



# Home Inspection Report

Professional Certified Inspectors

*REPORT*

[www.pcihomeinspections.com](http://www.pcihomeinspections.com)

# PCI Home Inspections LLC

**"Professional Certified Inspectors"**

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## CONFIDENTIAL INSPECTION REPORT

PREPARED FOR:

**Sample Customer**

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### INSPECTION ADDRESS

123 Home Inspection Way, Anytown, AZ 85111

### INSPECTION DATE

3/22/2018 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm



**This report is the exclusive property of the Inspection Company and the client whose name appears herewith, and its use by any unauthorized persons is prohibited.**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Inspection Address:** 123 Home Inspection Way, Anytown, AZ 85111  
**Inspection Date:** 3/22/2018 Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
**Weather:** Partly Cloudy - Temperature at time of inspection: 70-80 Degrees

**Inspected by:** Paul Cummins AZHI Cert #55010

**Client Information:** Sample Customer  
/, /, AZ /  
Phone: 480-688-3649  
Mobile: /  
Fax: /  
EMail: paul@pcihomeinspections.com

**Inspection Fee:** \$ 325.00

**Structure Type:** Wood Frame  
**Foundation Type:** Slab  
**Furnished:** Partial  
**Number of Stories:** Tri Level

**Structure Orientation:** South

**Estimated Year Built:** 1983  
**Unofficial Sq.Ft.:** 1650

**People on Site At Time of Inspection:** Buyer(s)  
Buyer's Agent

### General Property Conditions

#### PLEASE NOTE:

This report is the exclusive property of PCI Home Inspections L.L.C. and the client whose name appears herewith, and its use by any unauthorized persons is strictly prohibited.

The observations and opinions expressed within this report are those of PCI Home Inspections LLC and supercede any alleged verbal comments. We inspect all of the systems, components, and conditions described in accordance with the standards of professional practice of the Arizona American Society of Home Inspectors, and those that we do not inspect are clearly disclaimed in the contract and/or in the aforementioned standards. However, some components that are inspected and found to be functional may not necessarily appear in the report, simply because we do not wish to waste our client's time by having them read an unnecessarily lengthy report about components that do not need to be serviced.

In accordance with the terms of the contract, the service recommendations that we make in this report should be completed well before the close of escrow by licensed specialists, who may well identify additional defects or recommend some upgrades that could affect your evaluation of the property.

Report File: Sample Report 4-18

## SCOPE OF WORK

You have contracted with PCI Home Inspections LLC to perform a generalist inspection in accordance with the standards of practice established by the AZ Board of Technical Registration and the Arizona, American Society of Home Inspectors, a copy of which is available upon request. Generalist inspections are essentially visual, and distinct from those of specialists, inasmuch as they do not include the use of specialized instruments, the dismantling of equipment, or the sampling of air and inert materials. Consequently, a generalist inspection and the subsequent report will not be as comprehensive, nor as technically exhaustive, as that generated by specialists, and it is not intended to be. The purpose of a generalist inspection is to identify significant defects or adverse conditions that would warrant a specialist evaluation. Therefore, you should be aware of the limitations of this type of inspection, which are clearly indicated in the standards. However, the inspection is not intended to document the type of cosmetic deficiencies that would be apparent to the average person, and certainly not intended to identify insignificant deficiencies.

Most homes built after 1979, are generally assumed to be free of asbestos and many other common environmental contaminants. However, as a courtesy to our clients, we are including some well documented, and therefore public, information about several environmental contaminants that could be of concern to you and your family, all of which we do not have the expertise or the authority to evaluate, such as asbestos, radon, methane, formaldehyde, termites and other wood-destroying organisms, pests and rodents, molds, microbes, bacterial organisms, and electromagnetic radiation, to name some of the more commonplace ones. Nevertheless, we will attempt to alert you to any suspicious substances that would warrant evaluation by a specialist. However, health and safety, and environmental hygiene are deeply personal responsibilities, and you should make sure that you are familiar with any contaminant that could affect your home environment. You can learn more about contaminants that can affect your home from a booklet published by The environmental Protection Agency, which you can read online at [www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/insidest.htm](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/insidest.htm).

Mold is one such contaminant. It is a microorganism that has tiny seeds, or spores, that are spread on the air, land, and feed on organic matter. It has been in existence throughout human history, and actually contributes to the life process. It takes many different forms, many of them benign, like mildew. Some characterized as allergens are relatively benign but can provoke allergic reactions among sensitive people, and others characterized as pathogens can have adverse health effects on large segments of the population, such as the very young, the elderly, and people with suppressed immune systems. However, there are less common molds that are called toxigens that represent a serious health threat. All molds flourish in the presence of moisture, and we make a concerted effort to look for any evidence of it wherever there could be a water source, including that from condensation. Interestingly, the molds that commonly appear on ceramic tiles in bathrooms do not usually constitute a health threat, but they should be removed. However, some visibly similar molds that form on cellulose materials, such as on drywall, plaster, and wood, are potentially toxigenic. If mold is to be found anywhere within a home, it will likely be in the area of tubs, showers, toilets, sinks, water heaters, evaporator coils, inside attics with unvented bathroom exhaust fans, and return-air compartments that draw outside air, all of which are areas that we inspect very conscientiously. Nevertheless, mold can appear as though spontaneously at any time, so you should be prepared to monitor your home, and particularly those areas that we identified. Naturally, it is equally important to maintain clean air-supply ducts and to change filters as soon as they become soiled, because contaminated ducts are a common breeding ground for dust mites, rust, and other contaminants. Regardless, although some mold-like substances may be visually identified, the specific identification of molds can only be determined by specialists and laboratory analysis, and is absolutely beyond the scope of our inspection. Nonetheless, as a prudent investment in environmental hygiene, we categorically recommend that you have your home tested for the presence of any such contaminants, and particularly if you or any member of your family suffers from allergies or asthma. Also, you can learn more about mold from an Environmental Protection Agency document entitled "A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home," by visiting their web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldguide.html/>, from which it can be downloaded.

Asbestos is a notorious contaminant that could be present in any home built before 1978. It is a naturally occurring mineral fiber that was first used by the Greek and Romans in the first century, and it has been widely used throughout the modern world in a variety of thermal insulators, including those in the form of paper wraps, bats, blocks, and blankets. However, it can also be found in a wide variety of other products too numerous to mention, including duct insulation and acoustical materials, plasters, siding, floor tiles, heat vents, and roofing products. Although perhaps recognized as being present in some documented forms, asbestos can only be

specifically identified by laboratory analysis. The most common asbestos fiber that exists in residential products is chrysotile, which belongs to the serpentine or white-asbestos group, and was used in the clutches and brake shoes of automobiles for many years. However, a single asbestos fiber is said to be able to cause cancer, and is therefore a potential health threat and a litigious issue. Significantly, asbestos fibers are only dangerous when they are released into the air and inhaled, and for this reason authorities such as the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and the Consumer Product Safety Commission [CPSC] distinguish between asbestos that is in good condition, or non-friable, and that which is in poor condition, or friable, which means that its fibers could be easily crumbled and become airborne. However, we are not specialists and, regardless of the condition of any real or suspected asbestos-containing material [ACM], we would not endorse it and recommend having it evaluated by a specialist.

Radon is a gas that results from the natural decay of radioactive materials within the soil, and is purported to be the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. The gas is able to enter homes through the voids around pipes in concrete floors or through the floorboards of poorly ventilated crawlspaces, and particularly when the ground is wet and the gas cannot easily escape through the soil and dispersed into the atmosphere. However, it cannot be detected by the senses, and its existence can only be determined by sophisticated instruments and laboratory analysis, which is completely beyond the scope of our service. However, you can learn more about radon and other environmental contaminants and their affects on health, by contacting the EPA or a similar state agency, and it would be prudent for you to enquire about any high radon readings that might be prevalent in the general area surrounding your home.

Lead poses an equally serious health threat. In the 1920's, it was commonly found in many plumbing systems. In fact, the word "plumbing" is derived from the Latin word "plumbum," which means lead. When in use as a component of a waste system, it does not constitute a viable health threat, but as a component of potable water pipes it would certainly be a health-hazard. Although rarely found in use, lead could be present in any home build as recently as the nineteen forties. For instance, lead was an active ingredient in many household paints, which can be released in the process of sanding, and even be ingested by small children and animals chewing on painted surfaces. Fortunately, the lead in painted surfaces can be detected by industrial hygienists using sophisticated instruments, but testing for it is not cheap. There are other environmental contaminants, some of which we have already mentioned, and others that may be relatively benign. However, we are not environmental hygienists, and as we stated earlier we disclaim any responsibility for testing or establishing the presence of any environmental contaminant, and recommend that you schedule whatever specialist inspections that may deem prudent before the close of escrow.

## Desription of Terms

Thank you for choosing PCI Home Inspections LLC for your property inspection needs. We hope that you find your report valuable and are pleased with our service. Your report represents our professional opinion regarding conditions present at the time of the inspection. Due to the quantity and complexity of components and systems contained at the property, inspections can be helpful in identifying some, although not eliminating all risks associated with ownership. We have visibly inspected the visible and safely accessible portions of the major structural components, plumbing, heating, and electrical systems for signs of significant non-performance, excessive or unusual wear and state of general repair. Your property inspection report is documented with narratives categorized under the following sections.

It is important to evaluate all sections to gain the most valuable assessment of the general condition and the conditions of its components. The following definitions of each section will be helpful when reviewing your report.

### COMPONENTS AND CONDITIONS NEEDING SERVICE:

Conditions that present safety issues, require repair/ replacement, inaccessible, or items that are no longer functioning as intended.

When any condition is so designated as needing service, it is recommended that a qualified specialist, licensed when applicable (who may well identify additional conditions or recommended safety upgrades), be retained as soon as possible to perform additional evaluation and any necessary modifications or corrective measures.

### NORMAL MAINTENANCE OR MONITOR:

#### NORMAL MAINTENANCE:

Any condition so designated is typical and common for the age and type of component inspected.

To reduce the potential for additional or accelerated deterioration, it is recommended that attention to normal maintenance conditions be performed as part of an ongoing, prudent, periodic property and building maintenance program. Customers may wish to consider upgrading of existing systems or components when such maintenance is performed.

#### MONITOR:

When a condition is so designated, it indicates that no current action is specified. However, factors which contributed to the condition may be ongoing or may recur. Therefore, such conditions should be periodically observed for any change. If a change is observed, a qualified specialist, licensed when applicable, should be retained to examine the condition for any necessary modifications or corrective measures.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

General information about the property, various components locations, system types, details and maintenance tips.

#### FUNCTIONAL ITEMS:

Components and systems that are contained on the property and the home, when tested at the time of the inspection, were in acceptable condition and functioning as intended.

**HOWEVER SOME COMPONENTS THAT ARE INSPECTED AND FOUND TO BE FUNCTIONAL MAY NOT NECESSARILY APPEAR IN THE REPORT, SIMPLY BECAUSE WE DO NOT WISH TO PROVIDE AN UNNECESSARILY LENGTHY REPORT ABOUT COMPONENTS THAT DO NOT NEED SERVICE.**

## Structural

All structures are dependent on the soil beneath them for support, but soils are not uniform. Some that might appear to be firm and solid can liquefy and become unstable during seismic activity. Also, there are soils that can expand to twice their volume with the influx of water and move structures with relative ease, raising and lowering them and fracturing slabs and other hard surfaces. In fact, expansive soils have accounted for more structural damage than most natural disasters. Regardless, foundations are not uniform, and conform to the structural standard of the year in which they were built. In accordance with our standards of practice, we identify foundation types and look for any evidence of structural deficiencies. However, cracks or deteriorated surfaces in foundations are quite common. In fact, it would be rare to find a raised foundation wall that was not cracked or deteriorated in some way, or a slab foundation that did not include some cracks concealed beneath the carpeting and padding. Fortunately, most of these cracks are related to the curing process or to common settling, including some wide ones called cold-joint separations that typically contour the footings, but others can be more structurally significant and reveal the presence of expansive soils that can predicate more or less continual movement. We will certainly alert you to any suspicious cracks if they are clearly visible. However, we are not specialists, and in the absence of any major defects we may not recommend that you consult with a foundation contractor, a structural engineer, or a geologist, but this should not deter you from seeking the opinion of any such expert.

### Various Hard Surfaces

#### Common Observations

##### *Informational Conditions*

There are common settling, or curing, cracks in the hard surfaces. This is somewhat predictable, and is typically not regarded as being structurally significant, but we are not specialists and you may wish to have this confirmed by one.

The visible portions of the hard surfaces, such as the house walls, yard walls, concrete decks, and walkways, are in acceptable condition. However, such surfaces are subject to damage caused by soil movement, etc.

### Structural Elements

#### Identification of Wall Structure

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The walls are conventionally framed with wooden studs. The walls are in acceptable condition.

#### Identification of Floor Structure

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The first floor structure consists of a poured slab that could include reinforcing steel. The floor is in acceptable condition unless noted elsewhere.

The second floor structure includes sheathing over conventional or engineered lumber. The second floor is in acceptable condition. unless noted elsewhere.

##### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The wood floor has sections that have typical deflection and noise when walked on.

#### Identification of Ceiling Structure

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The ceiling structure consists of engineered joists that are part of a prefabricated truss system.

The ceiling structure consists of standard joists.

#### Identification of Roof Structure

##### *Informational Conditions*

The ceiling structure consists of engineered joists that are part of a prefabricated truss system.

The roof structure is conventionally framed with rafters, purlins, collar-ties, et cetera.

## Identification of Columns

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

Columns consist of framing and stucco in same manor has house walls and are in acceptable condition.

## Slab Foundation

### General Comments

#### *Informational Conditions*

This residence has a slab foundation. Such foundations vary considerably from older ones that have no moisture barrier under them and no reinforcing steel within them to newer ones that have both. Our inspection of slab foundations conforms to industry standards, which is that of a generalist and not a specialist. We check the visible portion of the stem walls on the outside for any evidence of significant cracks or structural deformation, but we do not move furniture or lift carpeting and padding to look for cracks or moisture penetration, and we do not use any of the specialized devices that are used to establish relative elevations and confirm differential movement. Significantly, many slabs are built or move out of level, but the average person may not become aware of this until there is a difference of more than one inch in twenty feet, which most authorities regard as being tolerable.

Many slabs are found to contain cracks when the carpet and padding are removed, including some that contour the edge and can be quite wide. They typically result from shrinkage and usually have little structural significance. However, there is no absolute standard for evaluating cracks, and those that are less than 1/4" and which exhibit no significant vertical or horizontal displacement are generally not regarded as being significant. Although they typically do result from common shrinkage, they can also be caused by a deficient mixture of concrete, deterioration through time, seismic activity, adverse soil conditions, and poor drainage, and if they are not sealed they can allow moisture to enter a residence, and particularly if the residence is surcharged by a hill or even a slope, or if downspouts discharge adjacent to the slab. However, in the absence of any major defects, we may not recommend that you consult with a foundation contractor, a structural engineer, or a geologist, but this should not deter you from seeking the opinion of any such expert, and we would be happy to refer one.

### Method of Evaluation

#### *Informational Conditions*

We evaluated the slab foundation on the exterior, by examining the visible stem walls that project above the footing at the base of the house walls. The interior portions of the slab, which is also known as the slab floor, have little structural significance and, inasmuch as they are covered and not visually accessible, it is beyond the scope of our inspection.

### Common Observations

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The residence has a slab foundation with no visible or significant abnormalities.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

Portions of the stem wall are covered and could not be evaluated.

## Exterior

With the exception of town homes, condominiums, and residences that are part of a planned urban development, or PUD, we evaluate the following exterior features: driveways, walkways, fences, gates, handrails, guardrails, yard walls, carports, patio covers, decks, building walls, fascia and trim, balconies, doors, windows, lights at exterior doors, and outlets. However, we do not evaluate any detached structures, such as storage sheds and stables, and we do not water test or evaluate subterranean drainage systems or any mechanical or remotely controlled components, such as driveway gates. Also, we do not evaluate landscape components, such as trees, shrubs, fountains, ponds, statuary, pottery, fire pits, patio fans, heat lamps, and decorative or low-voltage lighting. In addition, we do not comment on coatings or cosmetic deficiencies and the wear and tear associated with the passage of time, which would be apparent to the average person. However, cracks in hard surfaces can imply the presence of expansive soils that can result in continuous movement, but this could only be confirmed by a geological evaluation of the soil.



## Site & Other Observations

### Notice to Absent Clients

#### *Informational Conditions*

We prefer to have our clients present, during, or immediately following the inspection so that we can elaborate on what may well be complicated or technical issues that could be somewhat difficult for the average person to understand. Inasmuch as you were not present, you are required to read the whole report and not just the summary report, and to consult with us directly. Also, please verify anything that we may have been purported to have said.

### Fresh Paint Comments

#### *Informational Conditions*

The building exterior appears to have been recently painted. You should be aware that fresh paint can hide potential conditions in need of service or maintenance. Such conditions can possibly go unnoticed and any such conditions should have already been disclosed to the buyers by the sellers.

### Wood Destroying Insects

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

There is evidence of or conditions conducive to wood destroying insects. Please refer to termite inspection report for details.

480 Termite (also their phone number)

### Renovations & Additions

#### *Informational Conditions*

The property has been renovated or remodeled. Therefore, you should request documentation that should include permits and any warranties or guarantees that might be applicable, because we do not approve or tacitly endorse any work done without permits, and latent defects could exist.

### Landscaping Observations

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

A tree limbs are threatening the roof and eaves, and should be trimmed or removed before it damages the roof or eaves.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The roots of mature trees (Past or present) could have an adverse effect on either the water main or the sewer pipe, and you may wish to consult an arborist who could predict future growth potential.

A tree that is adjacent to the foundation should be monitored for any growth that might affect the foundation.

Trees that are adjacent to the yard wall should be monitored.

Planting areas are adjacent to the foundation . Best practice is no irrigation adjacent to the house.

## Grading & Drainage

### General Comments

#### *Informational Conditions*

Water can be destructive and foster conditions that are deleterious to health. For this reason, the ideal property will have soils that slope away from the residence and the interior floors will be several inches higher than the exterior grade. Also, the residence will have roof gutters and downspouts that discharge into area drains with catch basins that carry water away to hard surfaces. However, we cannot guarantee the condition of any subterranean drainage system, but if a property does not meet this ideal, or if any portion of the interior floor is below the exterior grade, we cannot endorse it and recommend that you consult with a grading and drainage contractor, even though there may not be any evidence of moisture intrusion. The sellers or occupants will obviously have a more intimate knowledge of the site than we could possibly hope to have during our limited visit, however we have confirmed moisture intrusion in residences when it was raining that would not have been apparent otherwise. Also, in conjunction with the cellulose material found in most modern homes, moisture can facilitate the growth of biological organisms that can compromise building materials and produce mold-like substances that can have an adverse affect on health.

## Moisture & Related Issues

### *Informational Conditions*

Moisture intrusion is a perennial problem, with which you should be aware. It involves a host of interrelated factors, and can be unpredictable, intermittent, or constant. When moisture intrusion is not self evident, it can be inferred by musty odors, peeling paint or plaster, efflorescence, or salt crystal formations, rust on metal components, and wood rot. However, condensation and humidity can produce similar conditions if the temperature in an area is not maintained above the dew point. Regardless, if the interior floors of a residence are at the same elevation or lower than the exterior grade we could not rule out the potential for moisture intrusion and would not endorse any such areas. Nevertheless, if such conditions do exist, or if you or any member of your family suffers from allergies or asthma, you should schedule a specialist inspection.

## Interior-Exterior Elevations

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

In some areas the landscaping material is near or up to the weep screed. This condition is not desirable because it conceals the stem wall and helps pest infiltrate the walls. Ideally there should be 4"- 6" of clear space below the weep screed.

- East side yard.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

There is an adequate difference in elevation between the exterior grade and the interior floors that should ensure that moisture intrusion would not threaten the living space, but of course we cannot guarantee that. There are areas of living space below grade, which will be susceptible to moisture intrusion. There is no evidence of intrusion at this time, but one could not guarantee that it would not occur. The exterior walls may have been coated with waterproofing compounds that can lose their resilience and eventually permit intrusion. Therefore, it will be important to monitor these areas and particularly during the rainy season, and you may also wish to have a second opinion.

## Flat & Level Pad

### *Informational Conditions*

The residence is situated on a flat level pad, which would typically not need a geological evaluation. However, inasmuch as we do not have the authority of a geologist you may wish to have a site evaluation.

## Drainage Mode

### *Informational Conditions*

Drainage on this property is solely dependant on soil-percolation and hard surfaces, and there are no roof gutters or area drains. Such conditions are not ideal, and water may pond at various points during prolonged rains. Therefore, you may wish to have a specialist evaluate, but we did not see any evidence of moisture contaminating the living space.

## Drainage Swales

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The drainage swales are clear and clean, and should be kept clean for the general maintenance of the property.

## Area Drains

### *Informational Conditions*

The property is served by area drains that appear to be in acceptable condition. However, because it is impossible to see inside them, the seller should guarantee that the drains are functional, or they should be flushed through to the street before the close of escrow. Surface water carries minerals and silt that is deposited inside the pipes and hardens in the summer months to the consistency of wet concrete, which can impede drainage and require the pipes to be cleared by a roofer service.

## House Wall Finish

### House Wall Finish Type

#### *Informational Conditions*

The house walls are finished with a combination of stucco and composite textured wood siding.

### House Wall Finish Observations

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

Check and seal penetrations, gaps and dings at the exterior walls including the transition areas at the window/door surrounds as needed to prevent moisture and or pest intrusion.

- Multiple gaps and trim/fascia that should be serviced.
- Trim boards at the south side, windows and garage should be sealed
- Large gaps at chimney should be sealed.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

There are typical cracks/ imperfections in the stucco, All cracks result from movement, and are structural in that respect, but the vast majority of them have only a cosmetic significance. However, you may wish to have this confirmed by a specialist.

## **Exterior Components**

### **General Comments**

#### *Informational Conditions*

It is important to maintain a property, including painting or sealing walkways, decks, and other hard surfaces, and it is particularly important to keep the house walls sealed, which provide the only barrier against deterioration. Unsealed cracks around windows, doors, and thresholds can permit moisture intrusion, which is the principle cause of the deterioration of any surface. Unfortunately, the evidence of such intrusion may only be obvious when it is raining. We have discovered leaking windows while it was raining that may not have been apparent otherwise. Regardless, there are many styles of windows but only two basic types, single and dual-glazed. Dual-glazed windows are superior, because they provide a thermal as well as an acoustical barrier. However, the hermetic seals on these windows can fail at any time, and cause condensation to form between the panes. Unfortunately, this is not always apparent, which is why we disclaim an evaluation of hermetic seals. Nevertheless, in accordance with industry standards, we test a representative number of unobstructed windows, and ensure that at least one window in every bedroom is operable and facilitates an emergency exit.

### **Driveways**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The driveway is in acceptable condition unless noted otherwise.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

There are predictable cracks in the driveway that would not necessarily need to be serviced.

### **Walkways**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The walkway is in acceptable condition

### **Exterior Doors**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

- A door rubs, and needs to be serviced to work smoothly.
- Front door.

### **Outlets**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The outlets that were tested are functional and include ground-fault protection unless otherwise noted.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

- A cover plate is damaged or missing and should be replaced.
- Rear patio.

### **Lights**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The lights outside the doors of the residence are functional. However, we do not inspect or evaluate decorative lights, lights on photo cells or motion detector lighting.

#### *Informational Conditions*

We do not evaluate low-voltage, lights on photo cells or decorative lights, such as Malibu lights, which you may wish to have the sellers demonstrate.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Flood at north west rear yard is damaged and should be serviced. Noted that the breaker labeled rear floods trips and will not stay in on position.

### **Sliding Glass Doors**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The sliding glass door is in acceptable condition and is labeled as tempered.

### **Windows**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The single glazed windows are in acceptable condition unless noted elsewhere.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

A window will need service to work well.

- Windows that do not slide properly are the kitchen and family room east windows. Weather stripping damaged at east family room window.
- The down stairs bathroom west window does not lock.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The windows appear to be the same age as the house and will not necessarily function smoothly. In accordance with industry standards, we only test a representative sample of windows. However, we do test every unobstructed window in every bedroom to ensure that they facilitate an emergency exit.

### **Screens**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The window screens are functional unless noted elsewhere.

### **Fascia & Trim**

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

Sections of the fascia need maintenance type service, and particularly on the west and south facing sides where exposed to direct sunlight.

Sections of the trim need maintenance type service, and particularly on the west and south facing sides where exposed to direct sunlight.

### **Eaves**

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The eaves would benefit with some maintenance. Paint peeling and it is newer paint.

### **Patio Covers or Gazebos**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The patio is in acceptable condition.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

Paint on the patio ceiling is peeling.

### **Electrical**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

Electrical Conditions:

There are exposed electrical conductors. Current industry standards require that exterior conductors be placed in a protective conduit and you may wish to have further evaluated and serviced as necessary.

- Rear flood light.

### **Gates**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The gate is functional and would not need service at this time.

### **Yard Walls**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The west yard walls can be easily moved and should be evaluated by a masonry contractor.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

There are typical stress fractures or grout joint separations in the yard walls.

# Roof

There are many different roof types, which we evaluate by walking on their surfaces. If we are unable or unwilling to do this for any reason, we will indicate the method that was used to evaluate them. Every roof will wear differently relative to its age, the number of its layers, the quality of its material, the method of its application, its exposure to direct sunlight or other prevalent weather conditions, and the regularity of its maintenance. Regardless of its design-life, every roof is only as good as the waterproof membrane beneath it, which is concealed and cannot be examined without removing the roof material, and this is equally true of almost all roofs. In fact, the material on the majority of pitched roofs is not designed to be waterproof only water-resistant. However, what remains true of all roofs is that, whereas their condition can be evaluated, it is virtually impossible for anyone to detect a leak except as it is occurring or by specific water tests, which are beyond the scope of our service. Even water stains on ceilings, or on the framing within attics, could be old and will not necessarily confirm an active leak without some corroborative evidence, and such evidence can be deliberately concealed. Consequently, only the installers can credibly guarantee that a roof will not leak, and they do. We evaluate every roof conscientiously, and even attempt to approximate its age, but we will not predict its remaining life expectancy, or guarantee that it will not leak. Naturally, the sellers or the occupants of a residence will generally have the most intimate knowledge of the roof and of its history. Therefore, we recommend that you ask the sellers about it, and that you either include comprehensive roof coverage in your home insurance policy, or that you obtain a roof certification from an established local roofing company.

## Composition Shingle Roof

### General Comments

#### *Informational Conditions*

There are a wide variety of composition shingle roofs, which are comprised of asphalt or fiberglass materials impregnated with mineral granules that are designed to deflect the deteriorating ultra-violet rays of the sun. The commonest of these roofs are warranted by manufacturers to last from twenty to twenty-five years, and are typically guaranteed against leaks by the installer for three to five years. The actual life of the roof will vary, depending on a number of interrelated factors besides the quality of the material and the method of installation. However, the first indication of significant wear is apparent when the granules begin to separate and leave pockmarks or dark spots. This is referred to as primary decomposition, which means that the roof is in decline, and therefore susceptible to leakage. This typically begins with the hip and ridge shingles and to the field shingles on the south facing side. This does not mean that the roof needs to be replaced, but that it should be monitored more regularly and serviced when necessary. Regular maintenance will certainly extend the life of any roof, and will usually avert most leaks that only become evident after they have caused other damage.

### Method of Evaluation

#### *Informational Conditions*

We evaluated the roof and its components by walking portions of its surface and also viewed from ladder and or field glasses. All portions off the roof were not visible.

### Estimated Age

#### *Informational Conditions*

The roof appears to be relatively new, and is not original. However, this is just an estimate and you should request the installation permit from the sellers, which will reveal its exact age and any warranty or guarantee that might be applicable.

### Roofing Material

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The roof is in acceptable condition, but this is not a guarantee against leaks. For a guarantee, you would need to have a roofing company perform a water-test and issue a roof certification.

### Underlayment

#### *Informational Conditions*

Regardless of its design life, every roof is only as good as the waterproof membrane (underlayment) beneath it, which is concealed and cannot be fully examined without removing the roof material.

## Flashings

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The roof flashings need to be sealed or serviced. They are comprised of metal that seals valleys and vents and other roof penetrations, and are the most common point of leaks. This is particularly true of the flashings on a layered roof, which are covered by the roofing material and which are even more susceptible to leaks.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The roof penetrations have been sealed with mastic, instead of conventional metal roof jacks, and will need to be monitored.

## Gutters & Drainage

### *Informational Conditions*

There are no gutters on the residence, which are recommended for the general welfare of the residence and its foundation, inasmuch as moisture is a perennial problem.

## Patio Roof

### **Patio Roof**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The composite rolled roofing at patio roof is in acceptable condition.

# Plumbing

Plumbing systems have common components, but they are not uniform. In addition to fixtures, these components include gas pipes, water pipes, pressure regulators, pressure relief valves, shut-off valves, drain and vent pipes, and water-heating devices, some of which we do not test if they are not in daily use. The best and most dependable water pipes are copper, because they are not subject to the build-up of minerals that bond within galvanized pipes, and gradually restrict their inner diameter and reduce water volume. Water softeners can remove most of these minerals, but not once they are bonded within the pipes, for which there would be no remedy other than a re-pipe. The water pressure within pipes is commonly confused with water volume, but whereas high water volume is good high water pressure is not. In fact, whenever the street pressure exceeds eighty pounds per square inch a regulator is recommended, which typically comes factory preset between forty-five and sixty-five pounds per square inch. However, regardless of the pressure, leaks will occur in any system, and particularly in one with older galvanized pipes, or one in which the regulator fails and high pressure begins to stress the washers and diaphragms within the various components.

Waste and drainpipes pipes are equally varied, and range from modern ABS ones [acrylonitrile butadiene styrene] to older ones made of cast-iron, galvanized steel, clay, and even a cardboard-like material that is coated with tar. The condition of these pipes is usually directly related to their age. Older ones are subject to damage through decay and root movement, whereas the more modern ABS ones are virtually impervious to damage, although some rare batches have been alleged to be defective. However, inasmuch as significant portions of drainpipes are concealed, we can only infer their condition by observing the draw at drains. Nonetheless, blockages will occur in the life of any system, but blockages in drainpipes, and particularly in main drainpipes, can be expensive to repair, and for this reason we recommend having them video-scanned. This could also confirm that the house is connected to the public sewer system, which is important because all private systems must be evaluated by specialists.

## Potable Water Supply Pipes

### **Water Main Shut-off Location**

#### *Informational Conditions*

The distribution shut off is located at the front portion of the home.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

We could not locate the water meter or this home does not have one. You should ask the sellers about this. Viewing a meter is especially helpful if water can be seen flowing through the meter when no major appliances are in use, which could be indicative of a subterranean leak. Because we could not view the meter we

recommend that a representative from the utility company or a plumber explore this further, it would be prudent for you to request a recent water bill from the sellers so that you can establish a norm for future information.

## **Pressure Regulators**

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The pressure at the distribution shut off exceeds 80 psi, (99 psi) which is too strong and will stress components of the system. Pressure readings can fluctuate throughout the day and a regulator may not be needed. We recommend that the pressure be checked at different times to get a more accurate reading. If the pressure is consistently over 80 PSI we recommend that a regulator be installed. Most regulators come factory pre-set at 60 psi.

## **Functional Flow**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

A reasonable flow is present at the highest fixture when another is operated simultaneously.

### *Informational Conditions*

Functional flow is a reasonable flow at the highest fixture in a dwelling when another is operated simultaneously.

## **Recirculating Systems**

### *Informational Conditions*

The system does not include a recirculating pump, which means that there will be a delay in hot water service relative to the distance of the fixture from the hot water heater.

## **Pressure Relief Valves**

### *Informational Conditions*

There is a pressure relief valve on the plumbing system, as required.

## **Copper Water Pipes**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible sections of supply piping are made of copper and are in acceptable condition unless otherwise noted. Pipe supports and insulation were not observed which is typical in the locations the pipe is viewable. Any supports or insulation is behind finished surfaces and is not viewable.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

Indications are the supply piping is all copper however since the vast majority of the supply piping is not visible and the home was built between 1975 and 1995, you should review the sellers disclosure statement for type of plumbing material or ask the sellers to verify the material used, if the sellers are not certain or can not verify, then this should be explored further. For a home of this age range, polybutylene pipe could be the type of plumbing material used if not copper. If it is determined the plumbing system includes polybutylene pipes obtaining the advice of a plumber within the inspection period is recommended.

## **Pipe Insulation**

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The exposed water pipes at the exterior of the home should be insulated against freezing during low temperatures.

## **Electric Water Heaters**

### **General Comments**

#### *Informational Conditions*

There are a wide variety of residential electric water heaters that range in capacity from fifteen to one hundred gallons. They can be expected to last at least as long as their warranty, or from five to eight years, but they will generally last longer. However, few of them last longer than fifteen or twenty years and many eventually leak. So it is always wise to have them installed over a drain pan plumbed to the exterior. Also, it is prudent to flush them annually to remove minerals that include the calcium chloride bi-product of many water softening systems. The water temperature should be set at a minimum of 110 degrees fahrenheit to kill microbes and a maximum of 140 degrees to prevent scalding. Also, water heaters can be dangerous if they are not seismically secured and equipped with a pressure/temperature relief valve and discharge pipe plumbed to the exterior.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- The water heater does not appear to be functioning properly as no hot water was achieved at any of the fixtures. This should be further evaluated by a plumber and all fixtures tested for hot water when resolved.

### **Age Capacity & Location**

#### *Informational Conditions*

Hot water is provided by an approximately 17 year old, 40 gallon water heater that is located in the garage.

### **Electrical Connections**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The electrical connection to the water heater is functional.

### **Water Shut-Off Valve & Connectors**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The shut-off valve and water connectors are presumed to be functional.

### **Relief Valve & Discharge Pipe**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The discharge pipe from the pressure relief valve is recommended to be plumbed to the exterior and terminate no more than twenty-four inches above grade and no closer than six inches to it.

- Discharges behind water heater into drip pan.

### **Thermostat**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Does not appear to be functional.

### **Drain Valve**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The drain valve is in place and presumed to be functional.

### **Drip Pan & Overflow Pipe**

#### *Informational Conditions*

The water heater is equipped with a drip pan, which is designed to minimize water damage from a leak, but does not have a visible drain pipe to the exterior. Therefore, it should be monitored periodically for signs of a leak.

## **Water Softener**

### **Observations**

#### *Informational Conditions*

The home is not presently configured for a water softener if you wish to add one a plumber should be consulted.

## **Waste & Drainage Systems**

### **General Comments**

#### *Informational Conditions*

We attempt to evaluate functional drainage by flushing every drain that has an active fixture while observing its draw and watching for blockages or slow drains, but this is not a conclusive test and only a video-scan of the main line would confirm its actual condition. However, you can be sure that blockages will occur, usually relative in severity to the age of the system, and will range from minor ones in the branch lines, or at the traps beneath sinks, tubs, and showers, to major blockages in the main line. The minor ones are easily cleared, either by chemical means or by removing and cleaning the traps. However, if tree roots grow into the main drain that connects the house to the public sewer, repairs could become expensive and might include replacing the entire main line. For these reasons, we recommend that you ask the sellers if they have ever experienced any drainage problems, or you may wish to have the main waste line video-scanned before the close of escrow. Failing this, you should obtain an insurance policy that covers blockages and damage to the main line. However, most policies only cover plumbing repairs within the house, or the cost of roofer service, most of which are relatively inexpensive.



## **Type of Material**

### *Informational Conditions*

The visible portions of the drainpipes are a modern acrylonitrile butadiene styrene type, or ABS. Any supports or insulation is behind finished surfaces and is not viewable.

## **Drain Waste & Vent Pipes**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

Based on industry recommended water tests, the drainpipes are functional at this time, unless otherwise noted. However, only a video-scan of the main drainpipe could confirm its actual condition.

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The main drainpipe may not have a main cleanout (could not be located). Although one may never have been installed on the system plumbers commonly identify this as being a deficiency and recommend installing one. However, the main drainpipe can be accessed by removing a toilet, and at considerably less expense than that of installing a cleanout.

## **Irrigation or Sprinklers**

### **General Comments**

#### *Informational Conditions*

There are a wide variety of irrigation components, such as pipes that could include old galvanized ones, more dependable copper ones, and modern polyvinyl ones that are commonly referred to as PVC. However, among the latter, the quality can range from a dependable thick-walled type to a less dependable thin-walled type, and it is not uncommon to find a mixture of them. To complicate matters, significant portions of these pipes cannot be examined because they are buried. Therefore, we identify a system based on what type of pipe that can be seen. However, our inspection only includes the visible portions of the system, and we do not test each component, nor search below vegetation for any concealed hose bibs, actuators, risers, or heads. However, inasmuch as the actuators are under pressure, we look for any evidence of damage or leakage, but recommend that you have the sellers demonstrate an automatic sprinkler system before the close of escrow and indicate any seasonal changes that they may make to the program.

### **Hose Bibs**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The hose bibs are functional unless noted otherwise and are fitted with anti-siphon valves, but we may not have located and tested every one on the property.

#### *Informational Conditions*

Many hose bibs will leak at the handle during operation (common occurrence) and will not necessarily be noted on in the report but you may wish to have serviced.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The hose bibs that we tested are functional, but all do not include anti-siphon valves.

These valves are relatively inexpensive and are required by current standards. However, we may not have located and tested every hose bib on the property.

### **Automatic Sprinklers**

#### *Informational Conditions*

We do not evaluate sprinkler systems, which should be demonstrated by the sellers. We do check that the timers have power and valve boxes have no evidence of leaking. Ask sellers to explain operation and any seasonal changes.

The main irrigation supply water line at the house distribution water shut off has been installed after the distribution water shut off. If the water were to be shut off at the distribution shut off for an extended period of time (vacation), the irrigation system would also be shut off and the vegetation would go without water.

## Fire Suppression Systems

### Smoke Alarms - Detectors

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

##### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

We randomly check readily accessible smoke alarms and for your safety, we recommend that you check all smoke alarms for proper operation before occupying property.

##### TEST SMOKE ALARMS EACH MONTH

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the basement. Also install smoke alarms in every sleeping area.

Replace the batteries at least once a year. Pick a holiday or your birthday to help you remember. If an alarm is chirping or beeping, the battery is low or if hard wired the power to the alarm has been lost.

Keep smoke alarms clean. Vacuum over and around them regularly.

Smoke alarms last eight to ten years. Older smoke alarms should be replaced.

## Electrical

There are a wide variety of electrical systems with an even greater variety of components, and any one particular system may not conform to current standards or provide the same degree of service and safety. What is most significant about electrical systems however is that the national electrical code [NEC] is not retroactive, and therefore many residential systems do not comply with the latest safety standards. Regardless, we are not electricians and in compliance with the AZ-ASHI Standard of Practice we only test a representative number of switches and outlets and do not perform load-calculations to determine if the supply meets the demand. However, in the interests of safety, we regard every electrical deficiency and recommended upgrade as a latent hazard that should be serviced as soon as possible, and that the entire system be evaluated and certified as safe by an electrician. Therefore, it is essential that any recommendations that we may make for service or upgrades should be completed before the close of escrow, because an electrician could reveal additional deficiencies or recommend some upgrades for which we would disclaim any further responsibility. However, we typically recommend upgrading outlets to have ground fault protection, which is a relatively inexpensive but essential safety feature. These outlets are often referred to as GFCI's, or ground fault circuit interrupters and, generally speaking, have been required in specific locations for more than thirty years, beginning with swimming pools and exterior outlets in 1971, and the list has been added to ever since: bathrooms in 1975, garages in 1978, spas and hot tubs in 1981, hydro tubs, massage equipment, boat houses, kitchens, and unfinished basements in 1987, crawlspaces in 1990, wet bars in 1993, and all kitchen countertop outlets with the exception of refrigerator and freezer outlets since 1996. Similarly, AFCI's or arc fault circuit interrupters, represent the very latest in circuit breaker technology, and have been required in all bedroom circuits since 2002. However, inasmuch as arc faults cause thousands of electrical fires and hundreds of deaths each year, we categorically recommend installing them at every circuit as a prudent safety feature.

## Main Panel

### General Comments

#### *Informational Conditions*

National safety standards require electrical panels to be weatherproof, readily accessible, and have a minimum of thirty-six inches of clear space in front of them for service. Also, they should have a main disconnect, and each circuit within the panel should be clearly labeled. Industry standards only require us to test a representative number of accessible switches, receptacles, and light fixtures. However, we attempt to test every one that is unobstructed, but if a residence is furnished we will obviously not be able to test each one.

### Service Entrance

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The main conductor lines are underground, or part of a lateral service entrance. This is characteristic of modern electrical services but, inasmuch as the service lines are underground and cannot be seen, they are not evaluated as part of our service.

## **Panel Size & Location**

### *Informational Conditions*

The residence is served by a 200 amp single throw, 110/220 volt panel, located at the front side of the residence.

## **Cover Observations**

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The exterior cover panel has voids or open knockouts that should be covered.

The exterior panel cover latch is damaged, and should be serviced.

The interior cover for the panel does not fit well and can not be closed completely, this should be corrected.

- Retaining screw does not secure the panel.

## **Cable Type**

### *Informational Conditions*

The visible cable for the residence is a modern vinyl conduit known as Non Metallic Sheathed Cable.

## **Conductor Type**

### *Informational Conditions*

Factory Entrance Conductors - Copper Dedicated Circuits - Copper Branch Circuits

## **Wiring Observations**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible portions of the wiring have no significant abnormalities and the wire/breaker size is compatible unless otherwise noted.

## **Circuit Breakers**

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

One circuit breaker is tripped and cannot be reset, which means that the breaker is defective or that there is an in-line short, which should be determined and corrected by an electrician.

- 20 amp labeled "rear flood".

## **Grounding & Bonding**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

A ground wire is visible in the panel and connected properly.

### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The panel-ground to a water pipe, is detached and should be reattached by an electrician.

# **Heat-A/C**

The components of most heating and air-conditioning systems have a design-life ranging from ten to twenty years, but can fail prematurely with poor maintenance, which is why we apprise you of their age whenever possible. We test and evaluate them in accordance with the AZ American Society of Home Inspectors Standards of Practice, which means that we do not dismantle and inspect the concealed portions of evaporator and condensing coils, the heat exchanger, which is also known as the firebox, electronic air-cleaners, humidifiers, ducts and in-line duct-motors or dampers. We perform a conscientious evaluation of both systems, but we are not specialists. However, even the most modern heating systems can produce carbon monoxide, which in a sealed or poorly ventilated room can result in sickness, debilitating injury, and even death. Therefore, in accordance with the terms of our contract, it is essential that any recommendations that we make for service or a second opinion be scheduled before the close of escrow, because a specialist could reveal additional defects or recommend further upgrades that could affect your evaluation of the property, and our service does not include any form of warranty or guarantee.

## **HVAC Heat Pump Systems**

### **Age & Location**

#### *Informational Conditions*

Central heat and air-conditioning is provided by an approximately 15 year-old 3.5 ton electric heat pump package system located on the roof.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The Heat Pump systems are in the end range of their design life and will need to be more closely monitored, serviced bi-annually, and should have their filter changed every two to three months.

### **Common Observations**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The heat pump system is functional. Such systems are designed to last approximately twenty years, but they should be serviced bi-annually and have their filters changed every two to three months.

### **Condensing Coil**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The condensing coil responded to the thermostat and is functional.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The condensing coil fins have some impact damage that could be serviced. The impact damage is not significant, however much of the damage can be easily corrected by combing the fins.

### **Heat Pump Disconnect**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The electrical disconnect at the condensing coil is functional.

The over current protection is properly sized per the data label

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Conduit has lost the weather proof coating and you may wish to have further evaluated by an electrician or HVAC specialist.

### **Refrigerant Lines**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible refrigerant lines are in acceptable condition.

### **Condensate Drainpipe**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The condensate drainpipe is plumbed to discharge outside the residence.

### **Circulating Fan**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The circulating fan is functional.

#### *Informational Conditions*

Fan is not readily accessible and was not viewed.

### **Evaporator Coil**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The evaporator coil is functional.

#### *Informational Conditions*

The evaporator coil is not readily accessible and was not viewed.

### **Drip Pan**

#### *Informational Conditions*

The drip pan is secured to the bottom of the unit and its interior is not viewable

### **Return-Air Compartment**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The filter in the return-air compartment is in acceptable condition.

### **Differential Temperature Readings**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The air-conditioning responded and achieved an acceptable differential temperature split between the air entering the system and that coming out, of eighteen degrees or more. (73-55)

## **Thermostats**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The thermostat is functional.

## **Registers**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The registers are functional and are installed to all habitable rooms.

## **Flexible Ducting**

### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible portions of the ducts have no significant visible deficiencies.

### *Informational Conditions*

The ducts are a modern flexible type that are comprised of an outer plastic sleeve and a clear inner liner that contains fiberglass insulation.

The ducts are a modern flexible type that are comprised of an outer plastic sleeve and a clear inner liner that contains fiberglass insulation. However, significant portions of the ducts are concealed and cannot be viewed.

# **Chimney**

There are a wide variety of chimneys, which represent an even wider variety of the interrelated components that comprise them. However, there are three basic types, single-walled metal, masonry, and pre-fabricated metal ones that are commonly referred to as factory-built ones. Single-walled metal ones should not be confused with factory-built metal ones, and are rarely found in residential use, but masonry and factory-built ones are a commonplace. Our inspection of them conforms to industry standards, and is that of a generalist and not a specialist. However, significant areas of chimney flues cannot be adequately viewed during a field inspection, as has been documented by the Chimney Safety Institute of America, which reported in 1992: "The inner reaches of a flue are relatively inaccessible, and it should not be expected that the distant oblique view from the top or bottom is adequate to fully document damage even with a strong light." Therefore, because our inspection of chimneys is limited to those areas that can be viewed without dismantling any portion of them, and does not include the use of specialized equipment, we will not guarantee their integrity or drafting ability and recommend that they be video-scanned before the close of escrow.

## **Multiple Chimneys**

### **Chimney**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The chimney walls appear to be in acceptable condition.

## **Family Room Chimney**

### **Type**

#### *Informational Conditions*

Unlined chimneys, or those without flue liners, are suspect. Although such flues include a plaster coat of mortar, the corrosive effect of flue gases and the elements can deteriorate the mortar. In fact, the Chimney Safety Institute of America reported in 1992 that "all unlined chimneys, irrespective of fuel used, are very liable to become defective through disintegration of the mortar joints." For this reason, we recommend that all unlined chimneys be evaluated by a specialist or video-scanned before the close of escrow.

### **Chimney**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The chimney walls appear to be in acceptable condition.

#### *Informational Conditions*

There are small cracks in the chimney walls and grout joints which you may wish to have evaluated. However, such cracks are quite common, and rarely have any structural significance in a lined chimney. They can result from shrinkage, common settling, thermal extremes, moisture contamination, and the expansion and contraction associated with freezing and thawing,

### **Weather Cap-Spark Arrestor**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The chimney does not have a weather cap/spark arrestor, which is recommended.

### **Crown or Termination Cap**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The crown, which is designed to seal the chimney wall and to shed rainwater and thereby prevent moisture from deteriorating the chimney, is in acceptable condition.

### **Chimney Flashings**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The counter flashing between the chimney wall and the roof need to be resealed.

The following was observed:

- See siding section for pictures of gaps at fireplace to wall at the exterior.

### **Chimney Flue**

#### *Informational Conditions*

The visible portions of the flue that are visible appear to be in acceptable condition.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

A complete view of the chimney flue is not possible, and you may wish to have it video scanned.

### **Damper**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The damper is functional.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Adjust damper to close more securely.

### **Hearth**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The hearth is in acceptable condition.

### **Mantle**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The fireplace mantle is in acceptable condition.

## **Interior**

Our inspection of the interior living space is performed in accordance with the AZ - American Society of Home Inspectors Standards of Practice, including the visually accessible areas of the ceilings, walls, floors, cabinets and closets, and includes the testing of a representative number of windows and doors, switches and outlets and unless otherwise noted have been found in acceptable condition.

However, we do not evaluate window treatments, or move furniture, lift carpets or rugs, empty closets or cabinets, and we do not comment on cosmetic deficiencies. We may not comment on the cracks that appear around windows and doors, or which follow the lines of framing members and the seams of drywall and plasterboard. These cracks are a consequence of movement, such as wood shrinkage, common settling, and seismic activity, and will often reappear if they are not correctly repaired. Such cracks can become the subject of disputes, and are therefore best evaluated by a specialist. Similarly, there are a number of environmental pollutants that we have already elaborated upon, the specific identification of which is beyond the scope of our service but which can become equally contentious. In addition, there are a host of lesser contaminants, such as that from moisture penetrating carpet-covered cracks in floor slabs, as well as odors from household pets and cigarette smoke that can permeate walls, carpets, heating and air conditioning ducts, and other porous surfaces, and which can be difficult to eradicate. However, inasmuch as the sense of smell adjusts rapidly, and the sensitivity to such odors is certainly not uniform, we recommend that you make this determination for yourself, and particularly if you or any member of your family suffers from allergies or asthma, and then schedule whatever remedial services may be deemed necessary before the close of escrow.

## General Comments

### *Informational Conditions*

#### **Furnished Residence Comment**

##### *Informational Conditions*

The residence is furnished, and in accordance with industry standards we only inspect those surfaces that are exposed and readily accessible. We do not move furniture, lift carpets, nor remove or rearrange items within closets and cabinets. We also recommend that you perform a walk through of the home after personal items have been removed to further evaluate the conditions of the home.

#### **Fresh Paint Comment**

##### *Informational Conditions*

The building interior appears to have been recently painted. You should be aware that fresh paint can hide potential conditions in need of service or maintenance. Such conditions can possibly go unnoticed and any such conditions should have already been disclosed to the buyers by the sellers.

#### **Common Observations**

##### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

Evidence of repairs to the ceiling where observed, you should ask the sellers about this or have further evaluated by a specialist.

Most notable are:

- Downstairs bedroom front entry, kitchen and family room.

##### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The walls and ceiling at several locations throughout the home have stress fractures, which have resulted from movement. These stress fractures do not have the looks and characteristics of those that would warrant concern, however we are not specialists and you may wish to have these stress fractures reviewed by one. Be aware that such cracks can reappear when repaired and typically if they are not repaired correctly.

## Living Room

### **Outlets**

##### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Downstairs living room north west outlet did not have power. and should be serviced by an electrician.

## Bedrooms

In accordance with the AZ - ASHI Standards of Practice, our inspection of bedrooms includes the visually accessible areas of walls, floors, cabinets and closets, and includes the testing of a representative number of windows and doors, switches and outlets and are considered in acceptable condition and operational unless otherwise noted.

We evaluate windows to ensure that they meet light and ventilation requirements and facilitate an emergency exit or egress and have been found in acceptable condition unless otherwise noted. We do not evaluate window treatments, nor move furniture, lift carpets or rugs, empty closets or cabinets, and we do not comment on common cosmetic deficiencies.

## General Comments

-  
*Informational Conditions*

## Master Bedroom

### Doors

*Informational Conditions*

The door handle does not include a privacy lock, which you may wish to have installed.

## 2nd Guest Bedroom

### Outlets

*Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- The downstairs bedroom outlets did not have power and should be further evaluated by an electrician.

## Bathrooms

In accordance with the AZ - ASHI Standards of Practice, we do not comment on common cosmetic deficiencies, and do not evaluate window treatments, steam showers, and saunas. More importantly, we do not leak-test shower pans or operate hot or cold shut off valves for water fixtures.

We do operate tubs, hydro spas, stall showers, toilets, exhaust fans, switches, outlets (note on GFCI protection), cabinets and observe walls and cabinets for visual evidence of moisture intrusion, leaks, staining or damage from moisture and these items are considered in acceptable condition or operational unless otherwise noted..

## Master Bathroom

### Outlets

*Functional Components and Conditions*

The outlets are functional and include ground-fault protection.

### Exhaust Fan

*Functional Components and Conditions*

The exhaust fan is functional.

### Sink

*Functional Components and Conditions*

The sink is functional.

### Tub-Shower

*Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- Seal tub spout at wall to forestall moisture intrusion.

### Doors

*Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- The pocket door does not function and should be serviced.



## Powder Room

### Outlets

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The outlets are functional and include ground-fault protection.

### Exhaust Fan

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The exhaust fan is functional.

## 1st Guest Bathroom

### Location

#### *Informational Conditions*

The first guest bathroom is located downstairs.

### Outlets

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The outlets are functional and include ground-fault protection.

### Exhaust Fan

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The exhaust fan is functional.

### Tub-Shower

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The following was observed:

- The plumbing behind the tub shower is loose and should be serviced. The mixing valve and tub spout are loose and should be sealed once the loose plumbing is corrected.

### Lights

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

A wall light does not respond, and should be serviced.

## Kitchen

We test kitchen appliances for their functionality, and cannot evaluate them for their performance nor for the variety of their settings or cycles. However, if they are older than ten years, they may well exhibit decreased efficiency. Also, many gas and electric ranges are not secured and can be easily tipped, particularly when any weight is applied to an open range door, and all such appliances should be confirmed to be secure.

Regardless, we do not inspect the following items: operation of hot or cold shut off valves for water fixtures, free-standing appliances, refrigerators, trash-compactors, built-in toasters, coffee-makers, can-openers, blenders, instant hot-water dispensers, water-purifiers, barbecues, grills or rotisseries, timers, clocks, thermostats, the self-cleaning capability of ovens, and concealed or countertop lighting, which is convenient but often installed after the initial construction and not wired to national electrical standards.

## Kitchen

### Cabinets

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The cabinets are functional, unless noted otherwise.

### Countertop

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The countertop is functional.

### Sink

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The sink is functional.

### **Faucet**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The sink faucet is functional.

### **Valves & Connectors**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The valves and connectors below the sink are presumed to be functional. However, they are not in daily use and will inevitably become stiff or frozen.

### **Trap and Drain**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The trap and drain are functional.

### **Garbage Disposal**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The garbage disposal is functional.

### **Dishwasher**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The dishwasher is functional and includes either a high loop or anti siphon valve.

### **Outlets**

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

None of the kitchen outlets serving the countertop have GFCI protection and upgrading is recommended. GFCI protection is mandated by current standards and is an important safety feature. GFCI protection may not have been required at time of construction, but we recommend as elective safety upgrade.

A cover plate is damaged or missing and should be replaced.

- Under sink for garbage disposal.

### **Lights**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The lights are functional.

### **Built-in Microwave**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The built-in microwave is functional but we did not test it for leakage, which would require a specialized instrument.

### **Exhaust Fan or Downdraft**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The exhaust fan or downdraft is functional.

#### *Informational Conditions*

The exhaust fan is functional and a type that vents internally.

### **Electric Range**

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The electric range is functional and is equipped with a anti tip device, but was neither calibrated nor tested for its performance.

## **Stairs**

Our evaluation of staircases is identical to that of living space, except that we pay particular attention to safety issues, such as those involving handrails, guardrails.

## Main Stairs

### Handrails & Guardrails

#### *Informational Conditions*

If small children occupy or visit this residence, suitable precautions should be taken to safeguard them.

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The ends of handrails for stairs typically turn into the wall at each end so garments do not catch on the ends of handrail. This handrail is open at both ends and you may consider modifications or replacement, caution should be used until changes have been made.

The balusters in the stair rails are more than four-inches apart and are not child safe. Therefore, you may wish to add a protective barrier.

## Laundry

In accordance with the AZ American Society of Home Inspectors standard of Practice, we do not test clothes dryers, nor washing machines and their water connections and drainpipes. However, there are two things that you should be aware of. The water supply to washing machines is usually left on, and their hoses can leak or burst under pressure and continue to flow. Therefore, we recommend replacing the rubber hose type with newer braided stainless steel ones that are much more dependable. You should also be aware that the newer washing machines discharge a greater volume of water than many of the older drainpipes can handle, which causes the water to back up and overflow, and the only remedy would be to replace the standpipe and trap with one that is a size larger.

## Laundry Area

### Lights

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The lights are functional.

### Outlets

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The dedicated use outlets that were tested are functional, these outlets would not necessarily require GFCI protection.

### Exhaust Fan

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

No exhaust fan in laundry room which is recommended.

### Dryer Configuration

#### *Informational Conditions*

The type of dryer connection is for an electric dryer only.

### Valves & Connectors

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The valves and connectors are presumed to be functional. However, because they are not in daily use they typically become stiff or frozen.

### 220 Volt Receptacle

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The 220 volt receptacle for the dryer is energized.

### Dryer Vent

#### *Informational Conditions*

Faulty dryer vents have been responsible for thousands of fires, hundreds of injuries, and even deaths. The best vents are a smooth-walled metal type that travels a short distance; all other types should be regarded as suspect, and should be inspected bi-annually to ensure that they do not contain trapped lint or moisture.

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The visible section of the dryer vent is clear of excessive lint, however the vent should be checked regularly and must be kept clean.

## Floor Drain

### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The following was observed:

- A floor drain is present but could not determine the ultimate discharge location.

# Garage

It is not uncommon for moisture to penetrate garages, because their slabs are on-grade. Evidence of this is typically apparent in the form of efflorescence, or salt crystal formations, that result when moisture penetrates the concrete slab or sidewalls. This is a common with garages that are below grade, and some sidewalls are even cored to relieve the pressure that can build up behind them, and which actually promotes drainage through the garage. Also, if there is living space above the garage, that space will be seismically vulnerable. Ideally, the columns and beams around the garage door will be made of structural steel, but in many residences these components are made of wood but could include some structural accessories, such as post-straps and hold-downs, and plywood shear paneling. However, we are not an authority in such matters, and you may wish to discuss this further with a structural engineer. In addition, and inasmuch as garage door openings are not standard, you may wish to measure the opening to ensure that there is sufficient clearance to accommodate your vehicles.

## Double-Car Garage

### Garage Door & Hardware

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The garage door and hardware is functional.

### Automatic Opener

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The garage door opener is functional and includes auto reverse.

### Slab Floor

#### *Normal Maintenance or Conditions to Monitor*

The slab floor is cracked, but not load-bearing. Such cracks are common and result as a consequence of the curing process, seismic activity, ordinary settling, or the presence of expansive soils, but are not structurally threatening. We can elaborate, but you may wish to have a structural engineer confirm this.

### Walls & Ceiling

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

There is evidence of a repair made to the ceiling, you should ask the sellers about this.

- Near water heater.

### Firewall Separation

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The hatch cover to the attic area is made of a non combustible material, however the cover is lightweight and should be weighted in order to provide a firewall separation between the garage and the residence.

### Entry Door Into the House

#### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The house entry door is not fully self-closing/ latching, and should be adjusted/ serviced.

### Lights

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The lights are functional, and do not need service at this time.

### Outlets

#### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The outlets that were tested are functional and include ground-fault protection unless for dedicated circuits or otherwise noted.

### Ventilation Ports

#### *Informational Conditions*

There are no ventilation ports to vent exhaust fumes. Therefore, vehicle engines should not be left running with the garage door closed or carbon monoxide poisoning could result.

## Attic

In accordance with AZ American Society of Home Inspectors Standards of Practice, we do not attempt to enter attics that have less than thirty-six inches of headroom, are restricted by ducts, or in which the insulation obscures the joists and thereby makes mobility hazardous, in which case we would inspect them as best we can from the access point or as noted in the inspection report. In regard to evaluating the type and amount of insulation on the attic floor, we use only generic terms and approximate measurements, and do not sample or test the material for specific identification. Also, we do not disturb or move any portion of it, and it may well obscure water pipes, electrical conduits, junction boxes, exhaust fans, and other components.

### Primary Attic

#### Attic Access Location

##### *Informational Conditions*

The attic can be accessed through a hatch in the garage.

#### Method of Evaluation

##### *Informational Conditions*

We evaluated the attic from the access due to obstructions that would make mobility hazardous.

#### Framing

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible portions of the roof framing consists of a factory- built truss system that is in acceptable condition and comprised of components called chords, webs, and struts that are connected by wood or metal gussets nailed or glued in place. Each component of the truss is designed for a specific purpose, and cannot be removed or modified without compromising the integrity of the entire truss. The lowest component, which is called the chord and to which the ceiling is attached, can move by thermal expansion and contraction and cause creaking sounds, which are more pronounced in the mornings and evenings along with temperature changes. Such movement has no structural significance, but can result in small cracks or divots in the drywall or plaster.

#### Ventilation

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

Ventilation is provided by a combination of one or more of the following eave, dormer, turbine, or gable vents, and should be adequate.

#### Electrical

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The electrical components that are fully visible appear to be in acceptable condition.

##### *Informational Conditions*

The vast majority of the electrical components are below the insulation and not viewable

#### Plumbing Vents

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The drainpipe vents that are fully visible are in acceptable condition.

#### Exhaust Ducts

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

The visible portions of the exhaust ducts are functional.

#### Vapor Barrier

##### *Functional Components and Conditions*

Vapor barrier material was observed on the batt insulation.

#### Batt Insulation

##### *Components and Conditions That May Need Service*

The attic floor is insulated with approximately six-inches of fiberglass, batt insulation. Current standards call for nine and even twelve-inches, and you may wish to consider adding more.

There are voids in the insulation that should be serviced.

# ARIZONA ASHI STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

THE ARIZONA CHAPTER OF THE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HOME INSPECTORS, INC.®  
STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE  
For Arizona Home Inspectors

Adopted by AZ ASHI Effective January 1, 2002

The Arizona Standards of Practice are adopted from the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) 1992 Standards of Practice, through the Arizona Chapter of the American Society of Home Inspectors, with Arizona made modifications and amendments. The Arizona Board of Technical Registration gratefully acknowledges the assistance and permission of the American Society of Home Inspectors, and the assistance of the Arizona Chapter of the American Society of Home Inspectors.

## Section

1. Introduction
2. Purpose & Scope
3. General Limitations & Exclusions
4. Structural Components
5. Exterior
6. Roofing
7. Plumbing
8. Electrical
9. Heating
10. Central Air Conditioning
11. Interiors
12. Insulation and Ventilation

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 - These Standards define the practice of Home Inspection in the State of Arizona.
- 1.2 - These Standards of Practice
  - A. - provide inspection guidelines.
  - B. - make public the services provided by private fee-paid inspectors.

## 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

2.1 - Inspections performed to these Standards shall provide the client with a better understanding of the property conditions, as observed at the time of the inspection.

2.2 - Inspectors shall:

A.- before the inspection report is delivered, enter into a written agreement with the client or their authorized agent that includes:

- 1, the purpose of the inspection.
- 2, the date of the inspection.
3. the name address and certification number of the inspector.
4. the fee for services.
5. a statement that the inspection is performed in accordance with these Standards.
6. limitations or exclusions of systems or components inspected.

B.- Observe readily accessible installed systems and components listed in these Standards.

C.- submit a written report to the client which shall:

- 1..Describe systems and components identified in sections 4-12 of these Standards.
2. state which systems and components designated for inspection in these Standards have been inspected and any systems and components designated for inspection in these Standards which were present

at the time of the inspection and were not inspected and a reason why they were not inspected.

3. state any systems and components so inspected which were found to be in need of immediate major repair and any recommendations to correct, monitor or evaluate by appropriate persons.

2.3 - These Standards are not intended to limit inspectors from:

- A.- reporting observations and conditions in addition to those required in Section 2.2.
- B.- excluding systems and components from the inspection if requested by the client.

### 3. GENERAL LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

3.1 - General limitations:

A.- Inspections done in accordance with these Standards are visual, not technically exhaustive and will not identify concealed conditions or latent defects.

B.- These Standards are applicable to buildings with four or less dwelling units and their garages or carports.

3.2 - General exclusions:

A.- Inspectors are NOT required to report on:

1. life expectancy of any component or system.
2. the causes of the need for a major repair.
3. the methods, materials and costs of corrections.
4. the suitability of the property for any specialized use.
5. compliance or non-compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.
6. the market value of the property or its marketability.
7. the advisability or inadvisability of purchase of the property.
8. any component or system which was not observed.
9. the presence or absence of pests such as wood damaging organisms, rodents, or insects.
10. cosmetic items, underground items, or items not permanently installed.

B.- Inspectors are NOT required to:

1. offer warranties or guarantees of any kind.
2. calculate the strength, adequacy, or efficiency of any system or component.
3. enter any area or perform any procedure which may damage the property or its components or be dangerous to the inspector or other persons.
4. operate any system or component which is shut down or otherwise inoperable.
5. operate any system or component which does not respond to normal operating controls.
6. disturb insulation, move personal items, furniture, equipment, plant life, soil, snow, ice, or debris which obstructs access or visibility.
7. determine the presence or absence of any suspected hazardous substance including but not limited to toxins, fungus, molds, mold spores, carcinogens, noise, contaminants in soil, water, and air.
8. determine the effectiveness of any system installed to control or remove suspected hazardous substances.
9. predict future conditions, including but not limited to failure of components.
10. project operating costs of components.
11. evaluate acoustical characteristics of any system or component.

3.3 - Limitations and exclusions specific to individual systems are listed in following sections.

### 4. SYSTEM: STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS

4.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- structural components including:

1. foundation.
2. floors.
3. walls.
4. columns.
5. ceilings.
6. roofs.

4.2 - The Inspector shall:

A.- describe the type of:

1. foundation.
2. floor structure.
3. wall structure.
4. columns.
5. ceiling structure.
6. roof structure.

B.- probe structural components where deterioration is suspected. However, probing is NOT required when probing would damage any finished surface.

C.- enter underfloor crawl spaces and attic spaces except when access is obstructed, when entry could damage the property, or when dangerous or adverse situations are suspected.

D.- report the methods used to inspect underfloor crawl spaces and attics.

E.- report signs of water penetration into the building or signs of abnormal or harmful condensation on building components.

5. SYSTEM: EXTERIOR

5.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- wall cladding, flashings and trim.

B.- entryway doors and representative number of windows.

C.- garage door operators.

D.- decks, balconies, stoops, steps, areaways, and porches including railings.

E.- eaves, soffits and fascias.

F.- vegetation, grading, drainage, driveways, patios, walkways and retaining walls with respect to their effect on the condition of the building.

5.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- describe wall cladding materials.

B.- operate all entryway doors and representative number of windows including garage doors, manually or by using permanently installed controls of any garage door operator.

C.- report whether or not any garage door operator will automatically reverse or stop when meeting reasonable resistance during closing.

5.3 - The inspector is NOT required to observe:

A.- storm windows, storm doors, screening, shutters, awnings and similar seasonal accessories.

B.- fences.

C.- safety glazing.

D.- garage door operator remote control transmitters.

E.- geological conditions.

F.- soil conditions.

G.- recreational facilities.

H.- outbuildings other than garages and carports.

6. SYSTEM: ROOFING

6.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- roof coverings.

B.- roof drainage systems.

C.- flashings.

D.- skylights, chimneys and roof penetrations.

E.- signs of leaks or abnormal condensation on building components.

6.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- describe the type of roof covering materials.

B.- report the methods used to inspect roofing.



6.3 - The inspector is NOT required to:

- A.- walk on the roofing.
- B.- observe attached accessories including but not limited to solar systems, antennae, and lightning arresters.

## 7. SYSTEM: PLUMBING

7.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- interior water supply and distribution system including:

- 1. piping materials, including supports and insulation.
- 2. fixtures and faucets.
- 3. functional flow.
- 4. leaks.
- 5. cross connections.

B.- interior drain, waste and vent system, including:

- 1. traps; drain, waste, and vent piping; piping supports and pipe insulation.
- 2. leaks.
- 3. functional drainage.

C.- hot water systems including:

- 1. water heating equipment.
- 2. normal operating controls.
- 3. automatic safety controls.
- 4. chimneys, flues and vents.

D.- fuel storage and distribution systems including:

- 1. interior fuel storage equipment, supply piping, venting and supports.
- 2. leaks.

E.- sump pumps.

7.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- describe:

- 1. water supply and distribution piping materials.
- 2. drain, waste and vent piping materials.
- 3. water heating equipment.

B. - operate all plumbing fixtures, including their faucets and all exterior faucets attached to the house.

7.3 - The inspector is NOT required to:

A.- state the effectiveness of anti-siphon devices.

B.- determine whether water supply and waste disposal systems are public or private.

C.- operate automatic safety controls.

D.- operate any valve except water closet flush valves, fixture faucets and hose faucets.

E.- observe:

- 1. water conditioning systems.
- 2. fire and lawn sprinkler systems.
- 3. on-site water supply quantity and quality.
- 4. on-site waste disposal systems.
- 5. foundation irrigation systems.
- 6. spas, except as to functional flow and functional drainage.

## 8. - SYSTEM: ELECTRICAL

8.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- service entrance conductors.

B.- service equipment, grounding equipment, main overcurrent device, main and distribution panels.

C.- amperage and voltage ratings of the service.

D.- branch circuit conductors, their overcurrent devices, and the compatibility of their ampacities and voltages.

E.- the operation of a representative number of installed lighting fixtures, switches and receptacles located inside the house, garage, and on its exterior walls.

F.- the polarity and grounding of all receptacles within six feet of interior plumbing fixtures and all receptacles in the garage or carport, and on the exterior of inspected structures.

G.- the operation of ground fault circuit interrupters.

8.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- describe:

1. service amperage and voltage.
2. service entry conductor materials.
3. service type as being overhead or underground.
4. location of main and distribution panels.

B.- report any observed aluminum branch circuit wiring.

8.3 - The inspector is NOT required to:

A.- insert any tool, probe or testing device inside the panels.

B.- test or operate any overcurrent device except ground fault interrupters.

C.- dismantle any electrical device or control other than to remove covers of the main and auxiliary distribution panels.

D.- observe

1. low voltage systems.
2. smoke detectors.
3. telephone, security, cable TV, intercoms or other ancillary wiring that is not a part of the primary electrical distribution system.

## 9. - SYSTEM: HEATING

9.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- permanently installed heating systems including:

1. heating equipment.
2. normal operating controls.
3. automatic safety controls.
4. chimneys, flues and vents.
5. solid fuel heating devices.
6. heat distribution systems including fans, pumps, ducts and piping, with supports, dampers, insulation, air filters, registers, radiators, fan coil units, convectors.
7. the presence of an installed heat source in each room.

9.2 The inspector shall:

A.- describe:

1. energy source.
2. heating equipment and distribution type.

B.- operate the systems using normal operating controls.

C.- open readily openable access panels provided by the manufacturer or installer for routine homeowner maintenance.

9.3 - The inspector is NOT required to:

A.- operate heating systems when weather conditions or other circumstances may cause equipment damage.

B.- operate automatic safety controls.

C.- ignite or extinguish solid fuel fires.

E.- observe:

1. the interior of flues.
2. fireplace insert flue connections.
3. humidifiers.
4. electronic air filters.
5. the uniformity or adequacy of heat supply to the various rooms.

10. SYSTEM: CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING

10.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- central air conditioning including:

1. cooling and air handling equipment.
2. normal operating controls.

B.-distribution systems including:

1. fans, pumps, ducts and piping, with supports, dampers, insulation, air filters, registers, fan-coil units.
2. the presence of an installed cooling source in each room.

10.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- describe:

1. energy sources.
2. cooling equipment type.

B.- operate the systems using normal operating controls.

C.- open readily openable access panels provided by the manufacturer or installer for routine homeowner maintenance.

10.3 - The inspector is NOT required to:

A.- operate cooling systems when weather conditions or other circumstances may cause equipment damage.

B.- observe non-central air conditioners.

C.- observe the uniformity or adequacy of cool-air supply to the various rooms.

11. SYSTEM: INTERIORS

11.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- walls, ceiling and floors.

B.- steps, stairways, balconies and railings.

C.- counters and a representative number of cabinets.

D.- a representative number of doors and windows.

E.- separation walls, ceilings, and doors between a dwelling unit and an attached garage or another dwelling unit.

F.- sumps.

11.2 - The inspector shall:

A.- operate a representative number of primary windows and interior doors.

B.- report signs of water penetration into the building or signs of abnormal or harmful condensation on building components.

11.3 - The inspector is NOT required to observe:

A.- paint, wallpaper and other finish treatments on the interior walls, ceilings, and floors.

B.- carpeting.

C.- draperies, blinds or other window treatments.

D.- household appliances.

E. recreational facilities or another dwelling unit.

12. SYSTEM: INSULATION & VENTILATION

12.1 - The inspector shall observe:

A.- insulation and vapor retarders in unfinished spaces.

B.- ventilation of attics and foundation areas.

C.- kitchen, bathroom, and laundry venting systems.

12.2 - The inspector shall describe:

A.- insulation and vapor retarders in unfinished spaces.

B.- absence of same in unfinished space at conditioned surfaces.

12.3 - The inspector is NOT required to report on:

- A.- concealed insulation and vapor retarders.
- B.- venting equipment which is integral with household appliances.

## GLOSSARY

### Automatic Safety Controls:

Devices designated and installed to protect systems and components from high or low pressures and temperatures, electrical current, loss of water, loss of ignition, fuel leaks, fire, freezing, or other unsafe conditions.

### Central Air Conditioning:

A system which uses ducts to distribute cooled and/or dehumidified air to more than one room or uses pipes to distribute chilled water to heat exchangers in more than one room, and that is not plugged into an electrical convenience outlet.

### Client:

A customer who contracts with a home inspector for a home inspection.

### Component:

A readily accessible and observable aspect of a system, such as a floor, or wall, but not individual pieces such as boards or nails where many similar pieces make up the system.

### Cross Connection:

Any physical connection or arrangement between potable water and any source of contamination.

### Dangerous or Adverse Situations:

Situations which pose a threat of injury to the inspector, and those situations that require the use of special protective clothing or safety equipment.

### Describe:

Report in writing a system or component by its type, or other observed characteristics, to distinguish it from other components used for the same purpose.

### Dismantle:

To take apart or remove any component, device or piece of equipment that is bolted, screwed, or fastened by other means and that would not be taken apart or removed by a homeowner in the course of normal household maintenance.

### Engineering:

Any professional service or creative work requiring education, training, and experience and the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering sciences

### Evaluation by Appropriate Persons:

Examination and analysis by a qualified professional, tradesman, or service technician beyond that provided by the home inspector.

### Functional Drainage:

A drain is functional when it empties in a reasonable amount of time and does not overflow when another fixture is drained simultaneously.

### Functional Flow:

A reasonable flow at the highest fixture in a dwelling when another fixture is operated simultaneously.

Inspection Address: 123 Home Inspection Way, Anytown, AZ 85111  
Inspection Date/Time: 3/22/2018 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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**Immediate Major Repair:**

A major defect, which if not quickly addressed, will be likely to do any of the following:

worsen appreciably

cause further damage

be a serious hazard to health and/or personal safety

**Inspector:**

A person certified as a home Inspector by the Arizona Board of Technical Registration

**Installed:**

Attached or connected such that the installed item requires tools for removal.

**Major Defect:**

A system or component that is unsafe or not functioning

**Normal Operating Controls:**

Homeowner operated devices such as a thermostat, wall switch or safety switch.

**Observe:**

The act of making a visual examination of a system or component and reporting on its condition.

**On-site Water Supply Quality:**

Water quality is based on the bacterial, chemical, mineral and solids content of the water.

**On-site Water Supply Quantity:**

Water quantity is the rate of flow of water.

**Primary Windows and Doors:**

Windows and/or exterior doors which are designed to remain in their respective openings year round.

**Readily Accessible**

Available for visual inspection without requiring moving of personal property, dismantling, destructive measures, or any action which will likely involve risk to persons or property.

**Readily Openable Access Panel:**

A panel provided for homeowner inspection and maintenance that has removable or operable fasteners or latch devices in order to be lifted off, swung open, or otherwise removed by one person, and its edges and fasteners are not painted in place. Limited to those panels within normal reach or from a 4-foot stepladder, and which are not blocked by stored items, furniture, or building components.

**Recreational Facilities:**

Spas, saunas, steam baths, swimming pools, tennis courts, playground equipment, and other exercise, entertainment, or athletic facilities.

**Representative Number:**

For multiple identical components such as windows and electrical outlets, the inspection of one such component per room. For multiple identical exterior components, the inspection of one such component on each side of the building.

**Roof Drainage Systems:**

Gutters, downspouts, leaders, splashblocks, and similar components used to carry water off a roof and away

from a building.

**Safety Glazing:**

Tempered glass, laminated glass, or rigid plastic.

**Shut Down:**

A piece of equipment whose safety switch or circuit breaker is in the "off" position, or its fuse is missing or blown, or a system that cannot be operated by the device or control that a home owner should normally use to operate it.

**Solid Fuel Heating Device:**

Any wood, coal, or other similar organic fuel burning device, including but not limited to fireplaces whether masonry or factory built, fireplace inserts and stoves, woodstoves (room heaters), central furnaces, and combinations of these devices.

**Structural Component:**

A component that supports non-variable forces or weights (dead loads) and variable forces or weights (live loads). For purposes of this definition, a dead load is the fixed weight of a structure or piece of equipment, such as a roof structure on bearing walls, and a live load is a moving variable weight added to the dead load or intrinsic weight of a structure.

**System:**

A combination of interacting or interdependent components, assembled to carry out one or more functions.

**Technically Exhaustive:**

An inspection is technically exhaustive when it involves the use of measurements, instruments, testing, calculations, and other means to develop scientific or engineering findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

**Underfloor Crawl Space:**

The area within the confines of the foundation and between the ground and the underside of the lowest floor structural component.

**Unsafe:**

A condition in a readily accessible, installed system or component which is judged to be a significant risk of personal injury during normal, day to day use. The risk may be due to damage, deterioration, improper installation or a change in adopted residential construction standards.

## REPORT CONCLUSION

123 Home Inspection Way, Anytown, AZ 85111

Congratulations on the purchase of your new home. Inasmuch as we never know who will be occupying or visiting a property, whether it be children or the elderly, we ask you to consider following these general safety recommendations: install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; identify all escape and rescue ports; rehearse an emergency evacuation of the home; upgrade older electrical systems by at least adding ground-fault outlets; never service any electrical equipment without first disconnecting its power source; safety-film all non-tempered glass; ensure that every elevated window and the railings of stairs, landings, balconies, and decks are child-safe, meaning that barriers are in place or that the distance between the rails is not wider than three inches; regulate the temperature of water heaters to prevent scalding; make sure that goods that contain caustic or poisonous compounds, such as bleach, drain cleaners, and nail polish removers be stored where small children cannot reach them; ensure that all garage doors are well balanced and have a safety device, particularly if they are the heavy wooden type; remove any double-cylinder deadbolts from exterior doors; and consider installing child-safe locks and alarms on the exterior doors of all pool and spa properties.

We are proud of our service, and trust that you will be happy with the quality of our report. We have made every effort to provide you with an accurate assessment of the condition of the property and its components and to alert you to any significant defects or adverse conditions. However, we may not have tested every outlet, and opened every window and door, or identified every minor defect. Also because we are not specialists or because our inspection is essentially visual, latent defects could exist. Therefore, you should not regard our inspection as conferring a guarantee or warranty. It does not. It is simply a report on the general condition of a particular property at a given point in time. Furthermore, as a homeowner, you should expect problems to occur. Roofs will leak, drain lines will become blocked, and components and systems will fail without warning. For these reasons, you should take into consideration the age of the house and its components and keep a comprehensive insurance policy current. If you have been provided with a home protection policy, read it carefully. Such policies usually only cover insignificant costs, such as that of roofer service, and the representatives of some insurance companies can be expected to deny coverage on the grounds that a given condition was preexisting or not covered because of what they claim to be a code violation or a manufacturer's defect. Therefore, you should read such policies very carefully, and depend upon our company for any consultation that you may need.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report, and call us if you have any questions or observations whatsoever. We are always attempting to improve the quality of our service and our report, and we will continue to adhere to the highest standards of the real estate industry and to treat everyone with kindness, courtesy, and respect.

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**Inspection Address:** 123 Home Inspection Way, Anytown, AZ 85111  
**Inspection Date/Time:** 3/22/2018 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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ATTACHMENTS