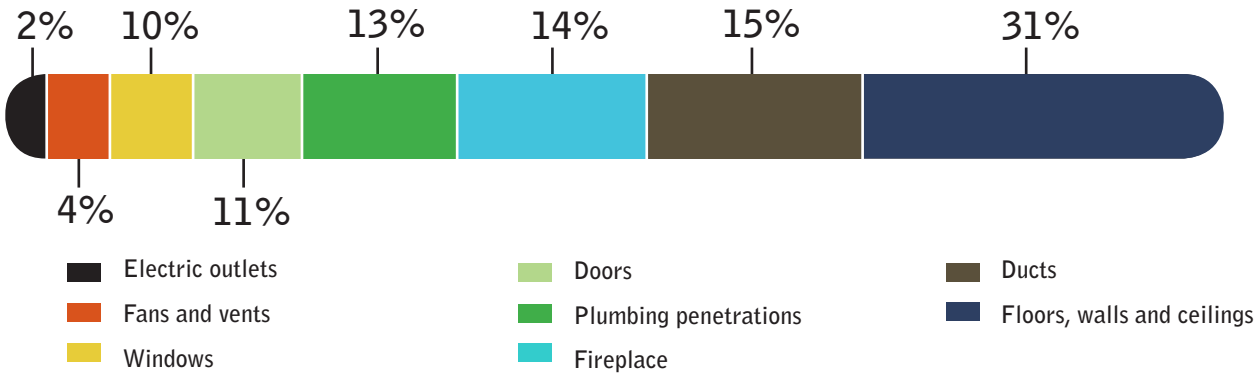
Insulation Fact Sheet

What is insulation?

Insulation is a cost effective way to slow the transfer of heat and cold through building materials, such as wallboard, windows and flooring. Insulation provides increased comfort by protecting your home from outside heat or cold and helps to maintain a more constant, controlled temperature throughout your home. Adding insulation to walls, floors, ceilings, attics and ducts will ensure your home operates more efficiently. The illustration below shows common areas of conditioned air loss in your home.



How do different types of insulation measure up?

Be sure to pay attention to R-value. R-value is the performance measurement for insulation—a higher R-value being more effective. There are several types of insulation, each having different characteristics.

- **Batts**—Batts are flexible and fit well between wall studs or in ceiling and floor joists. Fiberglass batts are the most common type of insulation, but you can find others made from materials such asw denim and wool.
- **Loose-fill/blown-in**—Loose-fill insulation is blown into walls and ceilings through a hose, completely filling spaces and providing a consistent R-value. Cellulose and fiberglass are the most common types of loose-fill insulation.
- **Foam**—Foam insulation comes in rigid sheets or can be sprayed in. Foam can have a higher R-value per inch than batts and loose-fill, and can also be used to seal air leaks.

Self-install insulation requirements

Incentives for self-installed attic/ceiling and floor insulation are available through the Conservation Incentive Program. Before you begin your self-install project, please call us at 1.866.626.4479 for pre-approval and important information you will need to receive your incentive. Wall insulation incentives are only available for work completed by a licensed Washington contractor.

For a list of qualified Trade Ally contractors, please visit us online at **www.cngc.com/conservation**.

Air Sealing

Air leakage occurs when cracks and openings leak conditioned air from inside the house and allow outside air to enter the house. Using caulk or weatherstripping to properly seal seams, cracks and openings in your home will help reduce drafts, control moisture, reduce indoor air pollutants and improve overall comfort. Using proper air sealing and insulation techniques can reduce your heating and cooling costs by up to 30 percent.

Visit the U.S. Department of Energy at **www.energy.gov** for more information on the benefits of air sealing and easy, at-home tests you can perform to check for air leakage in your home.

Insulation Incentives

Floor Insulation
$0.45 per square foot

Wall Insulation
$0.30 per square foot

Ceiling or Attic Insulation
$0.25 per square foot

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