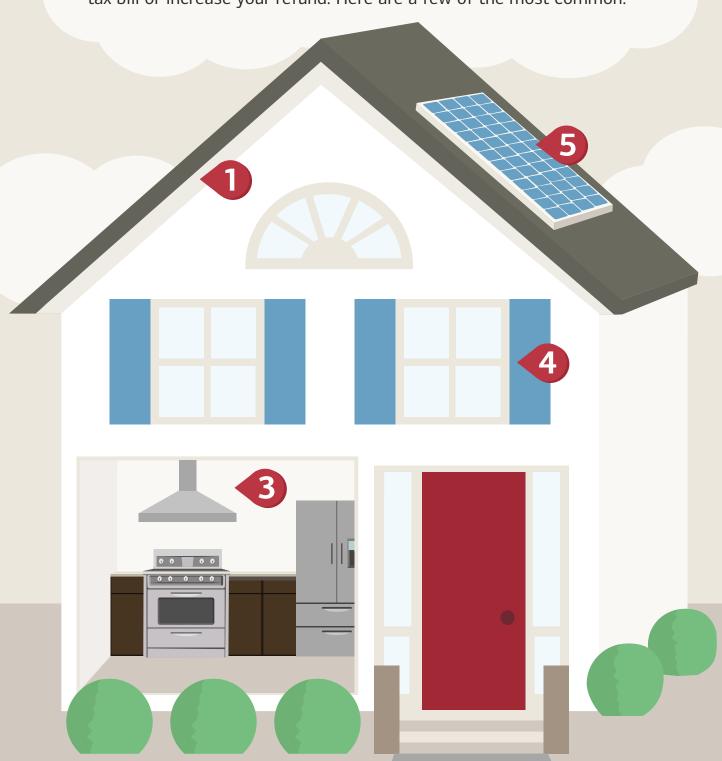
Tax benefits for homeowners



Knowing which tax breaks are available to you may help you reduce your tax bill or increase your refund. Here are a few of the most common.



1. Mortgage interest If your mortgage is under \$1 million¹, generally the interest you pay is tax deductible. If you haven't been in your home long, interest is likely a big portion of your monthly payment, so this can be a large deduction.

Not only can you deduct interest on your original mortgage, but generally speaking, you can also deduct interest payments if you refinance. You can also generally deduct mortgage interest on a second home.



2. Property taxes Generally, you're allowed to

deduct the amount you pay in property taxes.



3. Interest on home equity debt If you took out a home equity loan or line of credit, whether to renovate or for some other purpose, it may qualify as home equity debt, which is **generally deductible up to \$100,000** (\$50,000 if married and filing separately).

If you installed energy-efficient windows and doors, or added

4. Energy-efficient home improvements

insulation, you may qualify for a federal tax credit. Just keep in mind this credit **expires on December 31, 2016.**

Tip: Your state may have its own deductions or credits for energy efficiency. Check the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency.





5. Renewable energy If you installed solar panels, wind or fuel cells, or other equipment that uses renewable energy to help power your home, you may qualify for the Residential Energy Efficient Property Credit. To qualify, equipment must be in service by the end of December 2016.





Source: www.IRS.gov $^{1}\mbox{If}$ you are married and filing separately, this level is \$500,000.

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