

Black Mountain Natural Wool insulation The environmental advantage



■ Lower embodied energy

A key idea behind all sustainable products is the use of as little energy as possible in its production. Wool insulation uses only 15% of the energy of a comparable man made material.

■ Low carbon impact

Thanks to the drastically reduced energy requirement of manufacturing wool insulation, the carbon dioxide that emission generates is very low. Better still, wool locks up 6kgs of carbon dioxide per m² of loft insulation. Man-made insulation - in stark contrast - generates sizable amounts of carbon dioxide in its manufacturing processes, raising the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

■ Security of supply

As wool is the natural by-product of sheep farming, wool is sheared annually. With the only limit to supply being the number of sheep farmed on the hills, wool is one of the earth's most sustainable resources.

■ Low carbon transportation footprint

Wool is sourced either at home or abroad. And even when imported, it's easy to ship in a high-density form, generating a low carbon footprint.

■ The definition of a long life material

Used properly wool will last for many hundreds of years. It doesn't lose its resilience, or compact over time - a claim other materials can't make. One simple example of the resilience of wool can be seen in carpets. Even in heavily trafficked areas, wool carpets retain their resilience, while mineral wool has been shown in comparative studies to compact to less than 50% of its original thickness, losing most of its insulation performance.

■ 100% biodegradable or reusable

Wool's active life can be hundreds of years without losing its flexibility or moisture-retention properties. And even when that active life comes to an end, it is biodegradable in soil. Man-made cannot be effectively recycled and instead consumes landfill space.

■ Formaldehyde free

Most mineral wool insulation uses formaldehyde-based binders to hold the product together. Formaldehyde is highly toxic and carcinogenic; its use is already being phased out by USA companies as alternatives become available. Black Mountain Wool insulation isn't just 100% Formaldehyde Free - it also has the remarkable property of absorbing and locking in formaldehyde emitted by other products.

■ A zero waste production process

During the production of Black Mountain insulation, all off-cuts are recycled to ensure there is no net waste from the production process.

