



BRINGING OUR NEW EBOOK ON

# MAKE YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT

We will help home owners make their  
homes more energy efficient

# Why would I want to make my home more energy efficient?

A more energy efficient home means cheaper bills and a reduction in your carbon footprint. From loft insulation to low carbon heating, we look at the most effective options, how much they cost, and the potential downsides. Here's how to make your home more energy efficient.

## Where should I start?

To find out how energy efficient your home is, you simply order an Energy Performance Certificate or EPC for short.

An EPC is a document that shows how energy efficient a property is on a scale of A to G with A being the most efficient and G being the least. It also gives practical recommendations on what can be done to improve the rating.

An EPC costs between £60 and £120, depending on your property size and can only be produced by an accredited energy assessor.

## I have my EPC, what's next?

It's now time to start considering which energy efficiency improvement(s) to undertake and when. This is what we call an Energy Efficiency Plan. This may seem rather daunting, especially if you live in an older property that is draughty, dated and could benefit from lots of different possible measures.

The key is to research and evaluate all the options available to you before deciding. You'll want to get a good idea of what any improvement work involves, the costs, the potential savings on energy bills per year, as well as understand what can go wrong.

It's also worth noting that retrofitting an older property nearly always comes with risks and compromises. You, and the professionals you hire to install eco measures, are unlikely to know everything there is to know about your property, and the materials and building techniques used at the time it was constructed.

# What are some of the energy efficient measures?

How to make your home more energy efficient: There are several options available to you depending on the type of property and your budget.

## **Loft insulation**

When you're asking how to make your home more energy efficient, there are lots of reasons why people start at the top. This is because it's reasonably priced, effective and involves the least disruption to your home. Energy Saving Trust says a quarter of heat is lost through the roof in an uninsulated home.

## **Double glazing**

There are definite energy saving advantages in upgrading single glazed windows to double glazing. Replacing windows is not very disruptive and the benefits to the look and feel of your home are instant. Home buyers often expect double glazing, so it's an advantage when it comes to selling your home too.

## **Cavity wall insulation**

Around a third of a home's heat is lost through the walls so therefore if you get cavity wall insulation, this can reduce how much heat you lose through your walls. If you're looking at how to make your home more energy efficient and if you have cavity walls, this could be worth looking into.

## **Internal wall insulation**

If your home has solid walls, you can't install cavity wall insulation so therefore internal wall insulation may be an option. Internal wall insulation involves fitting insulation boards to the walls inside your home or fitting a stud wall filled with insulation material.

It's more expensive than cavity wall insulation and you will lose space inside your home.

## **External wall insulation**

External wall insulation involves fixing a layer of insulation material on your home's exterior walls, then covering it with a special type of plasterwork or cladding. The final finish can be textured, smooth, painted, tiled, pebble-dashed, panelled or finished with brick slips.

While external wall insulation has lots of advantages, it is very expensive. You'll also need to consider the cost of adjusting fixtures and fittings that sit on the wall, such as drainpipes and boiler flues.

### **Floor insulation**

Installing floor insulation is another way to reduce draughts at ground level and cut your energy bills. If you have solid concrete flooring, which became typical from the late 1930s, the insulation will be laid on top before you apply a new floor covering. Older homes will usually have suspended timber floors. These can be insulated by lifting the floorboards and laying mineral wool insulation, held in place by netting between the joists.

### **Heat pumps**

If you want to try to cut your energy bills and your carbon footprint, another option is to upgrade to an eco-friendly heating system such as an air or ground source heat pump. Heat pumps capture heat from the outside and move it into your home. And while it uses electricity to do this, the amount of heat it provides your home should be much greater than the amount of electricity the system uses.

### **Solar panels**

Solar electricity panels, also known as photovoltaics (PV), capture energy from the sun and convert it into electricity that you can use in your home. So by installing solar panels, you can generate your own renewable electricity. And while installing solar panels is expensive, if you can afford it and have the space it's one of the most effective ways to reduce how much energy you need to buy.

## It's a little too much to take in, can you help me?

Of course, we can work with you from start to finish and can have as little or as much involvement as you like. We can carry out your EPC and work with you to create an energy efficiency plan including a fully costed refit with timescales.

Once the works are done, we can update your EPC, create your energy file and provide all the appropriate certificates/completion certificates.

It is important to keep all your certificates and proof of works in your energy file as these are likely to be needed if you decide to sell or rent your home or update your EPC.

Our plan also shows you how to change your energy lifestyle to save even more on your energy bills. Have a look at the 3 packages on the next page for more information.

# Energy Consultancy Packages

## Standard

£25 per property

Produce EPC (current)  
Produce EPC (potential)  
Advice & Recommendations  
Standard Report

**BOOK NOW**

## Premium

£50 per property

All points in standard  
Produce Energy Efficiency Plan  
Create your Energy Efficiency File  
In Depth Report

**BOOK NOW**

## Full Monty

£100 per property

All points in Premium  
Fully Costed Energy Efficiency Plan  
Provide U Value Certificates  
Comprehensive Guidance

**BOOK NOW**

The above plans are subject to VAT at the prevailing rate and do not include any site visits.



ASSESSMENT HIVE

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assessments

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