

# BENEFITS FOR SPRAY FOAM INSULATION



## WHY INSULATE WITH FOAM?

*Energy efficient polyurethane spray foam insulation and coatings provide a green alternative for homeowners, builders, insulation contractors and architects.*

by

**STRAIGHTLINE**  
CONTRACTING



Spray foam insulation is an alternative to traditional building insulation such as fiberglass. Spray foam insulation is a 2-part spray applied product that forms an expanding foam. When applied at an optimal thickness provides great

thermal insulation as well as an air sealed vapor barrier. Spray foam insulation can be applied to exterior walls, roof decks, attic spaces, crawl spaces, rim joices, as well as interior walls and floor joices to provide a sound barrier. Whether a new build, remodel, or existing home there are many application options.

There are two types of foam insulation; open cell and closed cell. Open cell is a type of foam where the tiny cells are not completely closed. It has very good insulating properties but does not provide any type of water vapor barrier. It is much more sponge-like in appearance. It is often used for interior walls because it provides sound reduction by damping the movement of noise transfer through walls. It is not recommended for outdoor applications. Closed cell foam is much denser than open cell. It has a smaller, more compact cell structure. Closed cell insulation typically has an R-value around R-5 to R-7 per inch. In comparison, blown fiberglass typically has an R-Value of only R-2 to R-4 per inch. With foamed-in-place insulation, it is relatively easy to fill wall and ceiling cavities completely. Because of this it is a very good air barrier as well as a water vapor barrier. This protection against moisture reduces the chance of

harmful mold and mildew. Eliminating mold growth reduces the likelihood of rotting wood and allergic reactions to mold spores. It is often used in roofing projects or exterior walls but can be used anywhere in the house. The higher the R-value of an insulation product the more effective the insulation properties. 1.8-2 pound spray polyurethane foam insulation has the highest R-value of readily available insulation used in homes and buildings.

Spray foam insulation blocks all three forms of heat transfer in essence keeping your home thermal regulated all year round.

Homes treated with spray foam insulation often qualify for state and federal tax deductions. Please visit Focus on Energy and your local utility company's websites to see what incentives you might qualify for.

### **COMMON PROBLEMS; EASY SOLUTION**

Ice damming occurs when heat escapes through the roof to due inadequate attic/roof insulation causing the snow/ice to melt and refreeze at different points on the roof. The melting water will then get trapped by the ice dam and will build up and seep under the shingles. This can cause



deterioration of shingles and underlying roof structure if not corrected. Spray foam insulation applied to the roof deck or attic will create a thermal break thus eliminating heat loss as well as a dramatic reduction in the cost of heating.

Do you have issues with cold or drafty areas throughout your house? These are often noticed most during cold winter spells. Spray foam insulation can be applied by an injection method to existing walls. When the foam expands it fills the cavity compressing the existing insulation eliminating the need to tear out walls making it a fast effective way to add insulation.

New additions giving you cold feet? Most new additions are seated on a subfloor or crawlspace that allows cold air to seep in and penetrate the floor. By sealing the rim and floor

joices you can eliminate those cold floors as well as provide a sound barrier.

Basements and foundations, are they where they need to be? Overtime structural concrete will crack and deteriorate. That's where structural foam comes to the rescue. Structural foam (typically 5 lb, 8 lb, or 10 lb) can be used to lift concrete slabs and

repair walls. Once foam is in place spray applied polyurea coatings add additional waterproofing and protection increasing the longevity of the structure. Foam and coatings can also be applied during the initial build phases as well.

### **MOST JOBS ARE FOR PROS**

Spray polyurethane foam is usually installed by a spray-foam contractor equipped with a truck or trailer to carry the necessary chemicals and spray equipment. Please visit us at [www.slcsprayfoam.com](http://www.slcsprayfoam.com) for more information on spray foam and specialty coating applications. We service the entire state of Wisconsin; specializing in residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural applications.