

# DIY INSULATION



**Insulating your water tank, pipes and radiators is a quick and easy way to save money on your bills. It reduces the amount of heat lost, so you spend less money heating water up, and hot water stays hotter for longer.**

» Lower bills

» Lower carbon footprint

» Cost effective

» Keeps water hotter for longer

For more information and advice, please contact Sarah Gill on 07720 098980 or [sarah.gill@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:sarah.gill@groundwork.org.uk)

## In more detail:

Insulating a hot water cylinder and pipework - A hot water cylinder jacket costs about £15 and fitting it is a straightforward job if you follow the manufacturer's instructions. Pipe insulation consists of a foam tube that covers the exposed pipes between your hot water cylinder and boiler. It's usually as simple as choosing the correct size from a DIY store and then slipping it around the pipes.

Radiator reflector panels - Fixed behind your radiators, they reflect heat from the radiator back into the room, instead of letting the heat out through an external wall. They can produce the most benefit when installed on uninsulated solid walls. Remember, you only need to put reflector panels behind radiators on external walls.

If you already have a cylinder jacket fitted around your tank, check the thickness. It should be at least 80mm thick; if it isn't, consider buying a new one. Topping up your hot water tank insulation from 25mm to 80mm thick, using a British Standard jacket, could save you around £20 a year, which is more than the cost of the jacket.

## What does it cost?

A hot water cylinder jacket costs around £15 and a couple of metres worth of pipe insulation will cost less than £5. Radiator reflector panels can be bought in rolls of varying lengths, costing between £10-20.

## How much can I save?

You could save between £80-100 per year depending on what type of property you have and how well insulated your walls are. These savings are based on a gas-heated home. If topping up your hot water tank insulation, you could save £20 per year.

## Where can I buy the materials?

Cylinder jackets, pipe insulation, and reflector panels are all readily available from DIY stores and you don't need a professional to install them, unless the pipes are difficult to get to.

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