



DID YOU KNOW?
A Duette Architella Blind provides 33% more insulation than double glazing.

A STYLISH ALTERNATIVE
Luxaflex Insulating Blinds

The Professional Drape Company also partner with Luxaflex to provide a range of attractive insulated blinds. Duette Blinds are very effective at trapping large amounts of air in their cellular structure, shown above. They are also available in block-out materials that have a reflective foil layer to reflect radiation. Luxaflex’s Duette Architella range in a block-out fabric have an R-Value of 0.78, providing 33% more insulation than double glazing.

R-VALUES
A Clear Comparison

Insulation is measured by an R-Value. The higher the R-Value, the better the product is at reducing heat flow and keeping heat in or out. According to Consumer NZ, under the new code, a brand new timber framed wall with no windows or doors has an R-Value of 1.99. In comparison, a standard 4mm glass window with an aluminium frame has an R-Value of only 0.15. However, a well-fitted, insulating curtain or blind will add an R-Value of 0.26 to any window.

Product	R-Value	with Insulating Curtains	with Insulating Duette Blinds
Standard 4mm Glass Window (Aluminium Frame)	0.15	0.41	0.93
Standard Double Glazing	0.26	0.52	1.04
Argon Filled Double Glazing	0.33	0.59	1.11

TO FIND OUT MORE:
www.consumer.org.nz/products/insulation/overview
www.energywise.govt.nz/your-home/insulation
www.level.org.nz/passive-design/insulation/
www.luxaflex.co.nz/products/softshades-collection/duette-shades/

PROFESSIONAL DRAPE GROUP
INSULATING CURTAINS & BLINDS



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OF OUR
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Each month New Zealanders are faced with a stack of bills they have to pay to keep their household running, and as winter arrives, the dreaded electricity bill can often cause our household costs to skyrocket. In the common New Zealand household, over one third of the energy bill is attributed to keeping our homes warm. However, according to New Zealand’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), over 600,000 New Zealand homes have inadequate insulation, resulting in all of this heat being lost through our roofs, walls and windows.

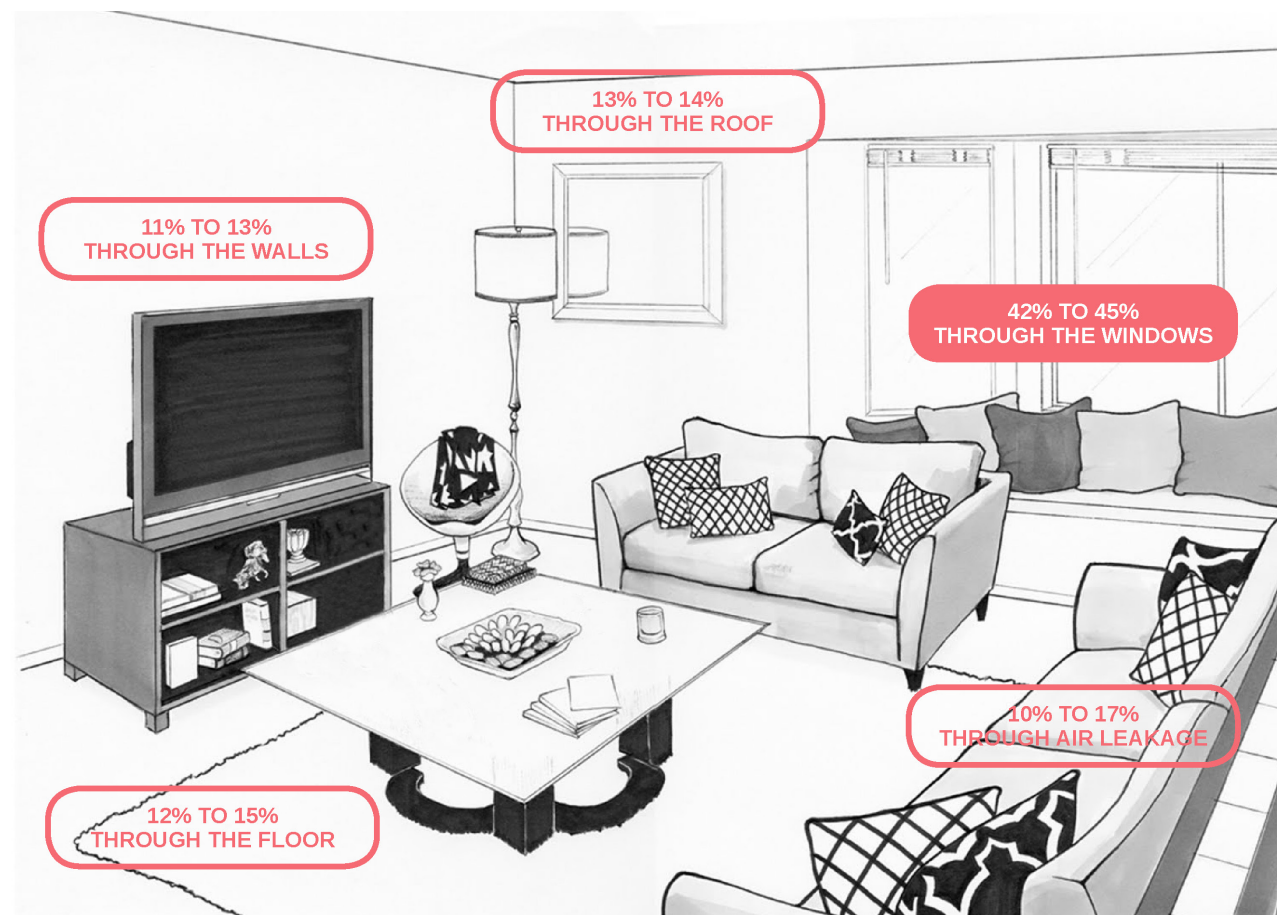
See inside for more information on how you can make your home easier and cheaper to heat and more comfortable and healthy to live in.

THE ACHILLES HEEL

Heat Loss through your Windows

As shown below, windows are the Achilles' heel in many New Zealand homes. BRANZ, an independent research, testing, consulting company for the Building Industry, released a report recently outlining where heat is lost in the home. According to BRANZ, 42% to 45% of heat, in houses insulated to Pre-2007 requirements, is lost through windows. Even if your home has been insulated under the 2007 Building Code, in which double glazing is a requirement, 21% to 31% of heat is still lost through windows. In addition, the better your ceiling, walls and floors are insulated, the higher the heat loss will be through your windows, as it is the only place heat can escape.

HEAT LOSS FROM A HOME INSULATED TO PRE-2007 LEVELS



The good news is that curtains can significantly reduce heat loss through your windows, making your home easier and cheaper to heat and more comfortable and healthy to live in. In fact, EECA believe that well-fitting curtains and blinds, when closed, can reduce heat loss through single glazed windows by 60% and through double glazed windows by 40-50%. Consumer NZ have also agreed that insulating curtains and blinds can be just as effective, as double-glazing. By installing insulated curtains and blinds, you significantly reduce heat loss from your home and make the most of your investment in other energy efficient methods.

THE ULTIMATE CHOICE

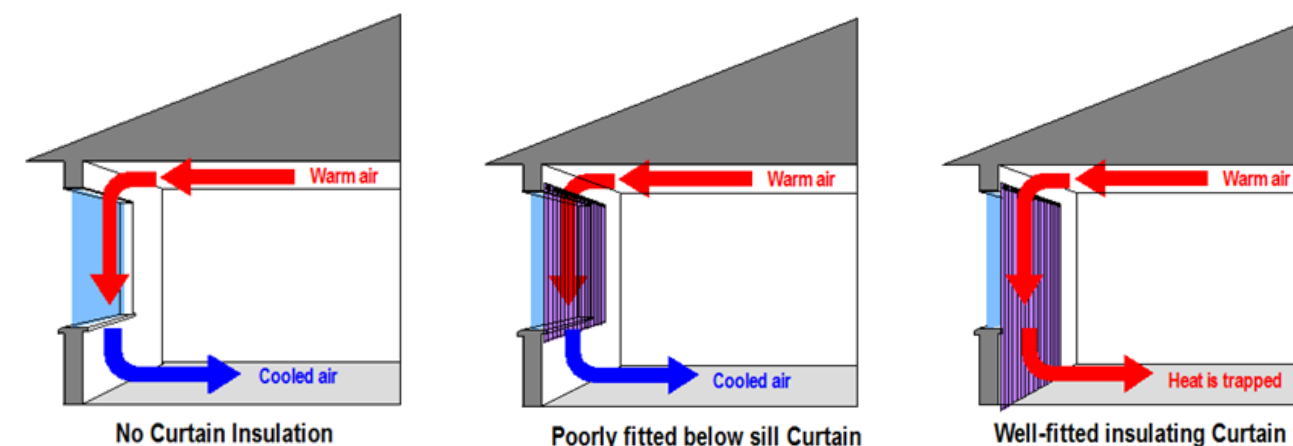
Even More Benefits

Investing in insulating curtains and blinds will not only save on heating costs, but will also bring a warm aesthetic value to your home. Fabric and colour introduce visual warmth and comfort that will automatically make your home look and feel more cosy. What's more, insulating linings provide maximum light block out, reduce outside noise and make curtains look fabulous. They really are the ultimate choice in attractive, energy efficiency.

MORE DETAILS

How does Insulation Work?

When it is cold outside the windows panes in our homes become cool to touch, and the air close to these window panes will be cooled. Cool air is denser (heavier) than warm air, so as this cooled air sinks, it is replaced by warmer air from other parts of the room. This creates a circulating air current which will cool the entire room. Window furnishings are designed to trap the air between the window and the curtain or blind, to prevent this circulating air current from forming.



THE ANSWER

Insulating Curtains

Insulating curtains have been identified as one of the most effective ways of reducing heat loss through the windows. However, it is important to differentiate between what is a standard curtain and what is an insulated curtain. What gives a curtain its insulating properties is its insulating lining, and its well-fitting design.

INSULATING LININGS

In the past thermal drapes, a single-layer fabric with an acrylic backing, have been the standard for insulated curtains. However, the Professional Drape Company recommend Insulating Linings, which are sewn-in separate linings with a thermal coating. The thermal coating on the lining contains millions of very tiny air pockets, which are very effective at trapping air. In addition, by adding a separate sewn-in lining, the air is trapped in and between the different layers of materials.

WELL-FITTING CURTAINS

A well-fitting curtain must be:

- > Fitted as close as possible to the window frame
- > Measured and fitted so that they touch the floor
- > Be a generous width so that they overlap the window frames at the sides and the curtain returns back to the wall trapping the air between the window and the curtain.

Curtains that are designed to sit above the floor can actually make the situation worse by forming a channel between the window and the curtain, as shown above. Therefore, the Professional Drape Company recommend curtains are designed to sit on the floor, to seal the gap and stop the air current escaping out the bottom of the curtain.

HOW WARM, HEALTHY AND COST EFFICIENT IS YOUR HOME?

Find out at www.energywise.govt.nz/tools/warm-healthy-home