid to get behind the surface brick/stone will accelerate the deterioration. Moisture will also deteriorate the clay flue liner. Periodic chimney cleaning will keep you apprised of the chimney's condition. The flashing around the chimney may need resealing and should be inspected every year or two. Fireplace chimneys should be inspected and evaluated by a chimney professional before using. Chimneys must be adequate height for proper drafting. Spark arrestors are recommended for a wood burning chimney, and chimney caps for fossil fuels. Unlined Chimney - should be re-evaluated by a chimney technician. Have flue cleaned and re-evaluated. The flue lining is covered with soot or creosote and no representation can be made as to the condition.

#### NOT EVALUATED

The flue was not evaluated due to inaccessibility such as roof pitch, cap, cleanout not accessible, etc.

#### **CRICKET FLASHING**

Small, sloped structure made of metal and designed to drain moisture away from a chimney. Usually placed at the back of a chimney.

#### **GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS**

This is an extremely important element in basement/crawlspace dampness control. Keep gutters clean and downspout extensions in place (4' or more). Paint the inside of galvanized gutters, which will extend the life. Shortly after a rain or thaw in winter, look for leaks at seams in the gutters. These can be recaulked before they cause damage to fascia or soffit boards. If no gutters exist, it is recommended that they be added.

#### SIDING

Wood siding should not come in contact with the ground. Wood rot and insect intrusion will more readily occur.

Brick and stone veneer must be monitored for loose or missing mortar. Some brick and stone are susceptible to spalling. This can be caused when moisture is trapped and a freeze/thaw situation occurs.

Some composite siding tiles on older homes may contain asbestos. The risk is fairly minimal because the tiles are rigid and asbestos fibers seldom become airborne. Some additional disposal costs could be incurred if siding is removed. If concerned recommend having siding tested by an accredited lab.

#### EIFS SIDING (Exterior Insulation and Finish System - Synthetic Stucco)

Determining if EIFS application and underlying components were properly installed, cannot be determined by a visual inspection alone and is beyond the scope of this inspection. In some cases stucco systems may allow moisture to penetrate the exterior and become trapped, creating latent problems. Consider consulting a certified stucco specialist to further evaluate any stucco system to determine if the architectural details are correct; and to test for the possibility of moisture intrusion.

#### DOORS AND WINDOWS

These can waste an enormous amount of energy. Maintain the caulking around the frames on the exterior. Check for drafts in the winter and improve the worst offenders first. Windows that have leaky storm windows will usually have a lot of sweating. Likewise, well-sealed storms that sweat indicate a leaky window. It is the tighter unit that will sweat (unless the home has excess humidity to begin with).

Wood that exhibits blistering or peeling paint should be examined for possible moisture sources: roof leaks, bad gutters, interior moisture from baths or laundry or from a poorly vented crawl space. Some paint problems have no logical explanation, but many are a symptom of an underlying problem. A freshly painted house may mask these symptoms, but after you have lived in the home for a year or two, look for localized paint blistering (peeling). It maybe a clue.

New glazing will last longer if the raw wood is treated with boiled linseed oil prior to glazing. It prevents the wood from drawing the moisture out of the new glazing.

#### CAULKING

Many different types of caulk are available on the market today. Check with a paint or hardware store for the kind of application you need.

### GARAGE

#### OVERHEAD DOOR OPENERS

We recommend that a separate electrical outlet be provided. Openers that do not have a safety reverse are considered a safety hazard. Small children and pets are especially vulnerable. We recommend the operating switches be set high enough so children cannot reach them. If a electric sensor is present, it should be tested occasionally to ensure it is working.

#### GARAGE SILL PLATES

Garage sill plates should be elevated or treated lumber should be used. If this is not the case, try to direct water away to prevent rotting.

#### BURNERS

Any appliance such as a water heater, furnace, etc. should have the flame a minimum of 18" above the floor.

### **CRAWL SPACE**

#### **CRAWL SPACES**

Crawl spaces are shallow spaces between the first level floor joist and the ground. Access to this area may be from the inside, outside or not accessible at all. Ductwork, plumbing, and electrical may be installed in the space in which access may be necessary. The floor of the crawl space may be covered with concrete, gravel, or may be the original soil. A vapor barrier may be a sheet of plastic or tar paper and installed over or under this material. The vapor barrier will deter the moisture from the earth from escaping into the crawl space and causing a musty smell. Ventilation is also important to control excess moisture buildup. Vents may be located on the outside of the house and are normally kept open in the summer and closed for the winter (where freezing may occur). The basement/crawl space diagram indicates areas that are covered and not part of a visual inspection. Every attempt is made to determine if paneling is warped, moisture stains are bleeding through, etc. Storage that blocks the visibility of a wall is not removed to examine that area. Therefore, it is important that on your walk-through before closing, you closely examine these areas. Closed crawl spaces that have vents to the outside should have insulation under the floor above the crawl space.

#### MONITOR

Monitor indicates that the walls have stress cracks, but little movement has occurred. In our opinion, the cracks should be filled with mortar and the walls monitored for further movement and cracking. If additional movement or cracking occurs, reinforcement may be necessary.

#### HAVE EVALUATED

Have evaluated indicates our recommendation that the walls be re-evaluated by a structural engineer or basement/crawlspace repair company and estimates be obtained if work is required.

#### FOUNDATION (COVERED WALLS)

Although an effort has been made to note any major inflections or weaknesses, it is difficult at best to detect these areas when walls are finished off, basement/crawlspace storage makes areas inaccessible or edges of slabs have been covered with stucco or other decorative facing. No representation is made as to the condition of these walls.

#### MOISTURE PRESENT

Basement/crawlspace dampness is frequently noted in houses and in most cases the stains, moisture or efflorescence present is a symptom denoting that a problem exists outside the home. Usual causes are improper downspout extensions or leaking gutters and/or low or improper grade (including concrete surfaces) at the perimeter of the house. A proper slope away from the house is one inch per foot for four to six feet. Expensive solutions to basement/crawlspace dampness are frequently offered. It is possible to spend thousands of dollars on solutions such as pumping out water that has already entered or pumping of chemical preparations into the ground around the house, when all that may be necessary are a few common sense solutions at the exterior perimeter. However, this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of causes and solutions to the presence of moisture. No repre-sentation is made to future moisture that may appear.

### BASEMENT

#### BASEMENT/CRAWLSPACE

Any basement/crawlspace that has cracks or leaks is technically considered to have failed. Most block basements/crawlspace have step cracks in various areas. If little or no movement has occurred and the step cracks are uniform, this is considered acceptable. Horizontal cracks in the third or fourth block down indicate the block has moved due to outside pressure. They can be attributed to many factors such as improper grading, improperly functioning gutter and downspout system, etc. Normally if little or no movement has taken place and proper grading and downspouts exist, this is considered acceptable. If the wall containing the stress crack(s) has moved considerably, this will require some method of reinforcement. Basements/crawlspace that have been freshly painted or tuckpointed should be monitored for movement. This will be indicated by cracks reopening. If cracks reappear, reinforcement may be necessary. Reinforcing a basement/crawlspace wall can become expensive.

#### FOUNDATION (COVERED WALLS)

Although an effort has been made to note any major inflections or weaknesses, it is difficult at best to detect these areas when walls are finished off, basement/crawlspace storage makes areas inaccessible or edges of slabs have been covered with stucco or other decorative facing. No representation is made as to the condition of these walls.

#### INSULATED CONCRETE FORMS

(ICF'S) are formwork for concrete that stays in place as permanent building insulation for energy-efficient, cast-inplace, reinforced concrete walls, floors and roofs.

#### MONITOR

Monitor indicates that the walls have stress cracks, but little movement has occurred. In our opinion, the cracks should be filled with mortar and the walls monitored for further movement and cracking. If additional movement or cracking occurs, reinforcement may be necessary.

#### HAVE EVALUATED

Have evaluated indicates our recommendation that the walls be re-evaluated by a structural engineer or basement/crawlspace repair company and estimates be obtained if work is required.

#### VAPOR BARRIER

Floors that are dirt or gravel should be covered with a vapor barrier.

#### MOISTURE PRESENT

Basement/crawlspace dampness is frequently noted in houses and in most cases the stains, moisture or efflorescence present is a symptom denoting that a problem exists outside the home. Usual causes are improper downspout extensions or leaking gutters and/or low or improper grade (including concrete surfaces) at the perimeter of the house. A proper slope away from the house is one inch per foot for four to six feet. Expensive solutions to basement/crawlspace dampness are frequently offered. It is possible to spend thousands of dollars on solutions such as pumping out water that has already entered or pumping of chemical preparations into the ground around the house, when all that may be necessary are a few common sense solutions at the exterior perimeter. However, this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of causes and solutions to the presence of moisture. No representation is made to future moisture that may appear.

#### PALMER VALVE

Many older homes have a valve in the floor drain. This drain needs to remain operational.

#### DRAIN TILE

We offer no opinion about the existence or condition of the drain tile, as it cannot be visibly inspected.

#### BASEMENT ELECTRICAL OUTLETS

We recommend that you have an outlet within 6' of each appliance. The appliance you plan to install may be different than what exists, therefore the inspection includes testing a representative number of receptacles that exist. It is also recommended to have ground fault circuit interrupts for any outlet in the unfinished part of the basement and crawl spaces.

#### PLASTER ON WOOD LATH

Plaster on wood lath is an old technique and is no longer in general use. Wood lath shrinks with time and the nails rust and loosen. As a result, the plaster may become fragile and caution is needed in working with this type of plastering system. Sagging ceilings are best repaired by laminating drywall over the existing plaster and screwing it to the ceiling joists.

#### PLASTER ON GYPSUM LATH (ROCK LATH)

Plaster on gypsum lath will sometimes show the seams of the 16" wide gypsum lath, but this does not indicate a structural fault. The scalloping appearance can be leveled with drywall joint compound and fiberglass mesh joint tape or drywall can be laminated over the existing plaster on the ceiling.

#### WOOD FLOORING

Always attempt to clean wood floors first before making the decision to refinish the floor. Wax removers and other mild stripping agents plus a good waxing and buffing will usually produce satisfactory results. Mild bleaching agents help remove deep stains. Sanding removes some of the wood in the floor and can usually be done safely only once or twice in the life of the floor.

#### NAIL POPS

Drywall nail pops are due to normal expansion and contraction of the wood members to which the drywall is nailed and are usually of no structural significance.

#### CARPETING

Where carpeting has been installed, the materials and condition of the floor underneath cannot be determined.

#### **APPLIANCES**

(If report indicated appliances were operated, the following applies) Dishwashers are tested to see if cycle begins. Stoves are tested to see that burners are working and oven and broiler get hot. Timer and controls are not tested. Refrigerators are not tested. Most new Dishwashers have the drain line looped automatically and may not be visible on the day of inspection. It is essential for the dishwasher drain line to have an anti-siphon break to prevent backflow. A drain line loop or Dishwasher air gap should be installed if found to be missing. No representation is made to continued life expectancy of any appliance.

#### ASBESTOS AND OTHER HAZARDS

Asbestos fibers in some form are present in many homes, but are often not visible and cannot be identified without testing. Some acoustic ceiling paint spray-on coatings contain asbestos. Textured ceiling paints that contain asbestos were banned in the late 1970s. If there is reason to suspect that asbestos may be present and if it is of particular concern, a sample of the material in question may be removed and analyzed in a laboratory. However, detecting or inspecting for the presence or absence of asbestos is not a part of our inspection. Also excluded from this inspection and report are the possible presence of, or danger from, radon gas, lead-based paint (lead paints were widely used until the late 1970s), urea formaldehyde, toxic or flammable chemicals and all other similar or potentially harmful substances and environmental hazards. Review the EPAs website for additional information about lead paint, asbestos and other hazardous substances.

#### WINDOWS

A representative number of windows are inspected.

#### WINDOW FRAMES AND SILLS

Window frames and sills are often found to have surface deterioration due to condensation that has run off the window and damaged the varnish. Usually this can be repaired with a solvent style refinisher and fine steel wool. This is sometimes a sign of excess humidity in the house.

#### DOOR STOPS

All swinging doors should be checked for door stops. Broken or missing door stops can result in door knobs breaking through drywall or plaster.

#### **CLOSET GUIDES**

Sliding closet doors should be checked to see that closet guides are in place. Missing or broken closet guides can cause scratches and damage to doors.

#### COLD AIR RETURNS

Bedrooms that do not have cold air returns in them should have a 3/4" gap under the doors to allow cold air to be drawn into the hall return.

### INTERIOR

#### **FIREPLACES**

It is important that a fireplace be cleaned on a routine basis to prevent the buildup of creosote in the flue, which can cause a chimney fire. Masonry fireplace chimneys are normally required to have a terra cotta flue liner or 8 inches of masonry surrounding each flue in order to be considered safe and to conform with most building codes. During visual inspections, it is not uncommon to be unable to detect the absence of a flue liner either because of stoppage at the firebox, a defective damper or lack of access from the roof.

#### WOODBURNERS

Once installed, it can be difficult to determine proper clearances for woodburning stoves. Manufacturer specifications, which are not usually available to the inspector, determine the proper installation. We recommend you ask the owner for paperwork, verifying that it was installed by a professional contractor.

#### VENTILATION

Ventilation is recommended at the rate of one square foot of vent area to 300 square feet of attic floor space, this being divided between soffit and rooftop. Power vents should ideally have both a humidistat and a thermostat, since ventilation is needed to remove winter moisture as well as summer heat. Evidence of condensation such as blackened roof sheathing, frost on nail heads, etc. is an indication that ventilation may have been or is blocked or inadequate.

#### **INSULATION**

The recommended insulation in the attic area is R-38, approximately 12". If insulation is added, it is important that the ventilation is proper and that soffit vents are not blocked.

#### VAPOR BARRIERS

The vapor barrier should be toward the interior of the home. Most older homes were built without vapor barriers. If the vapor barrier is towards outside of the home, it should be sliced or removed. Most vapor barriers in the attic are properly covered by insulation and therefore, not visible.

#### SMOKE DETECTORS

Smoke detectors should be tested monthly. At least one detector should be on each level. CO detectors are not required by most states, but for safety reasons, are highly recommended. Unless otherwise stated these alarms have not been tested by the inspector.

#### SAFETY GLAZING

Safety glazing requirements vary depending on the age of the home. Every attempt is made to identify areas where the lack of safety glazing presents an immediate safety hazard, such as a shower door. In some older homes it is difficult to determine if safety glazing is present, since the glass is not marked. Therefore, no representation is made that safety glazing exists in all appropriate areas.

#### **INSULATED GLASS**

Broken seal in thermopane/insulated windows are not always visible nor detectible due to humidity and temperature changes during the day. Other factors such as window covering, dirty windows, and lack of accessibility, personal property placed in front of the windows all affect the view of the windows at the time of the inspection.

#### LEAD BASED PAINT

Lead based paint was in use until approximately 1978. According to the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, a lead hazard can be present in a house of this age. This can only be confirmed by laboratory analysis. If you did not have us test for lead in paint, you may want to contact the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) for more information and guidance, and a list of testing labs in your area.

### BATHROOMS

#### STALL SHOWER

The metal shower pan in a stall shower has a potential or probable life of 10-20 years depending on quality of the pan installed. Although a visible inspection is made to determine whether a shower pan is currently leaking, it cannot be stated with certainty that no defect is present or that one may not soon develop. Shower pan leaks often do not show except when the shower is in actual use.

#### CERAMIC TILE

Bathroom tile installed in a mortar bed is excellent. It is still necessary to keep the joint between the tile and the tub/shower caulked or sealed to prevent water spillage from leaking through and damaging the ceilings below. Ceramic tile is often installed in mastic. It is important to keep the tile caulked or water will seep behind the tile and cause deterioration in the wallboard. Special attention should be paid to the area around faucets and other tile pene-trations.

#### EXHAUST FANS

Bathrooms with a shower should have exhaust fans when possible. This helps to remove excess moisture from the room, preventing damage to the ceiling and walls and wood finishes. The exhaust fan should not be vented into the attic. The proper way to vent the fan(s) is to the outside. Running the vent pipe horizontally and venting into a gable end or soffit is preferred. Running the vent pipe vertically through the roof may cause condensation to run down the vent pipe, rusting the fan and damaging the wallboard. Insulating the vent pipe in the attic will help to reduce this problem.

#### **SLOW DRAINS**

Slow drains on sinks, tubs, and showers are usually due to build up of hair and soap scum. Most sink popups can be easily removed for cleaning. Some tubs have a spring attached to the closing lever that acts as a catch for hair. It may require removing a couple of screws to disassemble. If you cannot mechanically remove the obstruction, be kind to your pipes. Don't use a caustic cleaner. There are several bacteria drain cleaners available. They are available at hardware stores in areas where septic tanks are used. These drain cleaners take a little longer to work, but are safe for you and your pipes.

#### SAFETY HAZARDS

Typical safety hazards found in bathrooms are open grounds or reverse polarity by water. Replacing these outlets with G.F.C.I.'s are recommended.

#### WHIRLPOOL TUBS

This relates to interior tubs hooked up to interior plumbing. Where possible, the motor will be operated to see that the jets are working. Hot tubs and spas are not inspected.

### PLUMBING

#### WELLS

Examination of wells is not included in this visual inspection. It is recommended that you have well water checked for purity by the local health authorities and, if possible, a check on the flow of the well in periods of drought. A well pit should have a locked cover on it to prevent anyone from falling into the pit.

#### SEPTIC SYSTEMS

The check of septic systems is not included in our visual inspection. You should have the local health authorities or other qualified experts check the condition of the septic system. In order for the septic system to be checked, the house must have been occupied within the last 30 days.

#### WATER PIPES

Galvanized water pipes rust from the inside out. Useful life varies widely from 45 to 65 years. Copper pipes usually have more life expectancy and may last as long as 60 -80 years before needing to be replaced.

#### HOSE BIBS

During the winter months it is necessary to make sure the outside faucets are winterized. This can be done by means of a valve located in the basement. Leave the outside faucets open to allow any water standing in the pipes to drain, preventing them from freezing. Hose bibs cannot be tested when winterized.

#### WATER HEATER

The life expectancy of a water heater is 14-18 years. It is a good maintenance practice to drain 5-10 gallons from the heater several times a year. Missing relief valves or improper extension present a safety hazard. Historically drip pans under water heaters have not always been required. Current best practices require a pan under water heaters that are located in living areas. Pan should drain to an acceptable location.

#### WATER SOFTENERS

During a visual inspection it is not possible to determine if water is being properly softened.

#### PLUMBING

The temperature/pressure valve should be tested several times a year by lifting the valve's handle. Caution: very hot water will be discharged. If no water comes out, the valve is defective and must be replaced.

#### SHUT-OFF VALVES

Most shut-off valves have not been operated for long periods of time. We recommend operating each shut-off valve to: toilet bowl, water heater, under sinks, main shut-off, hose faucets, and all others. We recommend you have a plumber do this, as some of the valves may need to be repacked or replaced. Once the valves are in proper operating order, we recommend opening and closing these valves several times a year. None of these valves have been operated by the inspector.

#### POLYBUTYLENE PIPING

This type of piping has a history of problems and should be examined by a licensed plumber and repaired or replaced as necessary.

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#### CSST

Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing is an alternative to traditional black iron gas piping. It is a continuous, flexible, stainless steel pipe with an exterior PVC covering.

### **HVAC**

#### HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

Units have limited lives. Normal lives are:

GAS-FIRED HOT AIR 15-25 years
OIL-FIRED HOT AIR 20-30 years
CAST IRON BOILER
STEEL BOILER 30-40 years
COPPER BOILER 10-20 years
CIRCULATING PUMP (Hot water) 10-15 years
AIR CONDITIONING COMPRESSOR 8-12 years
HEAT PUMP 8-12 years

Gas-fired hot air units that are close to or beyond their normal lives have the potential of becoming a source of carbon monoxide in the home. You may want to have such a unit checked every year or so to assure yourself that it is still intact. Of course a unit of such an age is a good candidate for replacement with one of the new, high efficiency furnaces. The fuel savings alone can be very attractive.

Boilers and their systems may require annual attention. If you are not familiar with your system, have a heating contractor come out in the fall to show you how to do the necessary thing Caution: do not add water to a hot boiler!

Forced air systems should have filters changed every 30 to 60 days of the heating and cooling season. This is especially true if you have central air conditioning. A dirty air system can lead to premature failure of your compressor - a \$1,500 machine.

Oil-fired furnaces and boilers should be serviced by a professional each year. Most experts agree you will pay for the service cost in fuel saved by having a properly tuned burner.

Read the instructions for maintaining the humidifier on your furnace. A malfunctioning humidifier can rust out a furnace rather quickly. It is recommended that the humidifier be serviced at the same time as the furnace, and be cleaned regularly. During a visual inspection it is not possible to determine if the humidifier is working.

Heat exchangers cannot be examined nor their condition determined without being disassembled. Since this is not possible during a visual, non-technically exhaustive inspection, you may want to obtain a service contract on the unit or contact a furnace technician regarding a more thorough examination.

Testing pilot safety switch requires blowing out the pilot light. Checking safety limit controls requires disconnecting blower motor or using other means beyond the scope of this inspection. If the furnace has not been serviced in last 12 months you may want to have a furnace technician examine.

CO Test - This is not part of a non-technical inspection.

the phrase "have HVAC technician examine" indicates that a condition was found that suggests a heating contractor should do a further analysis. We suggest doing this before closing.

### ELECTRICAL

#### SERVICE / AMPERAGE

Every effort has been made to evaluate the size of the service. Three wires going into the home indicate 240 volts. The total amperage can be difficult to determine. Main service wiring for housing is typically 240 volts. The minimum capacity for newer homes is 100 amps though many older homes still have 60 amp service. Larger homes or all electric homes will likely have a 200 amp service. Main service wiring may be protected by one or more circuit breakers or fuses. While most areas allow up to six main turnoffs, expanding from these panels is generally not allowed.

#### GFCI

We highly recommend that ground fault circuit interrupters (G.F.C.I.) be connected to all outlets around water. This device automatically shuts the circuit off when it senses a current leak to ground. This device can be purchased in most hardware stores. G.F.C.I.'s are recommended by all outlets located near water, outside outlets, or garage outlets. Pool outlets should also be protected with a G.F.C.I. If you do have G.F.C.I.'s, it is recommended that you test (and reset) them monthly.

#### KNOWN PROBLEMS

Knob and tube wiring found in older homes should be checked by an electrician to insure that the wire cover is in good condition. Under no circumstances should this wire be covered with insulation.

Recess light fixtures should have a baffle around them so that they are not covered with insulation. The newer recessed fixtures will shut off if they overheat. (no representation is made as to proper recess lighting fixtures).

Federal Pacific Stab-Lok® Electrical panels may be unsafe. See www.google.com (Federal Pacific)

Aluminum wiring in general lighting circuits has a history of over heating, with the potential of a fire. If this type of wiring exists, a licensed electrical contractor should examine the whole system.

#### ARC FAULTS

In some areas arc Faults are required for bedrooms in new homes starting in 2002. In some areas arc Faults are required for all 120 Volt circuits that are not GFCI protected in new homes starting in 2009. Upgrade as desired for enhanced safely.

#### **REVERSE POLARITY**

A common problem that surfaces in many homes is reverse polarity. This is a potentially hazardous situation in which the hot and neutral wires of a circuit are reversed at the outlet, thereby allowing the appliance to incorrectly be connected. This is an inexpensive item to correct. Each receptacle has a brass and silver screw. The black wire should be wired to the brass screw and the white wire should go to the silver screw. When these wires are switched, this is called "reverse polarity." Turning off the power and switching these wires will correct the problem.

#### COOLING

Testing A/C System and Heat Pump- The circuit breakers to A/C should be on for a minimum of 24 hours and the outside temperature at least 60 degrees for the past 24 hours or an A/C system cannot be operated without possible damage to the compressor. Check the instructions in your A/C manual or on the outside compressor before starting up in the summer.

Heat pump can only be tested in the mode it's running in. Outside temperature should be at least 65° for the past 24 hours to run in cooling mode. Temperature differential, between 14°-22°, is usually acceptable. If out of this range, have an HVAC contractor examine it. It is not always feasible to do a differential test due to high humidity, low outside temperature, etc.

#### A/C CONDENSER COIL

They should not become overgrown with foliage. Clearance requirements vary, but 2' on all sides should be considered minimal with up to 6' of air discharge desirable. If a clothes dryer vent is within five to ten feet, either relocate the vent or do not run when the A/C is running. The lint will quickly reduce the efficiency of the A/C unit.

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

- I. FOUNDATION and MASONRY: Basements, Exterior Walls: To prevent seepage and condensation problems.
  - a. Check basement for dampness and leakage after wet weather.
  - b. Check chimneys, deteriorated chimney caps, loose and missing mortar.
  - c. Maintain grading sloped away from foundation walls.
- II. ROOFS, GUTTERS, and EAVESTROUGH: To prevent roof leaks, condensation, seepage, and decay problems.
  - a. Check for damaged, loose or missing shingles, blisters.

b. Clean gutters, leaders, strainers, window wells, drains. Be sure downspouts direct water away from foundation. Cut back tree limbs.

c. Check flashing around roof stacks, vents, skylights, chimneys, as sources of leakage. Check vents, louvers and chimneys for birds nests, squirrels, insects.

d. Check fascias and soffits for paint flaking, leakage and decay.

- **III. EXTERIOR WALLS:** To prevent paint failure, decay, and moisture penetration problems.
  - a. Check painted surface for paint flaking or paint failure. Cut back shrubs.
  - b. Check exterior masonry walls for cracks, looseness, missing or broken mortar.
- IV. DOORS AND WINDOWS: To prevent air and weather penetration problems.

a. Check caulking for decay around doors, windows, corner boards, joints. Recaulk and weatherstrip as needed. Check glazing, putty around windows.

- V. ELECTRICAL: For safe electrical performance, mark and label each circuit.
  - a. Trip circuit breakers every six months and ground fault circuit interrupters (G.F.C.I.) monthly.
  - b. Check condition of lamp cords, extension cords and plugs. Replace at first sign of wear and damage.
  - c. Check exposed wiring and cable for wear or damage.

d. If you experience slight tingling shock from handling or touching any appliance, disconnect the appliance and have it repaired. If lights flicker or dim, or if appliances go on and off unnecessarily, call a licensed electrician.

- VI. PLUMBING: For preventive maintenance.
  - a. Drain exterior water lines, hose bibbs, sprinklers, pool equipment in the fall.
  - b. Draw off sediment in water heaters monthly or per manufacturer's instructions.
  - c. Have septic tank cleaned every 2 years.
  - VII. HEATING and COOLING: For comfort, efficiency, energy conservation and safety.
  - a. Change or clean furnace filters, air condition filters, electronic filters as needed.
  - b. Clean and service humidifier. Check periodically and annually.
  - c. Have oil burning equipment serviced annually.

#### VIII. INTERIOR: General house maintenance.

a. Check bathroom tile joints, tub grouting and caulking. Be sure all tile joints in bathrooms are kept well sealed with tile grout to prevent damage to walls, floors and ceilings below.

b. Close crawl vents in winter and open in summer.

c. Check underside of roof for water stains, leaks, dampness & condensation, particularly in attics and around chimneys.

#### IX. KNOW THE LOCATION OF:

- Main water shutoff valve.
- Main emergency shutoff switch for the heating system.
- Main electrical disconnect or breaker.