

ATTIC INSULATION

Kentucky Home Performance MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

Kentucky Home Performance (KHP) Incentives

KHP offers incentives of 20 percent of the total installation cost for a maximum rebate of \$2,000 per home for all improvements.

- or -

A low-interest rate loan at 6.99 percent is also available for eligible improvements.

Other Incentives

State and federal tax credits may apply.

Some additional local utility and manufacturer rebates may be available in your area.



Proper attic insulation is a key element for a more comfortable and energy-efficient home. It is important to have a continuous boundary of insulation between the conditioned space and the unconditioned space. This boundary is referred to as the “Thermal Envelope” and consists of an air barrier that is adjacent to an insulation barrier. Any gaps, voids, or uneven areas can cause major deficiencies in the effectiveness of your home’s insulation.

Why is attic insulation important?

Heating and cooling accounts for approximately 50 percent of your home’s energy usage. Inadequate insulation and air leakage are the leading cause of energy waste in most homes. Attics are often the easiest and most cost-effective place to insulate because most attics provide easy access for improvements. Attic insulation helps keep the home’s living space warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

What does attic insulation improve?

- 1) Conserves energy by slowing down heat loss/gain
- 2) Enhances comfort inside the home
- 3) Reduces the size of heating and cooling equipment needed
- 4) Prevents condensation from occurring
- 5) Reduces gas/electric bills

How much attic insulation should I add?

Insulation levels are specified by R-Values that measure the insulation’s ability to resist heat flow. The higher the R-Value, the better the thermal performance of the insulation. The recommended level for most attics is to insulate up to R-38 or about 10-14 inches, depending on insulation type.

How much money could I save?

Properly insulating your home can save up to 20 percent on your energy bills.

KHP Minimum Requirements

- Air Sealing:

attic plane

crawl space

basement

house-to-garage connections

rim joist

- Duct Sealing:

Holes and disconnects

High pressure areas

Supply take-offs

Joints, seams and boots

- Ceiling Insulated R-19; if not R-19 at test-in, must improve to R-38

- Attic access and Rim/Band Joists are R-10. Hatches must be air-sealed.

- Floor insulated to R-11; if not R-11 at test-in, must improve to R-19

- Working CO monitor

- BPI Health and Combustion Safety Requirements

Installation Standards for Attic Insulation

Attic insulation will be most effective when the attic plane is tightly air sealed before adding insulation. KHP requires the following areas to be air sealed:

- Interior and exterior wall top plates (other penetrations in ceiling).
- Chases and dropped soffits.
- Around chimney and flue pipes.
- Attic accesses, doors, and pull-down stairs.
- Recessed lights.
- Penetrations in ceilings (not top plates).

In order to maintain proper attic insulation safety, KHP requires these fire prevention measures to be followed prior to adding insulation:

- Use fire-stop material to air seal gaps and cracks around masonry chimneys and metal combustion vent pipe.
- Allow a minimum 3 inch clearance to maintain combustion air for gas furnace.
- Allow a minimum 3 inch clearance between insulation blocking and heat dissipating device.
- Use approved non-combustible material is used for fire blocking within 3 inch of heat dissipating device.
- Terminate knob and tube wiring before installing any new insulation.

In order to have effective thermal boundary insulation must be installed correctly. Don't forget these often overlooked errors:

- Install insulation with vapor barrier on the "winter warm side" to avoid trapping moisture in the insulation.
- Split batts and blankets to fit between cross-bracing, pipes, etc.
- Do not compress or crush insulation. Install insulation in a uniform thickness.
- Install insulation in direct continuous contact with the air barrier (e.g., drywall).



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