

Home Energy Grants: Technical Bulletin

Attic Insulation Installation Guidance



Series 2021-08-002 AI



Installation guidance for attic insulation



This technical bulletin outlines common reworks noted by SEAI during inspection of attic insulation works. The methods described below are intended as guidance. All measures must be installed as per the Domestic Technical Standards and Specification (DTSS) and in accordance with the Contractors Code of Practice. Please see the Contractors Support page for further information: <https://www.seai.ie/grants/supports-for-contractors/>. The Quality Assurance and Disciplinary Procedures (QADP) document contains a full list of checks, used by SEAI inspectors. This list should be used to check your work, prior to completing and signing the Declaration of Works (DoW) form.

1. Pipe insulation

 <p>Figure 1: Incorrect Installation</p>	 <p>Figure 2: Correct Installation</p>
<p>Incorrect Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No pipework insulation installed 	<p>Correct Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All pipework fully insulated to Scheme Standard



Scheme Standard (DTSS) - all pipework should be insulated in unheated areas of the roof space (using approved materials) when installing attic insulation.

2. Electrical

 <p>Figure 3: Incorrect Installation</p>	 <p>Figure 4: Correct Installation</p>
<p>Incorrect Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recessed ceiling lights not protected to Scheme Standard 	<p>Correct Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recessed ceiling lights protected as per Scheme Standard



Scheme Standard (DTSS) - Contractors to use purpose-made recessed down light covers (tested to BS EN 60598-1 *Luminaires. General requirements and tests*) or retain insulation at 75mm from recessed light fittings.

3. Ventilation

 <p>Figure 5: Incorrect Installation</p>	 <p>Figure 6: Correct Installation</p>
<p>Incorrect Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient ventilation 	<p>Correct Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sufficient ventilation

Scheme Standard (DTSS) - attention should be given to ventilation and condensation requirements of the attic in relation to the materials used. The installed insulation must not impede cross-flow ventilation.

4. Water tank insulation

 <p>Figure 7: Incorrect Installation</p>	 <p>Figure 8: Correct Installation</p>
<p>Incorrect Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No insulation fitted 	<p>Correct Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insulated to scheme standard

Scheme Standard (DTSS) - water storage tanks should be insulated in unheated areas of the roof space when installing attic insulation. No gaps should be left between the insulation surrounding the cold-water storage.

5. Other common reworks

Boarded walkways not fitted to standard

In every roof space where cold water tanks or other fitted appliances occur, the Contractor must construct a permanent boarded walkway from the roof access hatch to any areas that may require routine inspection or maintenance such as the tank ball valve position and / or the appliance location.

Insulation not as per scheme standard

Insulation products must comply with DTSS requirements and details must be included on the Declaration of Works form. Please note that the Roof Insulation DoW has recently been updated. Please be advised that in line with SEAI's DTSS, Section 6.4, NSAI Agrément-certified products must be used where there is a certified product of that type (e.g. NSAI certified spray foam products must be used). You must submit an NSAI Agrément certificate for any spray foam product used.

Hatch insulation not to scheme standard

The Contractor must insulate the roof access hatch to the same thermal value as the main attic. Draught strip shall be fitted to all sides of the attic hatch.

Whole house solution not installed

The Contractor must ensure that, in the case of insulation, an optimal whole-surface solution is provided where physically and economically feasible. When dealing with roof insulation, this comprises insulation of the whole surface of the ceiling / roof-space as appropriate.

w: www.seai.ie
e: info@seai.ie
t: 01 8082100



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland