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| ASHRAE Technical FAQ |
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| ID  | 88 |
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| Question  | Which energy estimating software packages are recommended by ASHRAE? |
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| Answer  | It is not the role of ASHRAE to recommend one particular energy estimating software package over another. Instead, ASHRAE provides in Chapter [F19](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/f19-energy-estimating-and-modeling-methods-i-p?product_id=1974789) (Energy Estimating and Modeling Methods) of the [2021 ASHRAE Handbook - Fundamentals](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2021-ashrae-handbook-fundamentals-i-p?product_id=2224991) a section entitled "Selecting Energy Analysis Computer Programs". This section discusses the major considerations in making a selection. They principally include:\* Complexity of input\* Quality of the output\* Availability of weather data\* Auxiliary capabilities\* Availability of good support to answer questionsChapter [F19](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/f19-energy-estimating-and-modeling-methods-i-p?product_id=1974789) also covers the broader issue of "Choosing an Analysis Method".In regard to a listing of the available energy estimating programs, the U.S. Department of Energy ([US DOE](http://www.doe.gov)) maintains an up-to-date listing of such programs. Available at no charge through their website ([www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/listings/software-tools](http://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/listings/software-tools)), it currently includes over 200 building energy software tools including whole building as well as component and special application programs. This website includes a summary of each software program's characteristics, strengths and limitations, plus hotlinks to other sites for specific cost and availability information.The handbook and the other ASHRAE publications may be purchased and/or individual chapters of the handbook may be purchased and downloaded on-line at our website, [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org) or by calling 1-800-527-4723 in the USA and Canada or 1-404-636-8400 worldwide. |
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| ASHRAE Pubs  | [2021 ASHRAE Handbook - Fundamentals](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2021-ashrae-handbook-fundamentals-i-p?product_id=2224991), Chapter [F19](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/f19-energy-estimating-and-modeling-methods-i-p?product_id=1974789) |
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| Topic References  | energy estimating software |
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|  | Cognizant ASHRAE Committees | Refer to Organization |
| 1 | [TC 4.7](http://tc0407.ashraetcs.org/) |  |
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