

Buying guide for insulation

Think of your home as its own ecosystem; controlling air, heat and moisture flow between inside and outside is key to comfort. Making sure your home is well-insulated and properly air-sealed is one of the most cost-effective ways to save energy and reduce heating and cooling bills. To help you make an informed choice, here's what you need to know about buying and installing insulation.

GET UP TO
\$7,200
FOR INSULATION UPGRADES

Funded by ONTARIO'S CARBON MARKET

How much insulation do I need?

Insulation is rated and labelled using an R-value, and is measured based on two factors: the thickness of the material and how effectively it limits heat transfer. The higher the R-value, the better your home will resist energy loss.

The amount of insulation you need depends on the climate zone you live in; homes in most parts of northern Ontario are in Zone 3, and generally need more insulation than those in Zone 2.



To be eligible for a GreenON Rebate, ask for an R-value of at least 20 for basement and wall insulation. Attic insulation must have an R-value of at least 50 (you must install a minimum of R-20 to qualify).

Insulation types

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|  | Blanket insulation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The most commonly used insulation for building envelopes• Made from fibreglass, rock wool or natural fibres |
|  | Blown-in or loose-fill insulation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made from fibreglass or cellulose (recycled paper)• Ideal for attics and other hard-to-reach places or for filling cavities |
|  | Rigid board insulation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Typically a rigid foam used in walls, roofs and foundations |
|  | Spray foam insulation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An expanding foam that is sprayed in and used for attic and wall insulation, as well as for cavities or tight air sealing |

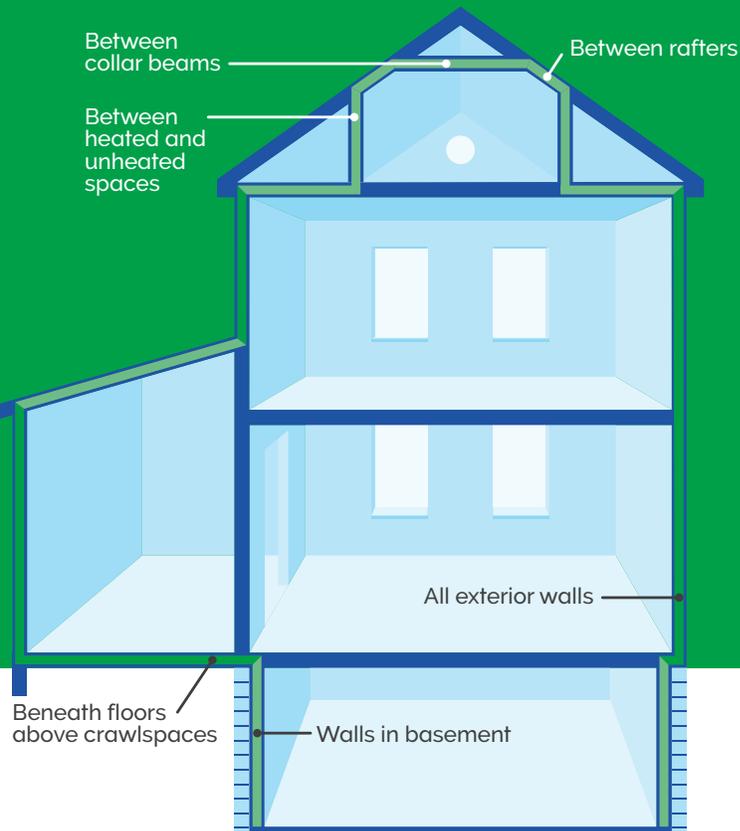
Where should insulation be installed?

Talk to your GreenON Rebates participating contractor about where insulation will have the most impact in your home.

Attic: First, air seal around your attic hatch, plumbing stack vent and any recessed lights. Then add insulation over ceiling joists.

Basement: Seal around your dryer vent and outdoor faucet first. Next, add batts, rigid boards or spray foam to help reduce condensation.

Exterior walls: Seal around your sill plate, top plate and kitchen fan vent. Install both air and vapour barriers to help prevent up to 20% of home heat loss.



Seal the deal

Before insulating, it's important to seal tiny gaps and cracks. In a typical home, up to a quarter of heating loss is due to leaks. Ask your GreenON participating contractor to detect and minimize air leaks around doors, windows, soffits, ducts and elsewhere.

Moisture control

Your home should be as airtight as possible, but it's also important to control moisture. Limit condensation by using kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans. If moisture build-up persists, consider installing an energy or heat recovery ventilator. Ask your contractor or call GreenOn Support for more information.

Questions? Ask us!

Contact GreenON Support for independent expert advice.

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Go with a pro

To qualify for GreenON Rebates, be sure to choose a GreenON participating contractor, obtain at least three quotes to compare, and check references. They have the proper tools and experience to install insulation safely and efficiently, the first time. For independent expert advice, contact GreenON Support at 1-888-728-8444 or info@GreenON.ca.

Questions to ask your GreenON participating contractor

- Does the insulation installation meet the R-value requirements for GreenON Rebates?
- How quickly will it pay for itself?
- What energy savings can I expect?
- If it gets wet, how well will it dry out?
- How would I handle service issues after installation?

The Green Ontario Fund is a not-for-profit provincial agency that invests proceeds from Ontario's carbon market into climate actions that help people and businesses reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use cleaner technology to power their homes and workplaces. The GreenON Rebates Program is delivered by the Independent Electricity System Operator. Products must be purchased from and installed by a participating contractor. Rebates under this program cannot be combined with other rebates or offers and are subject to additional terms and conditions. For more information, visit greenon.ca/terms-and-conditions.

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