

Attic Insulation

Introduction*

Attic insulation is a crucial component in maintaining a comfortable and energy-efficient home. By properly insulating your attic, you can significantly reduce energy consumption, lower utility bills, and create a more consistent indoor environment. This document explores the various aspects of attic insulation, including its benefits, types, installation methods, and maintenance tips.

Attic Insulation 50% of cost up to \$250

Important notes on eligibility:

- ▶ Existing attic insulation must be less than R-19.
- ▶ Addition of R-38 or greater and / or improve to comply with current state code as structure allows.
- ▶ Non- air sealing types of insulation (fiberglass loose fill, fiberglass batts, cellulose loose fill, etc.) may be contractor or self-installed. Air sealing is highly recommended at the time of installation but not required
- ▶ If installing spray foam insulation (open or closed cell), dense pack or wet spray cellulose in a home with combustion appliances (gas furnace, gas stove, gas fireplace, etc.) a test-out is required to confirm the home passes combustion safety testing.
- ▶ Insulation must be installed across the entire attic structure and in all attic spaces in the home.
- ▶ Reflective materials such as radiant barriers do not qualify for the rebate.

The Benefits of Attic Insulation

Energy Efficiency

One of the primary advantages of attic insulation is its ability to enhance energy efficiency. Insulation acts as a barrier, preventing heat from escaping during the winter and keeping it out during the summer. This means your heating and cooling systems don't have to work as hard, leading to reduced energy consumption and lower utility bills.

Cost Savings

By reducing energy consumption, attic insulation directly impacts your monthly utility bills. Homeowners can save a significant amount of money annually by ensuring their attics are properly insulated. Additionally, the initial investment in insulation is often recouped through these savings over time.

Improved Comfort

A well-insulated attic contributes to a more consistent indoor temperature throughout your home. You'll experience fewer drafts, cold spots, and temperature fluctuations, resulting in enhanced comfort for you and your family.

Environmental Impact

Reducing energy consumption not only saves money but also benefits the environment. Lower energy usage means fewer greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to climate change. By insulating your attic, you're taking a step towards a more sustainable and eco-friendly home.

Types of Attic Insulation

Fiberglass Insulation

Fiberglass insulation is one of the most common types used in attics. It consists of fine glass fibers and is available in batts, rolls, and loose-fill. Fiberglass is known for its affordability, ease of installation, and effective thermal performance.

Cellulose Insulation

Made from recycled paper products, cellulose insulation is an eco-friendly option. It is treated with fire retardants to enhance safety and is typically blown into the attic space, filling gaps and providing excellent coverage.

Spray Foam Insulation

Spray foam insulation is a versatile and highly effective option that expands upon application, sealing gaps and providing a robust thermal barrier. It is available in open-cell and closed-cell varieties, each offering different levels of insulation and air sealing properties.

Installation Methods

DIY Installation

For those who are handy and have some experience with home improvement projects, installing attic insulation can be a DIY task. However, it's important to follow safety guidelines and ensure proper coverage to achieve the best results.

Professional Installation

Hiring a professional to install attic insulation is often the best choice for optimal performance and peace of mind. Professionals have the experience, tools, and knowledge to ensure the job is done correctly, adhering to local building codes and safety standards.

Considerations for Installation

When installing attic insulation, it's essential to consider factors such as ventilation, moisture control, and air sealing. Proper ventilation helps prevent moisture buildup and mold growth, while air sealing ensures that insulation performs effectively by eliminating drafts and air leaks.

Replacing or Upgrading Insulation

Over time, insulation can degrade or become less effective. If your home is older or you notice increased energy bills, it might be time to replace or upgrade your attic insulation. Modern insulation materials and techniques can offer improved performance and energy savings.

Conclusion

Attic insulation is a vital aspect of home maintenance that offers numerous benefits, from improved energy efficiency and cost savings to enhanced comfort and environmental impact. By choosing the right type of insulation, ensuring proper installation, and maintaining it over time, you can create a more comfortable, efficient, and sustainable home. Investing in attic insulation is a smart decision that pays off in numerous ways, providing lasting value for you and your family.