



# Insulate an Attic or Knee Wall With Blown Insulation

Job Aid for Seal and Insulate Knee Walls Badge

Aligns With Standard Work Specifications 4.0104.1

## BEFORE



Air seal gaps and wiring penetrations prior to covering the wall.



Securely install backing material over entire attic wall to create an enclosed cavity. Use wood strips along the studs and edges of the framing to hold the material in place, withstand air pressure, and prevent insulation from spilling out.



Cut holes in rigid backing material or cut small slits in house wrap material to allow access to each cavity.



Blow insulation into cavities to meet dense-pack standards.



Fill all cavities.



Patch all access holes in backing material. Use access hole plugs when a rigid material is used or seal slits in house wrap material with a high quality tape.



Seal all access holes.



Once insulated, this attic wall provides a continuous, contiguous, safe, and compliant thermal boundary that prevents air movement. When using rigid foam insulation as the backer material, ensure the material meets fire safety requirements of the authority having jurisdiction.



## Checklist

# Seal and insulate knee walls

## DESIRED OUTCOME

Knee walls framed to prevent thermal bypass and sealed to prevent air leakage between conditioned and unconditioned space.<sup>1</sup>

### Air Sealing (check prior to insulation):

- ☐ Existing insulation was removed or adjusted to allow access to top and/or bottom of knee wall.
- ☐ Rigid blocking or other durable material installed:
  - ☐ Beneath the knee wall (floor running under knee wall) and
  - ☐ Above the knee wall (ceiling cavity/ventilation chute/top plate).
- ☐ Installed blocking will stop airflow and support insulation.
- ☐ All joints, cracks, and penetrations, including connection between interior surface and framing, are air sealed.

### Insulation:

- ☐ Install fabric or rigid backing material to enclose knee wall cavity in a durable, permanent way.
- ☐ Install insulation to manufacturer's specifications/ proper density.
- ☐ Ensure that insulation has no gaps, voids, compression, or misalignment.
- ☐ Seal holes in backing material as needed.
- ☐ Fill out applicable sections of house-wide insulation certificate with coverage area, thickness, and R-value.
- ☐ Clean work area.

1. Relevant Standards: 4.0104.1

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