01 / SHADE

Start before the glass.

Exterior shade intercepts direct sunlight before it reaches a window. A porch, overhang or shutter can reduce the solar energy entering the room. The useful question is not whether the house has

LOOK FOR THE SHADOW, NOT JUST THE FEATURE.

A deep porch can shade lower windows while upper windows remain exposed. Low sun may reach beneath an overhang that blocks higher sun. Orientation, season and time of day change the result.

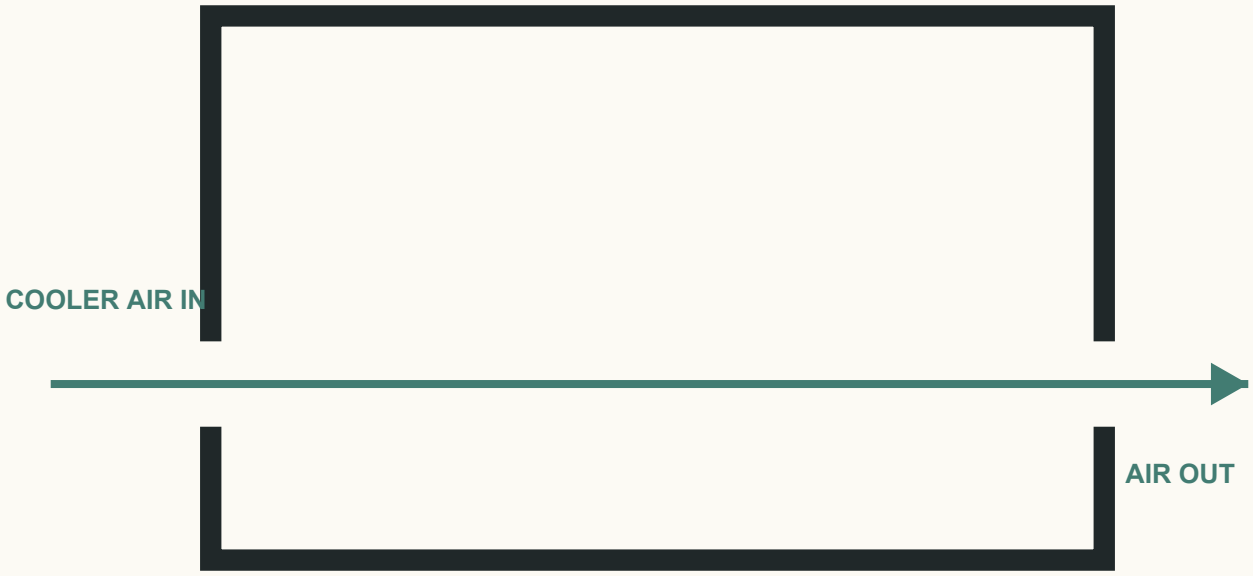
Try observing: choose one room that gets hot. Note the time direct sun reaches its glass, which outside feature casts a shadow, and when that shadow moves away. A single visit is a clue, not a complete performance assessment.

Source base: Australian Government, energy.gov.au/households/windows. Photograph: Curtis Adams / Pexels, video 4307510. The image is illustrative, not a temperature measurement.

02 / AIRFLOW

A breeze needs a route.

Cross ventilation connects an inlet and an outlet through the room. Cooler incoming air can carry heat away from the building. An open window or a moving curtain alone does not establish that the conditions are right for cooling.



CONCEPTUAL PLAN VIEW

Check the conditions: Is outdoor air cooler than indoors? Is the route between openings clear? Could incoming air add unwanted moisture? Is outdoor air quality suitable?

Natural ventilation depends on weather and climate. It is not a universal substitute for mechanical cooling, and it should not be relied on to manage unsafe indoor heat.

Source base: U.S. Department of Energy, bsesc.energy.gov/energy-basics/natural-ventilation-and-cooling. Diagram: original, conceptual; not a calculated airflow simulation.

03 / OBSERVATION SHEET

Read one room at a time.

Use this sheet to record what you can observe. Keep conditions and times alongside your notes. This is an observation record, not a building diagnosis.

ROOM

DATE / TIME

SUNLIGHT

Where does direct sun reach the window or wall?

EXTERIOR SHADE

What casts the shadow? When does it move?

OPENINGS & PATH

Where could air enter, pass through, and leave?

OUTDOOR CONDITIONS

Temperature, humidity or air-quality information available

MOISTURE OBSERVATIONS

Where is it wet? When? Inside or outside the glass?

What remains uncertain? Record it before assuming a cause. Persistent damp, damage or unsafe indoor conditions may need qualified assessment.