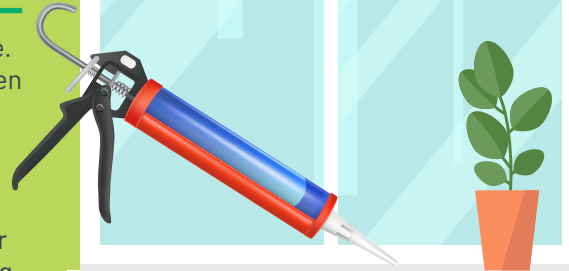


AIR SEALING

Air sealing is one of the most easy and affordable ways to improve the energy efficiency of a home. It's the single most important thing you can do to improve the energy efficiency of your home and should be the first step of any retrofit project. You can save up to 30 per cent of your energy costs by air sealing areas where energy loss occurs.

Air sealing impacts the building envelope of your home. The building envelope is the physical separator between the conditioned and unconditioned environment, including the resistance to air, water, heat, light, and noise transfer. Older homes typically have more air leaks, around windows and doors, electrical outlets, and cracks in the foundation and walls. You can seal air leaks in your home with weather-stripping and caulking or by applying gaskets and tapes.



AIR SEALING



WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Types of air sealing products include:
 - caulking: a putty-like substance best applied to non-moveable gaps like baseboards and trim
 - weather-stripping tapes and plastic foams
 - expandable spray foam which can be used to fill irregular-shaped air gaps
 - shrink-wrap plastics which can be applied to the interior of windows
- For detailed advice on air-sealing contact a professional installer.



THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Detect all sources of air leakage before you undertake your project. Check window glazing, thresholds and door/window frames and electrical outlets and switches.
- Check the size (and colour) of doors and windows to ensure you buy the right weather-stripping. Adhesive-backed stripping can lose its effectiveness over time and may need to be replaced every few years.
- Check with your municipality, utility or retailer to see if rebates are available.
- Consider financing your home energy improvements through the City of Toronto's Home Energy Loan Program (HELP).
- Consider getting an EnerGuide Energy Efficiency Home Evaluation to help you understand how your home uses energy and identify all improvement opportunities.



COST:

\$2,400 to more than \$6,000

BetterHomesTO: Tips, tools & resources to improve the energy efficiency of your home. [BetterHomesTO.ca](https://www.betterhometo.ca)

