



**CORNERSTONE**



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**FACT  
SHEET**

## Loft Insulation

Did you know that by installing loft insulation you could reduce heat loss by around 25% and save up to £250\* on your energy bills every year?

By installing loft insulation in your home you could:

- ✓ Save up to £250\* on your energy bills every year\*
- ✓ Reduce damp and condensation in your home
- ✓ Reduce heat loss by around 25%
- ✓ Make your home warmer.

It's never been more important to think about insulating your loft. Loft insulation is an effective way to save energy and money at home. A well insulated house keeps warmth exactly where you need it – indoors.

Without proper insulation a lot of the valuable, expensive energy you use to heat your home will be wasted.

So, insulating your loft – or topping up any insulation you already have – will help to heat your home more efficiently and save money on your bills.

### How does loft insulation work?

Heat will always flow from a warm area to a cold one and hot air rises. The colder it is outside, the faster heat from your home will escape into the surrounding air and up through the roof.

Insulation makes it much more difficult for heat to pass up through your roof by providing a layer of material which has lots of air pockets in it.

### Lofts with easy access and regular joists

Lofts with no damp or condensation problems with easy access should be easy to insulate.

Rolls of mineral wool (a lightweight, high-efficiency insulation material) can be laid in between the joists. A second layer laid at right angles to the rolls between the joists will cover them and bring the depth up to the recommended level.

### Lofts with difficult access

Where access to the loft is not easy or straightforward it is possible to have your loft insulation “blown” into the loft space. Made from cellulose fibre or mineral wool, this fire retardant and loose insulating material is blown in using specialist equipment.



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## Storage or living space

If you use your loft as storage or living space, you will need to cover the floor of your loft with insulation without squashing it, as this will significantly reduce its effectiveness. By just insulating between the joists and adding boarding on top, the depth of the insulation will not be thick enough. To insulate to the required depth and use the space you can use rigid insulation boards instead of mineral wool or you can raise the level of the floor so you can fit in more insulation underneath.



## What if my loft is damp?

Any problems with damp or condensation in your loft should be resolved before loft insulation is installed. The loft will become cooler once loft insulation is installed which could make damp and condensation problems worse. Speak to a builder who specialises in damp prevention for advice on how to fix this.

## Pipes, water tank and loft hatch

By installing loft insulation, the amount of heat escaping from your home into the loft space will be greatly reduced making the space cooler. This means you will need to insulate any pipes and tanks in the loft to prevent any potential risks of them freezing in the colder conditions. It is also recommended that the loft hatch is insulated by attaching a block of polystyrene insulation to its upper side, and ensuring any gaps around the side of it are sealed by applying draught proofing strips around the frame to prevent the cooler air creating cold draughts below.

## Potential savings

House type	Approximate savings per year*	Payback time*	Carbon dioxide savings per year*
Detached	Save up to £250	Up to 2 years	Around 1,050kg
Semi detached	Save up to £150	Up to 2 years	Around 620kg
Mid terrace	Save up to £140	Up to 2 years	Around 580kg
Bungalow	Save up to £200	Up to 2 years.	Around 830kg

\*Figures from the Energy Saving Trust. These estimates are based on insulating a gas-heated home with 270mm of loft insulation.

Get in touch today

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