

Non Itch insulation is, as the name would suggest, a user friendly alternative to traditional glass wool.



The fact that YBS Insulation has changed the name of Ecowool to Non Itch is largely due to the fact that its user friendliness is even more of a selling point in the trade than the fact that it is made from 85% recycled plastic drinks bottles. You can see their point – in the old days of itchy glass wool you would never volunteer for the job of topping up insulation.

Yet this job is crying out to be done in so many homes. There is also a massive opportunity for improving comfort levels and reducing heating bills by insulating the



underside of suspended timber floors. I bit the bullet and did my own house some years ago and it transformed the thermal performance of the property overnight, making it infinitely more comfortable. The

payback period for this job is so short that nobody could argue against it on economic terms, but the instant return is from the way it improves the thermal comfort in ground floor rooms.



Crawl space

For plumbers and electricians, who have to work under floor voids, you might not relish extending the job by adding insulation, but once you are down there it really takes very little time, and the customer will sing your praises from the rooftops for giving them warm feet. It is a nonsense that we insulate the rest of the house, and spend money on double glazing, whilst still leaving just 22mm of timber and a bit of carpet (if your lucky) between our feet and the outside temperature.

Having done the heating and rewire in this Edwardian house we knew that the floor voids had plenty of room to crawl around in. Before the floorboards were fixed back down I took a dive underneath



Roger says...

“Some people worry about creating damp problems caused by insulating floor voids and it is true that you must be careful not to block any airbricks but, provided you keep the airbricks clear to maintain cross ventilation and there are gaps in the sleeper walls, there is no risk to the timbers. The dew point is on the cold side of the insulation and not against the timber, so any moisture on the cold side is cleared by ventilation in the normal way.”

with a few rolls of 150mm Non Itch. The 360mm wide rolls fitted snugly in between the timber joists, but I stapled the polythene bags across in places just to prevent any future sag or fallout.

Non Itch is not too easy to cut with a Stanley knife, you really need a pair of wallpaper scissors. The rolls are laminated to make up thickness, so it is easy to pull it apart and feed a thinner section

through first. Once this is in place another section can be dragged through on top of it. It is a two-man job but between us we managed to do the whole of the ground floor in three hours, and I didn't scratch or cough once.

■ For further information on Non Itch from YBS Insulation use the reader enquiry number below...

Readerlink enquiry 262