

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.