# Home Weatherproofing Guide

This guide provides a systematic approach to identify and remedy air leaks and inadequate insulation, enhancing your home's energy efficiency and comfort levels.

### Step 1: Inspection

Conduct a thorough inspection of your home to identify potential air leaks. Common areas to check include windows, doors, attic hatches, and where walls meet the floor.

### Step 2: Sealing Leaks

Seal any detected air leaks using appropriate materials such as caulk for non-moving parts (like window frames) and weatherstripping for moving components (such as doors and operable windows).

### Step 3: Insulation Check

Assess the current insulation in your home, paying special attention to your attic, as heat rises and can escape easily through an inadequately insulated attic.

### Step 4: Upgrade Insulation

If necessary, upgrade insulation to achieve a recommended R-value (a measure of resistance to heat flow) appropriate for your geographic location and climate.

### Step 5: Window Treatments

Install thermal curtains or insulating blinds on windows to add an extra barrier against heat loss during cooler months, and to keep heat out during warmer months.

### Step 6: HVAC Maintenance

Ensure your heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system is running efficiently by replacing filters, sealing ductwork, and considering a professional energy audit.

### Step 7: Monitor Energy Usage

Utilize a programmable thermostat or a home energy monitor to keep track of your energy usage, making it easier to identify areas where efficiency can still be improved.

## General Notes

### Professional Audit

Consider hiring a professional to conduct an energy audit for a more comprehensive assessment of your home's energy efficiency.

### Rebates and Incentives

Research available rebates, tax credits, and incentives that can help offset the cost of weatherproofing upgrades through your local government or utility providers.