



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 the walls, floors, ceilings, attics and ducts will ensure your home operates more efficiently.

HOW DO DIFFERENT TYPES OF INSULATION MEASURE UP?

Be sure to pay attention to the 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 such as 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.

AIR SEALING

Air leakage occurs when cracks and openings leak 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 all over 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.

Insulation Incentives

Ceiling or Attic Insulation

Equal to or greater than R-38,
(prior condition must not exceed
R-18)

\$0.25/per sq. ft.

Floor Insulation

Equal to or greater than R-30 or
fill the cavity*,
(prior condition must not exceed
R-11)

\$0.45/per sq. ft.

Wall Insulation

Equal to or greater than R-11,
(prior to condition must not
exceed R-4)

\$0.40/per sq. ft.

* minimum of R-19 or higher to
fill cavity



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