FIBER GLASS INSULATION FIRE SAFETY TIPS.

- While it's perfectly acceptable to add fiber glass over existing fiber glass, it is not recommended that you install fiber glass insulation over cellulose, as this does not eliminate cellulose's fire safety hazard.
- Never leave kraft or foil faced insulation exposed. Always cover with drywall (sheetrock) or paneling.
- In ceilings, walls and floors (over unheated spaces), be sure the insulation facing always faces the inside (conditioned or heated/cooled space) of your home.
- Do not insulate on top or within three inches of recessed light fixtures. This rule does not apply to type IC light fixtures or to fluorescent fixtures with thermally protected ballasts.
- When insulating around furnaces, chimneys or flues, use unfaced insulation or remove any kraft or foil covering that could come in contact the heated area.
- For unfinished basements where insulation will be left exposed, install CertainTeed's basement wall fiber glass insulation, which is covered with a white or foil flame-resistant facing.

GETTING COMFORTABLE WITH CERTAINTEED.

For over 100 years, CertainTeed has been the recognized performance brand among building professionals, as well as a leading researcher and producer of fiber glass insulation. With a wide selection of insulation products to fit your home from the basement up to the attic, you can find comfort in knowing all your insulation needs will be met.

ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER CERTAINTEED PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS:
EXTERIOR: ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS • FENCE • RAILING • TRIM DECKING • FOUNDATIONS • PIPE
INTERIOR: INSULATION • WALLS • CEILINGS

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Insulation and fire safety in your home.
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

It’s good to know you can save on energy costs with a well insulated house. But it’s even better to know the fire safety properties of the insulation you choose to surround you and your family.

FIRE RESISTANCE OF FIBER GLASS VS. CELLULOSE.

While the most common types of insulation found in homes today are fiber glass and cellulose, fiber glass is by far the most commonly used. Because fiber glass is primarily made from sand and recycled glass, it’s naturally noncombustible. And fiber glass stays nonflammable over the life of your home.

Cellulose, however, is made from shredded and ground up newspapers, which are naturally flammable. To make it fire resistant—though not fireproof—cellulose must be treated with fire-retardant chemicals. But even chemically treated cellulose is not a guarantee of fire resistance, especially as cellulose ages.

According to tests done by the California Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulations, the capability of cellulose to withstand combustion declines to levels below what is required for new material. Concerns about cellulose have been documented where a heat source, such as overheated recessed lighting, faulty wiring, chimneys and flues have caused the cellulose to smolder, ignite and re-ignite again and again.

INSTALL FIBER GLASS, INSTALL SAFETY.

Ask your builder, remodeler or insulation contractor to install noncombustible fiber glass insulation. CertainTeed offers a complete line of residential fiber glass insulation products.

FIRE-SAFETY TESTING PROVES THE DIFFERENCE.

A heat source using a 60 watt bulb placed on cellulose insulation and InsulSafe® fiber glass blowing insulation.

After 5 minutes: Smoldering combustion had begun in the cellulose side. There was no effect on the InsulSafe.

After 15 minutes: The light was removed from the cellulose, but combustion continued. There was no effect on the InsulSafe.

After 30 minutes: Combustion continued to spread in the cellulose. The light, inserted back into InsulSafe, still had no effect.

After 60 minutes: Combustion had consumed most of the cellulose, causing significant damage to the wood. Again, no effect on the InsulSafe.

Fiber glass insulation (top) is a more fire-resistant choice than cellulose (bottom).