

# Insulation & draught proofing

Save up to 70% on winter heating costs with insulation and draught proofing



Save energy, water and money



# Keep your house cool in summer & warm in winter with insulation & draught proofing.

## Insulation

A fully insulated home is the most effective way to improve the comfort and energy efficiency of your home and save money on heating and cooling costs.

- › **Ceilings** Insulate ceilings to a minimum R-value of 3. Insulation will increase your homes comfort and save money on energy bills.
- › **Walls** When renovating, insulate any existing external walls where internal wall linings are being replaced. Insulate walls to a minimum R-value of 1.5.
- › **Flooring** Use reflective foil or batts under suspended floors, especially where the underfloor space is exposed.

## Draught proofing

Draughts account for up to 25 per cent of heat loss from a home in winter, therefore blocking leaking air will make a big impact on energy and money you can save on bills.

By sealing gaps, stopping cold draughts and keeping warmed air inside the house you will reduce the amount of energy required to keep the house warm and save money on bills.

Draught proofing has summer benefits as well, preventing the loss of cooled internal air from the house and the entry of warm air in summer. Not only will you reduce your energy bills year round, but you will increase the comfort of your home.

## Maximise efficiency

There are different draught sealing products for different situations, so consult your retailer for guidance.

- › **Doors** Fit draught stoppers and weather sealing tape to external doors

and doors to high ventilation areas such as bathrooms and laundries.

- › **Windows** Fit weather sealing tape to windows. Draw blinds or curtains to reduce heat loss in winter.
- › **Downlights** Avoid vented, recessed downlights, which can increase air leakage. Downlights also decrease the effectiveness of ceiling insulation, as adequate clearances must be maintained around downlights to prevent overheating.
- › **Cracks** Seal any cracks or gaps in floors, walls and ceiling with a filler. Seal wall vents, providing you do not have an unflued gas heater.
- › **Fans** Install exhaust fans with louvres which shut when the unit is switched off, or purchase a cover for ceiling exhaust fans which has flaps designed to open when the fan is running.
- › **Fireplaces** For open fireplaces use a chimney damper when the fireplace is not in use, or install a chimney balloon.
- › **Evaporative air coolers** Winter covers are available for older systems, and special covers can also be purchased for the ceiling outlets to fully close them in winter.

## Useful information

The Victorian Energy Saver Incentive scheme provides additional support to Victorians who install some draught proofing and weather sealing products. For more information ask your retailer or visit the Essential Services Commission website. [www.esc.vic.gov.au/](http://www.esc.vic.gov.au/)

## More information

Ask your retailer, phone 1300 363 744 or visit [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/smarterchoice](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/smarterchoice)