

Permissions For Reprints Contact: 1-800-640-8285

How To Repair Loose Insulation

Heating bills up in winter? Did you just install a new furnace, and the kid's upstairs room is still cold? Or is that new air-conditioning unit failing to do the trick? If your heating and cooling equipment is in good shape, then the culprit is loose or fallen insulation within walls or ceilings.

It is an enormous job to get to insulation behind walls, and this should be left to a professional. But you can easily correct this problem in attics and other exposed areas.

Utensils

Scissors
Staple gun
Small saw
Hammer

Ingredients

Roll of insulation
Roll of tar paper
Wooden furring strips
Few pounds of 1" 1/2 inch 4-penny box nails

Approximate Time: 30 Minutes For Small Job

1. Locate area(s) in need of new insulation (Fig. 37A).
2. Cut insulation from roll to fit area(s) in need.
3. Secure in place with staple gun (Fig. 37B).
4. Cut sections of tar paper to fit over insulation.
5. Staple tar paper into place by stapling through it into wall or ceiling joists (Fig. 37C).
6. Cut furring strips to fit across newly insulated area.
7. Nail furring strips perpendicular to joists 16" inches on center (on center means measuring 16" inches from the center of one strip to the center of the next strip), as shown in Figure 37D. This completes the job and will prevent insulation from falling again.

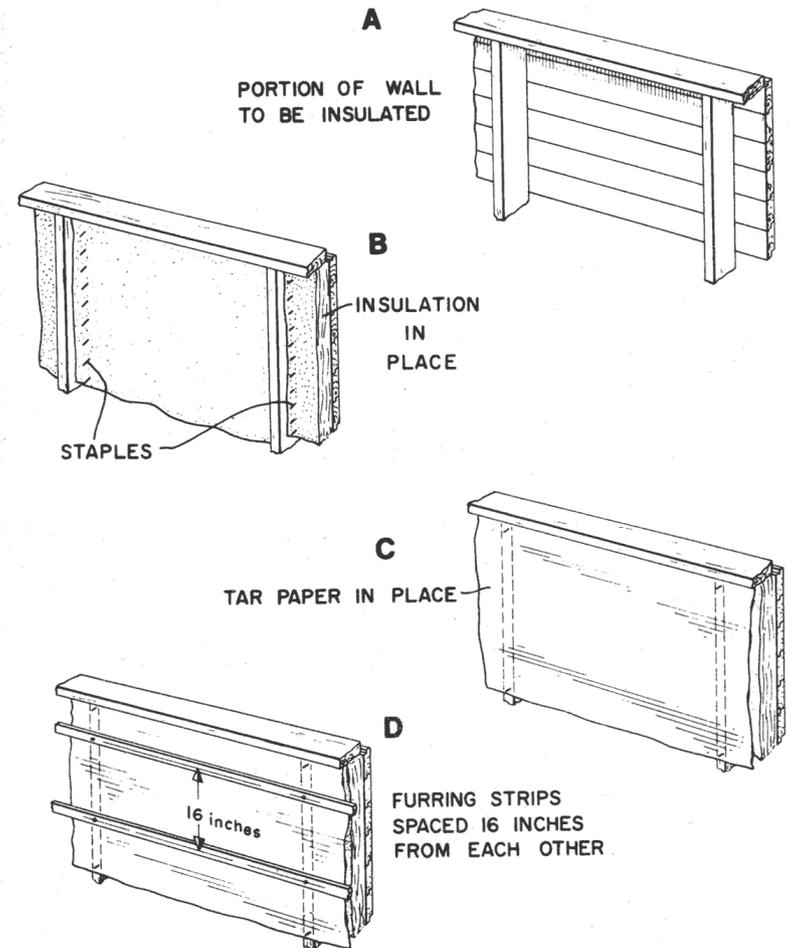


Figure 37.
Installing Insulation