Choosing building insulation

Choose insulation to suit the location, required performance and complete build-up.

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1 Start with the location

Roof, wall and floor applications have different loads, moisture exposure and detailing needs.

2 Thermal performance

Check declared thermal conductivity, installed thickness and the calculated U-value of the whole construction.

3 Fire requirements

Check the exact product and complete assembly. One material classification does not establish a wall or roof fire-resistance period.

4 Moisture and ventilation

Plan drying, vapour control and ventilation together. Insulation cannot repair water ingress.

5 Installation quality

Continuity at edges, joints and penetrations matters. Gaps and thermal bridges can reduce the expected benefit.

6 Compare evidence

Ask for current product data, application guidance and environmental declarations. Compare like-for-like scope and service life.

Before ordering: record the product, thickness, intended use and complete construction.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

Use current product instructions and the approved project design. For regulations, confirm the UK nation, applicable edition and transitional arrangements.

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