

## InsulationSmart Checklist

### Is that insulation really green?



**1. Does the insulation contain harsh or toxic materials or contribute to greenhouse gases or ozone depletion?**

- Direct contact with the insulation will not irritate the skin, eyes, nose and throat
- The insulation will not emit Volatile Organic Compounds, ozone-depleting substances, or gases such as HFCs that are referred by the EPA as having high global warming potential

**2. Will the insulation maximize energy efficiency by creating an air barrier system?**

- The insulation helps minimize random air leakage that's the cause of up to 40% of a home's energy loss
- The insulation adheres well to surrounding building materials to resist sagging, shifting and settling over time

**3. Can the insulation help create a healthy indoor environment?**

- The insulation helps prevent the intrusion of outdoor pollutants and allergens (The best system combines use of an air barrier system to minimize air leakage and mechanical ventilation to provide a source of fresh filtered air and to get rid of excess moisture)

**4. How well does the insulation manage moisture?**

- The insulation resists moisture and dries out quickly if it gets wet
- The insulation maintains its insulating value (will not sag or deteriorate) when wet
- The insulation restricts the movement of moisture through walls/ceilings carried by air that can lead to mold and building failure (Did you know up to 99% of the moisture passing through walls and ceilings is carried by air?)

**5. Does the insulation help reduce the use of materials?**

- The insulation creates an air barrier without using extra materials (tape, caulking, gaskets) often required by conventional fibrous insulation
- Production of the insulation itself requires less material (Note: some open-celled spray foam insulation are only 1% material and 99% air!)

For every checklist criteria met by the insulation product meets, give it 1 point.  
Add up the \_\_\_ /10