

How much does insulation cost?

I guess this is probably one of the most asked questions in terms of home insulation. This article tells you what the cost of insulation is and how to do a rough estimate on insulation cost

First of all, the cost of insulation largely depends on R-value of the material and the size of a specific area of your house that you want to insulate. With that being said, you can determine the cost by first figuring out the **R-value requirement** in your area. R-value requirement depends on where you live and climate of the area as well as the specific place in your house that you want to insulate. For example, if you live in Florida and you want the wall to be insulated, then the required R-value is R-13 according to the diagram at the bottom of this article. If you live in North Dakota, the R-value is different and it is R-18. If you are going to insulate the attic for instance, then the R-value is going to be different. Anyway, the important thing to know is higher R-values means higher insulation cost. Therefore, an R-18 requirement certainly costs more than R-13 for the same insulation material.

After determining the R-value, the next thing is to find out the insulation material that you want to use. Different insulation materials cost differently even though they achieve the same R-value. Popular insulation materials are fiberglass and cellulose. Their respective R-value is 3 and 3.3 per inch of material. Therefore, to achieve an R-value of 18, you would need about 6 inches thick of fiberglass or 5.5 inches thick of cellulose.

When you know the R-value and the insulation material, you will need to estimate the size of the space that you want to insulate. For example, the area of your upper floor space or the foot print of a one story home will represent your attic space in most cases. It is best to have insulation of any kind professionally installed.

Moreover, a rough estimate for a complete insulation job on a typical family home can run **\$2,000 - \$10,000** or more, but averages \$2,500 - \$5,500, depending on materials, the regional climate and the local economy.

Installing a Thermal Blanket like Super R Plus or TempShield has proven to be effective and is usually less expensive than blown or sprayed. Before adding the bulkier batting, it would benefit you to consider the alternatives.

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