

Fiber glass insulation does more than lower fuel bills

With all the talk about saving fuel through adequate insulation, many homeowners may overlook some of its other benefits.

According to the Johns-Manville Insulation Center, a fully insulated home will provide comfort for family members all year long. Chilling drafts can be reduced during the winter while tiring heat remains outdoors on the hottest summer days.

It's quiet
Another benefit of fiber glass insulation, reports the Insulation Center, is sound absorption. A fully insulated home will be quieter. In addition, heating and cooling equipment won't have to work as hard to maintain desired temperatures in homes that are adequately insulated.

Since the attic is usually the biggest energy waster in the home, that's where insulation should first be added. Although there might be some attic insulation already present, chances are it doesn't meet today's higher thermal standards.

Most authorities recommend R-30 attic insulation, says the Insulation Center. The higher the insulation's "R" value, the greater its resistance to heat flow.

Adding on
If there is some insulation in the attic, but less than recommended standards, use a special "add-on" insulation such as Johns-Manville's ReInsul or unfaced R-19 insulation. Simply roll it out on top of existing attic insulation.

Unlike other attic insulations, which are bulky and cumbersome, to transport from the store or lumber yard, Johns-Manville fiber glass insulations are compression packaged into heavy-duty kraft bags. Consequently, the homeowner can fit more of it into a truck or car, and carry it with ease.

Other important places to insulate in addition to the attic are floors over unheated



COMPRESSION PACKAGED R-30 fiber glass attic insulation from Johns-Manville is designed to meet increasing energy demands. Because of escalating fuel costs and limited supplies, R-30 has generally replaced R-19 as the recommended minimum standard for attic insulation.

crawl spaces and exterior walls.

For walls in an existing house, a professional with special equipment will usually be required to add insulation into the wall cavities.

Open walls
In a new house under construction, where the insides of the walls are still open, the homeowner or contractor can install the insulation by stapling the flanges of the insulation batt or roll to the exposed studs.

And don't forget to insulate the home's water heater, where precious fuel escapes

all year long. A simple do-it-yourself Water Heater Insulation Kit from Johns-Manville is especially designed for this purpose.

Study up
A non-technical "Guide For Do-It-Yourself Home Insulation" describes various insulation products and tells where and how to install them for the best results and greatest economy. For a free copy, write to Johns-Manville, Box 5705RP, Ken-Caryl Ranch, Denver, Colo. 80217. Ask for HIG-266A.

How much is enough?

Attic insulation—the single most cost-effective way of conserving

The real impact of the energy crunch is felt acutely each month when high heating and cooling bills arrive in the mail.

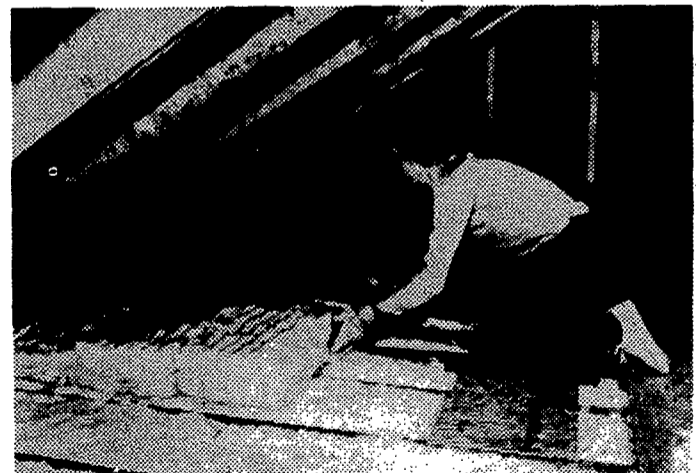
While there are a number of short-term methods which can help to conserve some energy, there's one sure-fire way to help significantly reduce the amount of fuel your home uses for heating and cooling—even up to 30%.

All you have to do is insulate the attic floor properly.

"Attic insulation is the single most cost-effective conservation method we know of around the house," reports Joseph F. Kimpfen, residential energy expert for the CertainTeed Home Institute. "Fiber glass attic insulation will help to pay for itself from the day you install it and its cost is usually returned to you in under three years."

"Naturally if you live in severe weather areas or if utility rates continue to rise, the insulation will pay for itself more quickly."

How much insulation is enough? "According to the National Bureau of Standards, all homes should have a minimum of 6-inch thick



"ADD 12 INCHES of attic insulation (R-38) to the attic floor to maximize heating and cooling energy savings," note the energy experts at CertainTeed Corporation. Install the first layer of six-inch thick fiber glass insulation batts between the joists on the attic floor. Add another six inches across the joists.

fiber glass insulation (R-19) on the attic floor," Mr. Kimpfen says.

"In fact, in most areas of the country right now, 12 inches (R-38) is economically justified and strongly recommended. By next year even more would be warranted if utility rates continue to climb."

To determine how much you should have, and how to achieve the recommended levels, depending on where you live and what your current utility rates are, send for a copy of "Insulating for Maximum Economic Return." It's free from the CertainTeed Home Institute, P.O. Box 860-M, Valley Forge, Pa. 19482.

Hammer hazards!

One of the most familiar hand tools in your household can also be one of the most hazardous.

We're talking about the nail hammer which, when in top shape, can be a joy to own and to use, but when in disrepair, can be a real danger to its user or anyone standing nearby.

The Hand Tools Institute (HTI) warns that one of the most common hazards in the use of striking tools is the chipping of a hammer face which could cause a serious eye injury.

For this important reason, the Institute urges a close check of your present hammers to make sure they are in

top condition and equal to the jobs they are required to perform.

HTI recommends that you closely inspect the hammer's

face for signs of chipping or spalling. If the tool shows any evidence of chips, dents, cracks or excessive wear, discard the hammer immediately.

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