

**HOME IMPROVEMENT & ENERGY SAVING ideas**  
INSIDE...OUTSIDE... ALL AROUND THE HOUSE "IT'S HOME IMPROVEMENT TIME"

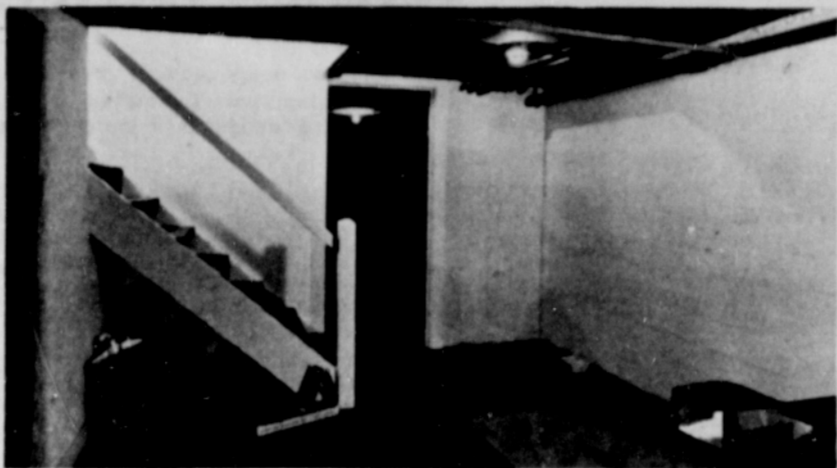
**IMPROVE YOUR HOME**



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

What does one do with an unsightly basement with wasted space? Utilizing a geometrical floor plan, separate the area into three, making it multi-purpose. The three areas become a laundry, sewing and office space.

Ingenious use of panelling compartmentalizes the spaces into self-contained units, while still leaving them open enough for easy access. The floor is covered with tiles in alternating colors of white, green and blue to further define the three areas as well as to add a lively touch of color.

**Make Your Home a Prize Fighter In Energy Costs Bout**

Adding fiber glass insulation to your attic is a good punch to throw in the opening round of the bout against skyrocketing energy costs. But when you go back in the ring in later rounds, you'll need some new tactics to keep your expensive opponent up against the ropes.

Nail strips of insulation at the sill or at the joist band. Make sure the strips of insulation fit snugly together and that the pieces are long enough to cover two feet of floor.

When you have the insulation installed all the way around the crawl space, lay down a piece of



**Defense 1: Garage Wall**

One of the most overlooked and easy to insulate areas is the wall between your home and garage. If the wall isn't insulated, much of your precious heated or cooled air is escaping to this area.

If the wall has open framing you can insulate it easily by nailing chicken wire to the frame to hold blankets of fiber glass insulation in place. You can also hammer nails into the frame and wrap wire from nail to nail to secure the insulation.

**Defense 2: Crawl Space**

If your house contains a crawl space that is high enough for you to work in, check to see if the floor above it is insulated. If it isn't this space is another prime target for insulated.

plastic to act as a vapor barrier. Tuck the ends of the plastic under the insulation so that it touches the foundation wall. Then lay 2x4s on rocks on top of the insulation to keep it in place.

**Defense 3: Floor**

If you have a crawl space that can't be sealed off, or you have a garage, porch or other unheated space with heated rooms above it, you should consider insulating the floor of the living area.

Batts or blankets of insulation with a vapor barrier can easily be installed between the floor joists by stapling wire mesh or chicken wire to the joists and then sliding the insulation on top of the wire. The vapor barrier should face up toward the floor.

**Defense 3: Joist Band**

An important area that is often overlooked because of its out-of-the-way location is the joist band—that space between the top of the basement wall and the floor joist above. If left uninsulated, this critical area can be a major source of heat loss during the winter and heat gain during the summer around the base of your entire house.

Cut strips of insulation that are slightly larger than the cavity itself. Tuck these pieces into the cavity and you're done.

**Defense 5: Ductwork**

If your heating or air conditioning ducts pass through unfinished attics or basements then you may be wasting energy. The Department of Energy estimates that homeowners can save up to \$100 a year in heating costs and \$35 in air conditioning by insulating ducts.

**Defense 6: Water Heater**

Another important way to challenge energy costs is by insulating your water heater.

To insulate your water heater, you will need enough insulation to encircle the tank and cover the top. Just wrap the insulation around the tank like you'd wrap a fit—with the shiny side out. Cover all of the surfaces except for a few critical areas that must be left open.

On an electric water heater, be sure not to cover the drain faucet, the thermostat access panel or the relief valve at the top of the tank.

On a gas heater, don't cover the air inlets, pipes, controls, relief valves, flue or top of the heater. Also, secure the insulation to the tank so it won't slip down over these areas.

**Defense 7: Fireplace Damper**

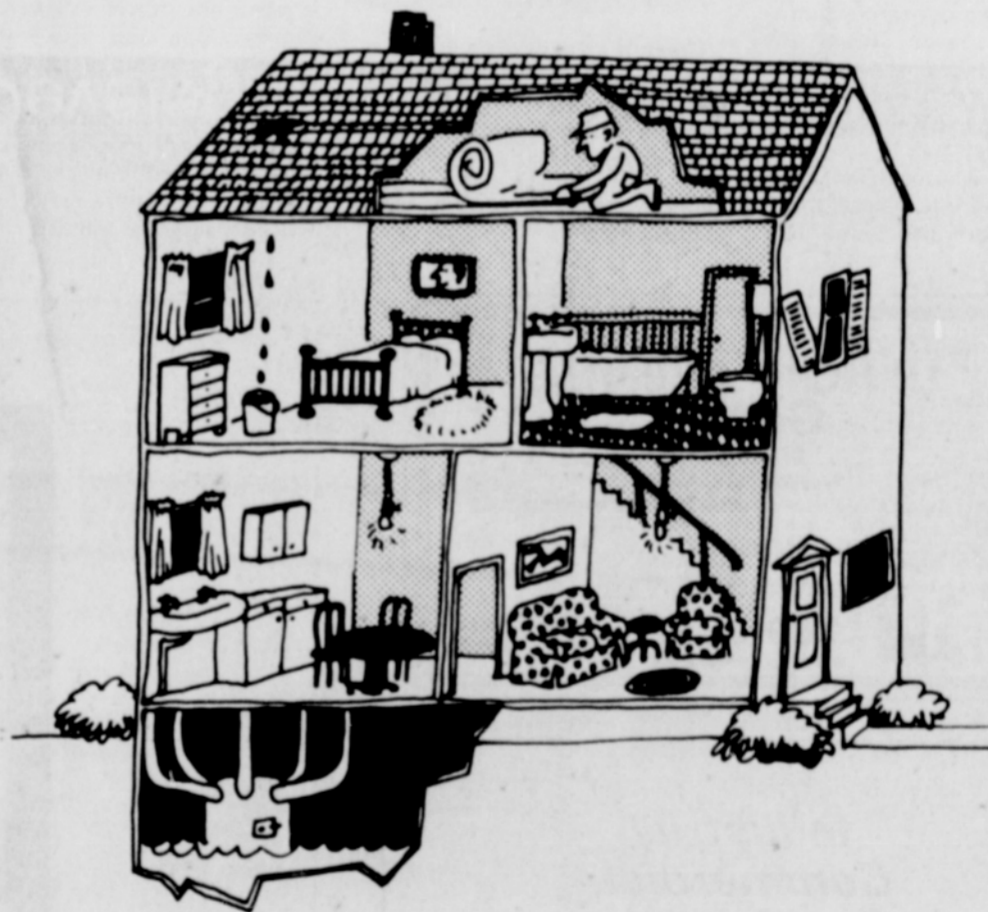
Check your fireplace damper. Don't be surprised if you find an air gap of an inch or more even when the damper is closed. A gap here can be costly.

**Defense 8: Vents and Pipes**

Check for holes where plumbing pipes and telephone wires enter your house, around exhaust fans and dryer vents, around sink and bathtub drains as they leave your house.

The energy bill is already sounding, so put on your gloves and come out fighting.

**Is your roof leaking?  
Thinking of remodeling  
Your kitchen or bathroom?  
Need insulation?  
Need new plumbing or wiring?  
Do you need emergency home repairs?**



The City of Portland Development Commission provides funds for remodeling and emergency repairs in many City neighborhoods. Several loan programs are available to qualified families based on family income, with interest rates for loans ranging from 0%-11%. To find out if you qualify, call **848-4900**.

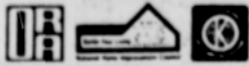


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Heat leaks cost energy dollars and drafts cause the common cold. You need Neil Kelly experience to find and plug 'em right. Call now for your inspection, and a free estimate for insulation, weatherstripping and storm windows. Low interest loans and tax credits are still available. Ask about our new Infrared Quality Control survey, too.



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