

Step by Step Guide to:

Sealing Air Leaks in Your Home

- 1** Determine where and how big your air leaks are. You have two options:
 - Commission a professional home energy evaluation, which includes a blower door test to identify leaks. This will allow you to apply for federal grants for any air sealing improvements you make. Visit: <http://oe.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal/home-improvement.cfm?attr=0>.
 - Go around your house – with a candle, lighter, smoke pencil or stick of incense – and pinpoint where air is leaking in. Don't forget to also check the basement and attic. This is easier to do on a windy day.
- 2** Start by addressing the biggest, or easiest to fix, leaks.
- 3** If you're doing the air sealing yourself, check with your home building store for the materials and tools you'll need to do the job (e.g. weather stripping, caulking).
- 4** If you want to hire a professional, check your Yellow Pages for insulation or building contractors who also do air sealing. Get a quote first and ask what experience the contractor has undertaking such jobs.
- 5** If you're thoroughly sealing your home's air leaks, it may be worth installing a carbon monoxide detector and perhaps a heat recovery ventilator, which will allow fresh, filtered air to flow through your house.



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