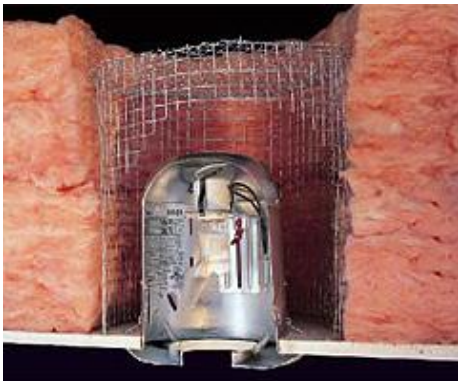




If you see knob & tube wiring in a home, do not air seal or insulate around it. Doing so can create a fire hazard. Knob & tube can be found in basements, attics, and inside of walls.



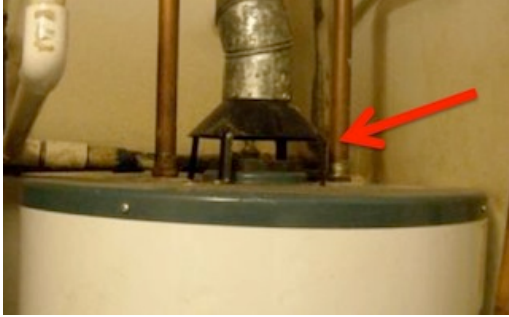
If you see recessed lights in an attic, do not insulate over top of them. This creates a fire hazard, as the lights can overheat.



You can leave a 3" air space around the light in the attic (as seen to the left). This will allow you to insulate the attic, but it will not air seal the recessed light can.



Or, even better, you can create an air sealed assembly around (and over) the light can. Be sure to provide the 3" air space on all sides around the light can.



If you see atmospherically vented combustion equipment (furnaces, water heaters, etc...), do not air seal the home. This can create a situation where the combustion equipment backdrafts into the home and bring its friend carbon monoxide to the party. When in doubt, do not SIGNIFICANTLY air seal a home that burns gas or oil... unless a comprehensive energy audit is done before and after.



Be sure to wear appropriate safety gear when working on or inspecting one's home. This includes gloves, eye protections, and definitely respirators. Don't feel like you need to wear it all day, but you'll want it in the attics!



Dirt floor crawlspaces without properly installed vapor barriers over the floor can bring A LOT of moisture into a home. Crawlspaces are notorious for having "cold floors" over them, but don't move to quickly toward air sealing & insulating the ceiling. If moisture is not dealt with first, the work that we do will be rendered useless within just a few years....



This is what a crawlspace floor should look like.