

Indoor Shrink Wrap for Windows

Drafty windows can increase your heating bill by 30%. Here are some inexpensive ways for you to add insulation to you existing windows that will save you money on your next heating or air conditioning bill.

Add clear shrink wrap on the inside

You can add a layer of clear plastic to the inside of the window. This seals off any air leaks and traps a layer of insulating air at the window. Being clear it still lets in light and lets you see out.

It is easy. First sit down and read everything printed on the box. Remember, "if all else fails, read the directions." The directions are an easy read and the illustrations are very helpful.

The first step of the job is to put two-sided sticky tape all around the window frame. Next, hang an over sized sheet of the clear plastic on the sticky tape. Then the fun part, use a hair dryer to shrink it so it is tight and wrinkle free. Last step is to cut away the excess plastic film around the window frame to make a neat looking job. Do not use heat shrink film outdoors; it is made for indoor use only.

Bubble Wrap your window to save money

You can use bubble wrap in place of the expensive clear shrink-wrap. Bubble wrap lets light in, but you can't see through it clearly. When you use bubble wrap, those little bubbles act as additional insulation. The bubble wrap obscures sight through the window like frosted glass does. Bubble wrap is good for bathroom windows or other windows where you want more privacy.

You can tape it to your window frames, either indoors or out. Seal the edges of the bubble wrap with clear packaging tape before putting it up. You can either spray the window with water and attach the bubble wrap directly or use double-sided tape to hold it to the window frame. Leave the bottom two corners loose from the window frame to allow moisture to escape.

Space Blankets save money by reflecting heat where you want it

Space blankets are also called emergency blankets or survival blankets. They are an item that should be in your car first aid kit. Space blankets are made of tough highly reflective Mylar plastic. They are used to reflect 90% of a person's body heat back to them. They are available for about \$1 each in a size of about 5 feet by 7 feet, just right for wrapping up one person or one window. Why use them on your windows? They make a good window covering because they will reflect 90% of your home heat back inside.

If you have a window, where seeing out or having light coming in is not an important factor, you can cover it with a space blanket. Bathroom or basement windows are possibilities for this window treatment. I use clear packing tape to hold the space blanket material to the outer edges of the window frame. If you want daylight and the view, you can stick the space blanket material to the inside surface of a window blind. Roll it up during the day and roll it down to reflect heat back inside at night.

If you are making your own window quilts, you can add a layer of space blanket material to make a super energy saver window covering.

Window Quilts/Window Treatments

Heavy full-length curtains help also. Heavy floor length drapes add insulation and stop the draft caused by cold air at the window sinking to the floor. Window quilts can be beautiful and helpful, too – or just cover windows in a room with blankets.

Video

The following is a link to a short video that shows how to apply indoor shrink wrap.

http://www.howcast.com/videos/87584-How-To-Insulate-Your-Windows-With-Plastic#comments_content_module