ENERGY SAVINGS TIP:
INSULATE AND AIR SEAL THE ATTIC

Properly insulating and air sealing your attic will help reduce your energy bills. Attics are often one of the easiest places in a house to insulate.

Heat rises - Near your ceiling the air is probably the warmest in your house. If there's an attic above your ceiling it's probably a major conduit of heat loss in winter. Adding insulation to your attic is said to be one of the most cost-effective energy saving investments you can make. Typically the attic will also get very hot in summer, so insulating it will also greatly reduce cooling problems in the summer.

Installation costs vary. Loose-fill cellulose insulation is less expensive to install than batt insulation though. When installed properly, loose-fill cellulose insulation also provides better coverage.

Before installing the insulation, two-part foam may be needed to fill attic-to-home air leaks.

Sealing around chimney and framing with a high-temperature caulk or furnace cement should also be performed prior to installing the insulation.

Also insulate and air seal attic accesses if the access is located in a conditioned part of the house.

It is important to properly insulate and air seal any knee walls—vertical walls with attic space directly behind them—in the home as well. In some cases to do this may require creating access openings to reach the area and finish with a new installed hatch.

Source: Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) report. The NRDC is a non-profit environmental membership organization with over 300,000 members and contributors nationwide.

Why Cellulose?

Cellulose insulation is manufactured from recycled paper and is the least polluting and most energy efficient insulation.

Cellulose has the highest post-consumer recycled content. The fiberglass industry averages 35% recycled glass, while the cellulose industry averages a minimum of 75% recycled content. It takes more than 10 times as much energy to produce fiberglass insulation as cellulose insulation.

Due to air circulation and natural convection, the R-value of blown-in fiberglass insulation decreases by as much as 50% as the temperature drops from 45 degrees F to 18 degrees F. Cellulose has better resistance to air flow and prevents the upward movement of air caused by temperature differences (the R-value of cellulose actually improves during cold weather). Cellulose is also fire retardant.

Compliments of:
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Keeping you and your family safe, comfortable and energy efficient!