



# NATURALLY BETTER INSULATION

## What is cellulose insulation made from?

Cellulose insulation consists of up to 85% recycled paper and cardboard fibers. It also contains additives for fire resistance, and some has been treated with boric acid for protection from pest infestation and moisture. Cellulose is itch-free and doesn't cause irritation to installers or homeowners.

## Is there a high settling factor with cellulose?

The initial installed thickness in ceiling applications will exceed the settled thickness shown on the coverage chart. The bag count and weight-per-square-foot requirements of the coverage chart must be followed to provide the specified R-value at settled density. In sidewalls, cellulose will not settle when properly installed.

## Do I need a vapor retarder?

With cellulose insulation, a vapor barrier isn't recommended in the United States except in cases of high humidity areas, such as pools and spas, or Zones 4-8, which require a Class III vapor retarder on the interior surface of many types of insulated assemblies. Canadian building codes generally require use of a vapor barrier.

## Can I use cellulose if a homeowner already has insulation present in their home?

Cellulose insulation is ideal for providing additional R-value over existing attic insulation since it completely fills voids and gaps left open by other forms of insulation. It can also be installed in existing exterior walls through various methods.

## How is cellulose insulation installed?

Cellulose insulation can be loose-filled, dense-packed or spray-applied into walls, floors, ceilings, and attics.

## Where can I find information about insulating machines?

CIMA Associate Members include manufacturers of blowing equipment for commercial operations. When installing insulation by pneumatic means, it is important that the application machine be set as recommended by the machine manufacturer. For a given material, the speed of the airflow and the ratio of material quantity to air volume largely control coverage results.

## What kind of safety equipment do I need to wear when installing cellulose insulation?

We advise installers to wear appropriate respiratory and eye protection during application of any fibrous insulation product. A NIOSH-approved N95 nuisance dust mask (3M 8210 or equivalent) and eye goggles are recommended as minimum protection.

## Do you have installation resources available?

We have technical guides for installation of cellulose insulation in Canada and the United States available on our website. All manufacturers have resources for contractors, including safety data sheets and product information, available upon request.



 Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association



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