



4 Signs That Your Home Needs New Insulation

By SprayFoam.com

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A powerful source to find foam contractors, suppliers, technical data, industry news, industry event, and facts and essential information about spray foam insulation and roofing systems for homes and commercial buildings.

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The 4 Signs That Your Home Needs New Insulation

Homes are our biggest investments. Properly insulating your home can save you hundreds in energy costs yearly and increase the value by thousands. Learn when to know that it's time to protect your investment with new insulation.

Introduction

Proper and lasting insulation is of utmost importance in order to maintain warm and cold air inside a home. Insulation acts a barrier and keeps warm air from escaping your home and also prevents hot air from entering your home. Heat always escapes to a cooler source and insulation is what will keep the cool and warm airflow in check.

Typically, insulation is made up of various materials such as wool, cellulose, and fiberglass, along with spray polyurethane foam (SPF). Once insulation begins to wear down, your home will begin to display the tell-tale signs. Throughout the following pages, we review the 4 signs that your home needs new insulation.



1. Drafts in the Home

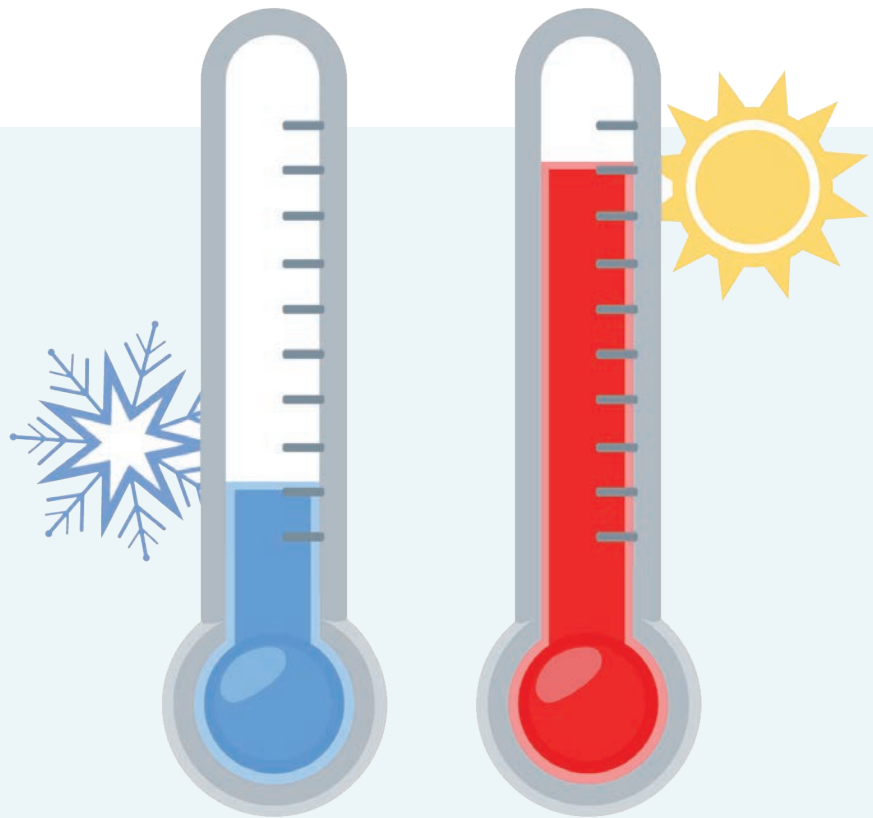
One of the first signs that your home insulation may need to be replaced is if you begin to experience drafts inside your home. Drafts are usually described as sweeps of cold air blowing across a room. The first thing that you should do to rule out any non-insulation issues is to check that window and door crevices are properly sealed and closed. If they are, and there are no cracks, or holes, it's highly likely that your insulation needs to be checked out.

Besides feeling a chilly breeze in your home, another sign that your insulation may need replacing is that the walls will feel cold to the touch. If your walls do feel significantly cold to the touch, the drafts may be coming from cooler air that is forcing its way through your insulation and warm air easily being pushed out. It could be that your insulation behind the walls is heavily worn, or is missing pieces and the air is circulating through. This is something you can fix by adding more insulation or getting new insulation installed.



2. Sporadic Temperature Changes

If the temperature in your home seems to be fluctuating this is a sure sign that insulation may be the problem. This is especially true if you set your home thermostat to stay at a consistent temperature but it continues to experience ups and down. Depending on the room in your home, you may to add on more insulation, or it may be a complete insulation update. If the air temperature continues to change in your home, your insulation is not fulfilling its function of maintaining airflow between cold and warmer sources.



3. Increase in Utility & Energy Costs

In the wintertime, insulation comes in handy because it keeps the warm air inside from escaping to the colder areas. If you notice a spike in your heating bill, it could be that your insulation needs replacing or updating because the warm air is escaping the home. In turn, the heating system in your house is working overtime to make up for any heat loss. The same applies to the summertime when you are using your A/C. If the electricity bill is going up because of the A/C being in constant use, it could be that your cooling unit is trying to leverage the loss of cooler air because heat is easily coming through the insulation from the outside. If this is the case, it's important that your home insulation is inspected for any major gaps and worn down areas. Again, installing new installing may be the best solution.



4. Animal and Pest Infestations

As with humans who want to escape colder temperatures, animals are just the same! They want to find shelter in warmer areas so they can feel safe and warm during colder seasons. Unfortunately, many times animals and pests will seek shelter in your insulation and make it their habitat for the winter months. This is an alarming prospect considering that animals will destroy your insulation quicker than anything else. The next time you suspect rats, rodents, roaches, or squirrels have gotten to your insulation, check for the sure warning signs. Some of the signs include crumbling insulation, gnaw or chewing marks, feces embedded in the insulation, and dirt. If you don't address this issue in time, many of these pests can lay their eggs and multiply the problem on a grand scale. Not only will you have an insulation issue to tackle, but an enormous infestation issue to handle. To avoid this gruesome problem, make sure your insulation is up to date and install completely new insulation to avoid animal and pest concerns.



Some Other Signs and Concerns

Another sign that your home needs new insulation is if you tend to have a lot of ice hanging over the roof of your home, or sticking to the sides of your house. This means that your insulation is not doing its job properly and needs to be looked at. Also, if you see that your insulation is wet, it's a serious cause for concern. This could cause very dangerous and harmful mold and toxin buildup. If this is the case, you need to replace your insulation immediately to avoid any moisture build-up and especially avoid any health concerns.

If you are installing granite, marble, or any porous natural stone countertops make sure that you have insulation around those areas. A lack of proper insulation near these types of countertops can cause discoloration of your stone. Also, if your wall and ceilings are not properly barricaded with insulation, moisture will build up. Moisture rises and can again affect the surrounding countertops in a negative way. If your ceiling begins leaking and the issue is not correctly solved, continual dripping can cause water damage to your floor, cabinets or even your counter over time, which is why insulation is so important. On the opposite end of the spectrum, spray foam applications require a heat barrier for fire protection. There are companies that make the products that these barriers are comprised of to further protect your home and family.

Insulation manufacturing has greatly developed and improved over the years. If your home was built in 1970 or earlier and there has never been an insulation replacement, now is the time do so. Even if you have a more current home, it's important to continue to check and look for signs of insulation health. This is especially true if your home has insulation made mostly of foam as this type of insulation wears down more quickly and is in need of more frequent updates.

Why Spray Foam Insulation?

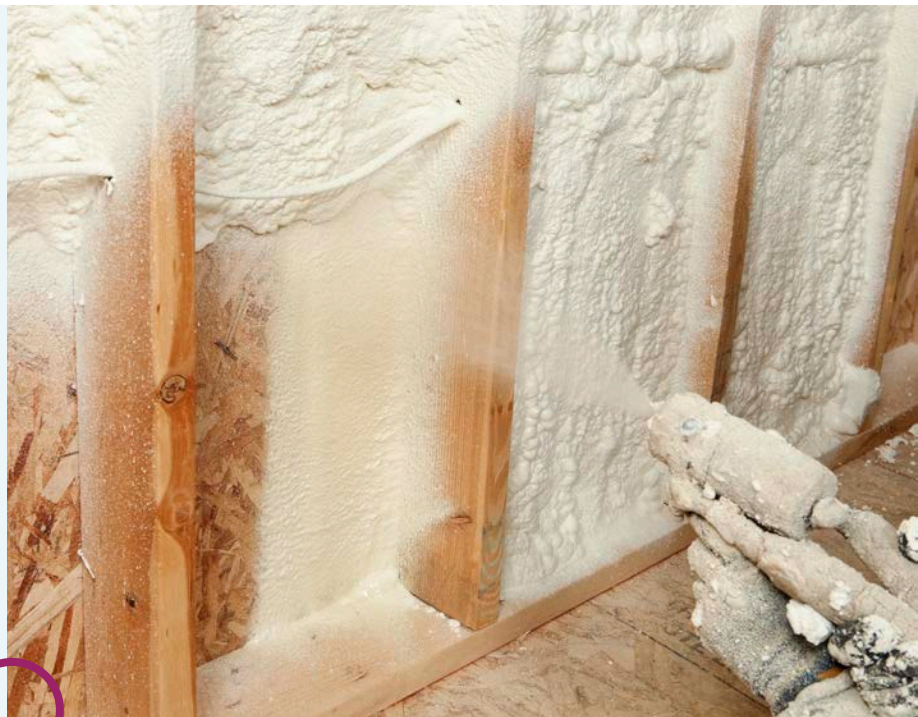
When compared to traditional insulation materials such as fiberglass and cellulose, spray polyurethane foam (SPF) is renowned for being a superior material for both insulation and commercial roofing projects, among other applications. Spray foam is the most robust insulating material on the market today and is frequently utilized to insulate a wide variety of residential, commercial, and industrial buildings.

Spray foam can fully insulate a home or building, as well as seal it from air and moisture infiltration, resulting in a more efficient structure with lower energy bills. Spray foam can also strengthen the walls and roof of a home or building, as well as protect it from airborne particulates and mold.

Spray polyurethane foam is the best insulation money can buy!

Benefits of SPF include:

- Prevents air and moisture intrusion
- Improves occupant comfort
- Lowers energy bills
- Strengthens the building envelope
- Permanent, sturdy, and does not sag
- Keeps out dust, pollen, and bugs
- Protects against ice dams
- Improves indoor air quality
- Meets current building codes



Protect Your Home

If you notice that you are experiencing any of the the four indicators mentioned in this document, it may very well be that your home needs new insulation. Don't wait too long to contact a professional. Having your home properly insulated will save you headaches and also help you avoid future costs of repairs.

For help finding a spray foam contractor near you, click the button below and we'll get you in contact with someone from our network.

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