

Roof & Loft Insulation



Heat rises, and in an uninsulated home a quarter of your heat is lost through the roof. Insulating your loft, attic or flat roof is a simple and effective way to save that waste and reduce your heating bills - you can even do it yourself.

Loft insulation is effective for at least 40 years, and it will pay for itself over and over again in that time.

How much could you save?

	Loft insulation (0 to 270mm)	Loft insulation (100 to 270mm)
Approximate saving per year	Up to £175	£25
Installation cost	£100 to £350	£100 to £350
DIY cost	£50 to £350	£50 to £350
Time taken to pay for itself	Up to 2 years	From 2 years
Carbon dioxide saving per year	Around 720kg	Around 110kg

These are estimates based on insulating a gas-heated, semi-detached home with three bedrooms, showing savings when you insulate an uninsulated loft, and when you top up 100mm of insulation to 270mm. (The recommended depth for mineral wool insulation is 270mm but other materials need different depths.)

If your loft is already insulated, it's worth checking that you've got enough insulation to get the maximum saving. If everyone in the UK installed 270mm loft insulation, we could save nearly £500 million - and 2.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year, the equivalent of taking nearly 100,000 cars off the road.

Home Survey Reports Ltd are currently offering the installation for qualifying houses* fully funded and therefore **FREE** for a limited period, so act now! I know it sounds too good to be true, call us for more information.

**Call our helpline now:
0161 764 8780**

Choosing loft insulation

Easy access and regular joists

If your loft is easy to access and has no damp or condensation problems, it should be easy to insulate - you could even do it yourself.

If access is easy and your joists are regular, you can use rolls of mineral wool insulation. The first layer is laid between the joists - the horizontal beams that make up the 'floor' of the loft - then another layer is cross-laid at right angles to cover the joists and make the insulation up to the required depth. This can be done by a competent DIY-er or a professional installer.

continued overleaf

*Qualifying houses include, clear cavities and lofts with 60mm or less of loft insulation.



Storage or living space

If you plan to use the loft or attic for storage, you will want to lay boards over the joists. Unfortunately, if you only insulate between the joists before doing this, the insulation won't be thick enough.

To get enough insulation you can:

- > insulate between the joists with mineral wool and then lay rigid insulation boards on top, with wooden boarding on top of that. You can buy insulation board pre-bonded to floor boarding to make the job easier, or
- > raise the level of the floor so you can fit enough mineral wool beneath the new floor level.

Either way, make sure you don't squash the mineral wool when you fit the boards on top - this will reduce its insulation value.

Damp lofts

Insulation stops heat escaping from living spaces, so it will make your loft space cooler - which could make existing damp or condensation problems worse. Get professional advice before installing insulation to see if you can fix the damp problems first.

Pipes, water tank and loft hatch

Insulating between the joists of your loft will keep your house warmer but make the roof space above colder. Pipes and water tanks will be more likely to freeze, so you will need to insulate them. If your water tanks are some distance from the loft hatch, you will also need something to walk on for safe access.

The cooler air in your insulated loft could mean that cold draughts come through the loft hatch. To prevent this, you can fit an insulated loft hatch and put strips of draught-excluding material around the edges of the frame.

Who pays for the cost of the insulation?

The Carbon Emission Reduction Target (CERT) is an obligation placed by Government on gas and electricity suppliers to deliver a reduction in household carbon savings across England, Scotland and Wales. It aims to help ensure the UK meets its statutory carbon reduction targets. In helping households take up energy efficiency measures, it helps more households benefit from reduced energy bills and increased thermal comfort alongside increased security of supply from reducing energy demand and local air quality benefits.

Assuming suppliers pass all their costs on to consumers in their energy bills then the average annual supplier cost per consumer bill will be £50 under the extension compared to £41 under CERT now, meaning an additional £9 to consumer bills per year to 2012 only. All households will have an opportunity to benefit from measures which can deliver energy bill savings significantly beyond these costs.

FREE INSULATION

Available in selected areas subject to survey, call Home Survey Reports Ltd today to find out more 0161 764 8780.