



Standard Practice for Installation of Cellulosic and Mineral Fiber Loose-Fill Thermal Insulation¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice describes procedures for the installation of cellulosic and mineral fiber loose-fill insulation in ceilings, attics, and floor and wall cavities of new or existing housing and other framed buildings.

1.2 This practice applies only to the installation of dry loose-fill thermal insulation consisting of cellulosic materials or mineral fiber by pneumatic or pouring application.

1.3 This practice covers the installation process from pre-installation inspection through post-installation procedure. It does not cover the production of the insulation materials.

1.4 This practice is not intended to replace the manufacturer's installation instructions, but shall be used in conjunction with such instructions. This practice is not intended to supersede local, state, or federal codes.

1.5 This practice assumes that the installer possesses a good working knowledge of the applicable codes and regulations, safety practices, tools, equipment, and methods necessary for the installation of thermal insulation materials. It also assumes that the installer understands the fundamentals of residential construction that affect the installation of insulation.

1.6 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.7 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* For specific precautionary statements, see Section 5.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

C 168 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulating Materials²

C 739 Specification for Cellulosic Fiber (Wood-Base) Loose-Fill Thermal Insulation²

C 755 Practice for Selection of Vapor Retarders for Thermal Insulation²

C 764 Specification for Mineral Fiber Loose-Fill Thermal Insulation²

E 136 Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C³

2.2 NFPA Standards:

NFPA 31 Standard for Oil Burning Equipment⁴

NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code⁴

NFPA 70 National Electrical Code⁴

NFPA 211 Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents and Solid-Fuel Burning Appliances⁴

2.3 HUD Standard:

Minimum Property Standards (MPS) for Housing, 1994 Edition⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*
Definitions—For definitions of terms used in this practice, see Terminology C 168.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *installer*—the person or persons who apply thermal insulation materials in residential buildings whether or not such person or persons have contracted with the owner to perform the work.

3.2.2 *cellulosic loose-fill thermal insulating materials*—those materials that meet the minimum requirements specified in Specification C 739.

3.2.3 *conditioned space*—a space in a residential building that is served by a heating or cooling system.

3.2.4 *mineral fiber loose-fill thermal insulating materials*—those materials that meet the minimum requirements specified in Specification C 764.

3.2.5 *owner*—the person, partnership, corporation, agency, or other entity who owns the residential building to be insulated whether such ownership is by virtue of deed, contract, or any other instrument for acquiring legal title under the laws of the state in which the building is located.

3.2.6 *residential building*—a building used for residential

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C-16 on Thermal Insulation and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C16.23 on Blanket and Loose Fill Insulation.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.06.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.07.

⁴ Available from the National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269.

⁵ Available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh St. NW, Washington, DC 20410.