

EXTERNAL WALL INSULATION



External wall insulation involves adding a layer of insulation to the outside walls of your home. External wall insulation won't affect the size of the rooms in your home, but you must consider how it will affect the external appearance and how you will match the existing finish as close as possible.

External wall insulation is typically finished with a protective render coating or cladding such as brick slips/tiles. The total depth of external wall insulation ranges from 50mm to 130mm, depending on the system used.

External wall insulation will not only improve the energy efficiency of your home, but it will also: renew the appearance of outer walls, improve weatherproofing and sound resistance, help keep warm air out in summer months, and it can be installed without disruption to your household.

External wall insulation should be fitted by a specialist installer. These can be found through the National Insulation Association (NIA) (www.nia-uk.org/).

Risks:

Whenever you fit solid wall insulation to a building, you will need to take account of water vapour. Your specialist installer should develop a moisture control strategy that is specific to your building.

Associated works:

Your roofline may need to be extended to cover the top of the insulation.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

- External wall insulation is Permitted Development for dwellings not in a conservation area (any external materials used must be of a similar appearance to the existing dwellinghouse).
- Planning Permission likely to be required for flats, maisonettes, and homes in conservation areas.
- Planning permission and Listed Building Consent required for Listed Buildings (unlikely to be acceptable due to impact on historic fabric).
- In conservation areas, a combination of external wall insulation to the rear of a property and internal wall insulation to the front may be acceptable where the rear elevation is not of heritage interest.
- Making significant changes to thermal elements (walls, roofs or floors) would normally require Building Regulations approval through a building control body. The EWI installer should be able to submit a notice to a building control body on your behalf.
- Applicable Building Regulations: Part F (Ventilation), Part L (Conservation of fuel and power).

Cost: ££££

Disruption: ■ ■ ■ □ □

Useful links

- [Advice on insulating your solid walls - Energy Saving Trust](#)
- [Planning permission - Insulation - Planning Portal](#)



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