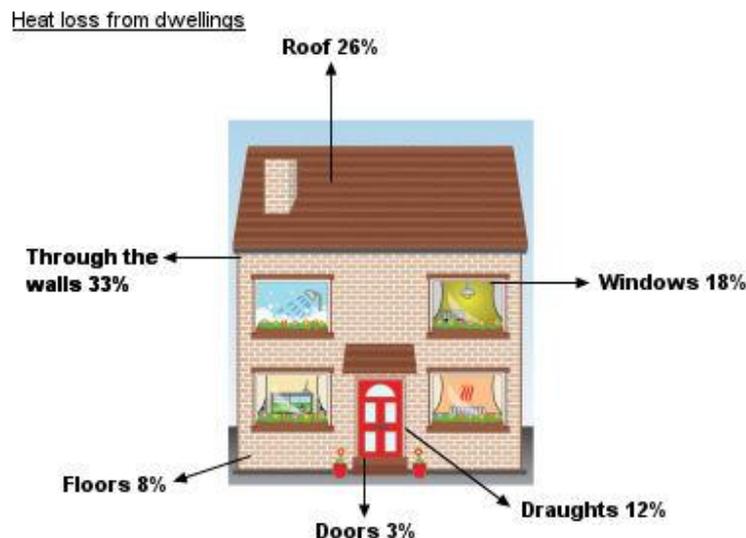


INSULATION FOR STONE WALLS – USING A CONTRACTOR



If there is no wall insulation at present, 35 % of the heat from your home would be lost through the walls. So insulation measures would be very effective.

More good contractors providing wall insulation are becoming available. A new initiative to bring about a major expansion in solid wall insulation (SWI) industry capacity is being developed. The scheme will cover external and internal wall insulation. This will cover quality assurance, skills and training and consumer protection, including a new independent SWI guarantee.

External insulation cladding

This is by far the best method for overall effectiveness. This would involve having the wall insulated from outside by a builder or insulation company. Insist on having a vapour barrier included. If it's an insulation company they will automatically take into consideration a vapour barrier if required. The cost depends on a number of factors including how complex the job would be and the amount of insulation added and it could vary between very approximately £60 - £180 per square metre plus V.A.T. at 5%. The choice of the amount of insulation varies between 30 – 100 mm insulation boards.

Planning permission is required.

Internal insulation

Internal insulation options are similar to those identified in the Solid Wall DIY HOE To guide.

Funding options

At present the best option is the Scottish Government's Energy Assistance Package stage 4, managed by the Energy Saving Trust. This is available towards insulation measures including wall insulation for those who qualify. Eligibility is based on age or certain qualifying benefits and/or personal circumstances. Your house is also taken into account; those without access to mains gas are more likely to qualify for stage 4. To find out if you are eligible phone 0800 512 012 and ask specifically to be assessed for the Energy Assistance Package.

It is worth asking your fuel company if they are involved in any solid wall insulation project.

V.A.T.

The V.A.T. rate for energy saving products including insulation is 5 %. However this is applicable only if the product is supplied and fitted by a V.A.T. registered company.