

INTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Proper Insulation Makes House Home-ier, Improves Resale Value

(NAPS)—One of the easiest ways to make your house more comfortable and increase its resale value is often the one that's most overlooked.

Know what it is? Here's a hint. It's the most preferred insulation on the market today.

It's fiber glass and contractors say it offers a wealth of energy efficient benefits. It is also thermally efficient, noncombustible and it won't settle or deteriorate with age.

Whether you're remodeling a family area or building an addition, insulation can be the most important ingredient in making that room more comfortable. There's also a payback as it is relatively inexpensive and will improve your home's energy efficiency by lowering monthly utility bills.

Maintaining proper insulation can also make your home more attractive to potential buyers. In fact, most buyers list energy-efficiency as a prime consideration. The reason? Buyers know they can buy a more expensive home if heating and cooling bills can be kept down.

When adding insulation, it's important to look at the attic, sidewalls and the crawlspaces in your floor or garage.

Here are a few suggestions:

- First, use a ruler in your attic to measure the amount of insulation currently installed. If you have six inches or less, you need more.



Maintaining a proper insulation level in your home will not only make it more comfortable for you, it will make it more attractive to buyers.

- To check sidewalls press your hand on the wall. If it feels cold in the winter and hot in the summer, it may need more insulation.

- Check under the floors and in unheated spaces. If the floor above feels cold to bare feet in the winter, adding insulation will make the room more comfortable.

Finally, whether you are doing the work yourself or through a contractor, it pays to familiarize yourself with all the recommended R-values for your region and insulate accordingly.

For a free booklet: *A Guide to Selecting Fiber Glass Insulation Products for New Home Construction and Remodeling*, write North American Insulation Manufacturers Association, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 310, Alexandria, VA 22314.