

ENERGY SAVING IDEAS

Save On Heat With A Properly-Insulated Home

(NAPSA)—Most homeowners assume they have enough insulation, but how can you be sure—and, why should you care?

The second answer is easy. A properly insulated home offers many benefits—protecting your family from the cold and improving indoor air quality. Because insulation saves energy, you may see savings on your bills this winter. Investing in products to make homes more energy efficient pays significant dividends over a lifetime—with none of the wild fluctuations of Wall Street.

How do you know if your home has enough insulation? Older homes may not meet current recommendations for energy savings and comfort. First, check out www.simplyinsulate.com. This site provides straightforward information for homeowners on everything about insulation. Homeowners can find the Department of Energy's recommended minimum insulation R-value for their state as well as access an easy-to-use database on cash rebates and tax incentives for insulating above the minimum code. Adding fiber glass insulation above minimum requirements increases energy savings, provides greater noise control and offers more protection against airborne pollutants.

Ask yourself if your home is insulated for maximum energy savings. Do you have insulation in these areas:

- Water heater?
- Exposed hot water pipes?
- Foundation walls?
- Interior walls?
- Thresholds?

Many homeowners struggle with the kind of insulation to use.



Keep heat in where it belongs with the right amount of insulation.

When selecting insulation, remember three things:

- Keep it dry—don't add mold-causing moisture to your house with wet-spray insulation. A combination of fiber glass batts and blown-in products will insulate core areas of your home.
- Choose an Energy Star product—fiber glass insulation is Energy Star compliant, which means they help reduce energy consumption.
- Choose an environmentally friendly product such as fiberglass insulation.

Finally, don't be afraid to ask for help. Get expert advice from the Department of Energy (www.energy.gov), North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (www.naima.org), and Alliance to Save Energy (www.ase.org). Home improvement centers and qualified contractors can also offer good advice.

Don't let high heating costs make you hot under the collar. Take the time now to protect your home and family by boosting your insulation.