**Roof insulation**

**What is it?** Approximately ¼ of heat in an uninsulated house is lost through its roof. Roof insulation is generally the most cost effective way to reduce energy use. You can insulate your roof in two ways:

• by using loft insulation blankets, also known as ‘quilts’. As a guide, loft insulation should be around 270mm (about 1 foot) thick if using mineral wool to be effective; or

• with blown insulation which uses specialist equipment to blow loose, fire-retardant material into the loft.

Flat roofs can be insulated too. This can be done by insulating the roof from above as part of re-roofing work. If the roof does not need replacing a layer of rigid insulation board can be fitted on top of the roof’s weatherproof layer or directly on top of the timber with a new weatherproof layer on top.

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| **Cost** £ |
| **Improvement** ↗↗↗↗ |
| **Disruption** ! |

**Property designations?** Is your home in a Conservation Area? Is it subject to an Article 4 Direction? Is it a Listed Building? These considerations may impact whether development to your property requires planning permission or not. An interactive map showing conservation areas and listed buildings can be [found here](https://ssa.camden.gov.uk/connect/analyst/mobile/#/main?mapcfg=CamdenConservation&lang=en-gb). Details of Article 4 Directions can be [found here](https://www.camden.gov.uk/article-4-directions-heritage-and-conservation). If you are uncertain please contact the planning service [planning@camden.gov.uk](mailto:planning@camden.gov.uk)

Listed Buildings - before embarking on any internal or external works, please discuss the matter with a member of the built heritage Conservation Team (planning@camden.gov.uk) or apply for listed building consent, details [available here](https://www.camden.gov.uk/listed-buildings). Listed building consent is always required for works that have the potential to affect the character or special interest of a listed building.

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| No designation (dwelling-house or flat) | Permitted development (planning permission is not required) |
| Conservation Area (with or without Article 4 Direction) | Permitted development (planning permission is not required) |
| Listed Buildings | Loose forms of loft insulation, such as quilts or pellets, and lagging do not require consent. **Consent must be sought for other types** |
| Building Regulations | Part L (Conservation of fuel and power)  Part P (Electrical safety)  Planning portal, building regulations information on roof insulation, see [this webpage](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200130/common_projects/32/insulation/3). |

**Other considerations**

* Type and amount of insulation. Natural and breathable insulation materials allow for the transfer of moisture to avoid build-up of condensation and rot.
* May need to leave air gap around edges to avoid damp and allow air to circulate.