

### BLM Mod.3.5#2: The Effect of Closing Doors on Home Heating

**Question**

- Is energy saved by closing doors to unoccupied rooms?

**Materials**

- thermometer
- Data-Recording Chart

**Method**

- Set the home heating system at a constant temperature for several hours.
- Set the heating system at the same constant temperature for each day data is being recorded.
- Record the data for two days (e.g., Saturday and Sunday).  
**Note:** The weather and/or sun conditions should be fairly constant so as not to invalidate the data being recorded.
- Record data at the same time each day.
- Record data for several rooms of different sizes (e.g., bedrooms, bathroom).
- Record the first temperature data when the doors to the rooms are opened. Then close them, and take a second reading after the doors have been closed for at least four hours. The reverse will also work.

#### Room Temperature: Data-Recording Chart

The thermostat for the home is set at \_\_\_\_\_

Room	Date	Temperature Door(s) Open	Temperature Door(s) Closed

What do you conclude about closing doors to unoccupied rooms for energy conservation?

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If you have air-intake vents, do you think opening or closing them would make a difference?