



## What is FORTIFIED Home™?

FORTIFIED Home is a way to build a new home or retrofit an existing home beyond typical building codes to deliver superior performance during severe weather (such as hurricanes, strong thunderstorms, and lower-level tornadoes). FORTIFIED is a nationally recognized building method based on more than 20 years of scientific research and real-world testing by the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety.



# Why get a FORTIFIED Home?



## INCREASED HOME VALUE

A recent study led by the University of Alabama, with co-authors from the University of Mississippi and Auburn University, shows that a FORTIFIED designation increases your property's appraised value by 7 percent, or even more closer to the coast.

## PEACE OF MIND

You can sleep better knowing your home is safer and stronger, providing excellent protection for your family and possessions.

## AFFORDABLE

FORTIFIED homes are affordable at every price point. From Habitat for Humanity to luxury beachfront homes, the costs to build, re-roof or upgrade existing houses are minimal compared with the benefits.

## SAVINGS

Your FORTIFIED Home may be eligible for insurance discounts and tax credits in a growing list of states.

## VERIFIED

Using third-party, trained and independent FORTIFIED Evaluators, a detailed documentation and validation process gives you an added layer of protection by ensuring that all FORTIFIED building elements are correct.

## RENEWABLE

FORTIFIED designations last five years, but are renewable. The quick re-designation inspection means that your insurance discount or other benefits can continue and lets you know your home is still performing to the highest standards.

## TRANSFERABLE

FORTIFIED designations stay with your property. When you sell your home, the next owner gets the same benefits you did, which is a great selling point.

# How does it work?



**Whether you are thinking about building a new home, or making improvements to an existing home, FORTIFIED can work for you.**

Along the hurricane-exposed coast, properties are strengthened against the devastating power of tropical storms, hurricanes, thunderstorms and straightline winds.

**The first step toward FORTIFIED is for you to contact a trained, certified FORTIFIED Evaluator to learn how to build your new home or what steps are needed to upgrade your home. They can help you determine what FORTIFIED level is best for you and help document all steps to ensure that your home qualifies for a FORTIFIED Home designation.**

FORTIFIED Bronze doubles the strength of a typical roof.

FORTIFIED Silver strengthens windows and doors for hurricanes, and porches and chimneys for tornadoes.

FORTIFIED Gold creates a strong continuous load path, connecting floors, walls and the foundation, and connecting walls to each other and to the roof so the entire house moves as one, to better stand firm against high winds.





## For more information

To learn more about FORTIFIED Home and to find a FORTIFIED Evaluator, please visit [fortifiedhome.org](http://fortifiedhome.org)



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