



DIY ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS

There are many measures homeowners can take to increase a home's energy efficiency. Small changes add up to big savings over time!

REPLACE LIGHT BULBS WITH LED BULBS \$, ⌚

- This is an easy first step for someone who wants to make their home more energy efficient. LED light bulbs pay for themselves over the life of the product.
- LEDs last over five times as long as compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) bulbs, and up to forty times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- LEDs are not cold-sensitive like CFL bulbs, and reach full brightness right away like an incandescent while consuming far less energy and producing very little heat.

INSULATE YOUR WATER PIPES \$, ⌚⌚

- Foam pipe insulation can be purchased for \$1-\$3 per six foot length. Wrap your exposed hot water pipes and secure with zip-ties (some versions come with self-sealing adhesive). Use a box cutter or utility knife to cut shorter lengths where needed. **Use caution with sharp cutting tools, and with hot water pipes.**
- Insulating your pipes saves energy by slowing heat loss from hot water in the pipes. It also reduces the amount of time you have to wait for hot water to come out of the faucet, saving on your water bill.



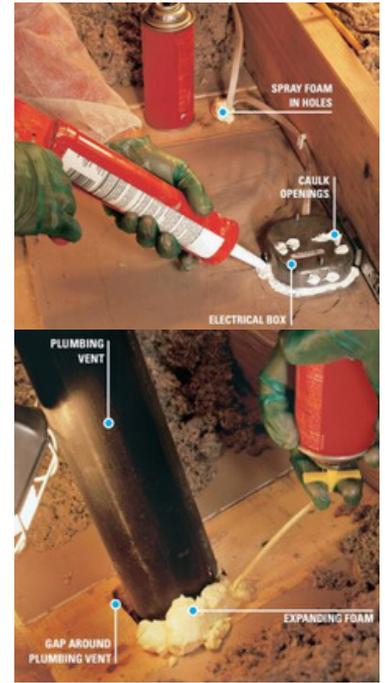
Source: [Lowes.com](https://www.lowes.com)

SEAL DUCTWORK SOLES AND SEAMS \$-\$\$, ⌚⌚

- Holes in your ductwork and seams between sections of cut throw money away by losing warm air to the basement, crawlspace, or attic. A \$7-\$10 roll of **foil tape** can be used to cover small holes and tape around seams, stopping the leaks.
- **Don't use silver duct tape.** This product's name is misleading, and this type of tape will eventually dry out and come loose.

• SEAL PLUMBING, VENT, AND WIRING HOLES \$\$,🕒🕒

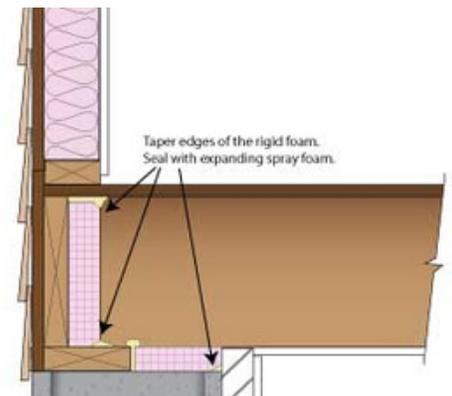
- Holes for wiring, plumbing, and ventilation allow warm air to escape in winter and intrude in the summer.
- Use inexpensive **spray foam insulation** (\$5-\$10 per can) or **acrylic caulk** (\$6-\$12) to fill and seal around pipes, wire, and ventilation stacks where they pass through exterior walls or into the attic.
- Wear gloves when using spray foam insulation and be carefully not to get it on your clothes! Once it dries it's almost impossible to get out.
- When the caulk and foam are dry, the area can be covered with batt or cellulose insulation.



Source: US EPA, A Do-It Yourself Guide to Sealing and Insulation with EnergyStar

INSULATE THE RIM JOIST \$\$,🕒🕒

- Up to 3/4 of air infiltration into a home comes through the basement or foundation. The rim joist, which caps off the floor joists, is a perfect place to correct this problem.
- More than air can get in - moisture, insects, and other unwanted guests can gain access through an unsealed, uninsulated rim joist, potentially creating a health hazard.
- Measure the space between two floor joists on the rim, and use a box cutter or utility knife to score and then break a piece of 2" thick **rigid foam insulation** about 1/2" smaller in width and height. Stick the insulation to the joist with a dab of **foam board adhesive** (\$4/tube) and fill around the edges with spray foam insulation.
- Rigid foam insulation is the most cost-effective method of insulating the rim joist, and provides excellent return on investment.
- Cut holes in the rigid foam for pipes or electrical wire/conduit, and fill around them with spray foam as well.



Source: insofast.com

Call POWER to schedule your free in-home energy assessment so you can start saving today!

440-935-0995

440-774-6579

oberlinpower@gmail.com