



# HEAT MERCHANTS

## Top Tips for Winter Proofing your Home!

- Check that your home is well insulated; nearly half of your homes heat is lost due to poorly insulated walls, floors and attics. Ensure your insulation is thick and in good condition. At [Heat Merchants](#) we have a full range of insulation solutions with prices starting from just €14.90 per roll!
- Ensure that you have an adequate supply of fuel for heating or cooking and if possible a suitable alternative should your main supply fail.
- Consider replacing your open fire with a Solid Fuel Stove as Stoves can give you up to 5 times more heat than a regular fireplace and are highly efficient! Available at [Heat Merchants](#) from only €399!
- Store your Fuel away safe and dry with one of our neat Coal Bunkers from [Heat Merchants](#) for only €72.00.
- Keep your family safe and warm by installing a Guardcam Security Sensor Light with Recording Camera to help deter Heating Oil/Fuel Theft. Available at [Heat Merchants](#) from only €127.
- Service your boiler and make sure all your heating equipment is well maintained, vented correctly and in proper working order.
- Don't let your heating system freeze with our Alphi 11 Heating System Anti-Freeze at [Heat Merchants](#) for €42.50.
- Fit your water tank with an insulation jacket or alternatively you can wrap the top and sides with a suitable insulation material. You can purchase Water Tank Insulation Jackets at [Heat Merchants](#) from only €9.90!
- Insulate any water pipes in danger of freezing; winterize any external water sources and empty hose pipes. To ensure you are not without water this winter you can purchase Pipe Insulation Kits from [Heat Merchants](#) for only €49.99!
- Have peace of mind and prevent your attic pipes from freezing with a Frost Guard Heater that will turn on automatically once the temperature drops. At [Heat Merchants](#) from €31.99.
- Have a shovel and bag of salt so you can keep your pathways clear of snow and ice. At [Heat Merchants](#) we have heavy duty snow shovels from just €16.90 and de-icing salt at only €6.90 per bag!
- Keep your Salt Dry in our handy Harlequin Salt Bins from [Heat Merchants](#) for only €72.00!

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- 🏠 Common drafts can waste between 5-30% of your heating costs each year. Fit draught excluders to your doors and windows to help save you money and keep your home nice and warm.
- 🏠 Replace your drafty hit and miss air vents with a selection of Aereco ventilation solutions from [Heat Merchants](#) to protect you against the cold and strong winds.
- 🏠 Check taps or valves for any leaks and ensure all repairs are carried out. [Heat Merchants](#) supply Rescue Tape for only €14.50!
- 🏠 Do the little jobs before they become big issues! It's easy to empty your gutters/troughs of leaves in autumn; but if you wait until the winter it may be too late to prevent damage.
- 🏠 Have a stock of candles, matches and batteries for torches in the event of any power cuts. Candles should always be placed in proper candle holders away from draughts. Also never leave a burning candle unattended.
- 🏠 Store extra bottled water and non-perishable food supplies. Also keep extra essential medical supplies in the event that you are unable to get to a pharmacy.
- 🏠 If you intend on going away, leave a key and contact details with neighbours or family to check on the house while you're away.
- 🏠 Keep rodents out of your home with a Pest Clear 2000 for only €18.75 at [Heat Merchants](#).
- 🏠 Test/Fit Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors in your home. Ensure the batteries are replaced and in working order. [Heat Merchants](#) have all the home safety devices you need to protect your loved ones with Smoke Alarms from €9.99!
- 🏠 Have your chimney cleaned at least once a year.
- 🏠 Keep emergency contact numbers close at hand.
- 🏠 An electric heater can be very helpful in giving a room instant heat during those cold winter months! At [Heat Merchants](#) we have a large range of convector/oil filled and fan heaters from only €17.50!
- 🏠 And finally keep nice and cosy at nighttime with an Electric Underblanket from [Heat Merchants](#) for only €26.50!

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## How to Avoid Frozen Pipes

- 🏠 Check that all your exposed pipes are adequately insulated. This includes pipes in the attic where the attic has been well insulated.
- 🏠 Leave your heating on for longer periods at lower settings.
- 🏠 Be familiar with how you turn off your water supply.
- 🏠 Open the attic door to allow some heat up.
- 🏠 Leave a light on in the attic.
- 🏠 As warmth offers the best protection against frozen pipes, we recommend that you keep your house nice and warm.
- 🏠 Insulate or wrap a towel around any outdoor taps. At [Heat Merchants](#) you can purchase an Outdoor Tap Cover for only €22.99.
- 🏠 If your water supply is frozen, be cautious with the use of washing machines, heating systems and any other water dependent appliances.

### If you detect a water leak:

- 🏠 Turn off the water supply – stop valve is generally located under the kitchen sink.
- 🏠 Turn on cold taps to drain the system.
- 🏠 Turn off your central heating.
- 🏠 In the event the leak is located near any electrical appliances; turn off your electricity supply.

## Clearing Snow

- 🏠 Clear snow or ice as early in the day as you possibly can as a built up will make it much harder to remove.
- 🏠 Wear suitable waterproof and insulated footwear with good gripping soles or you can use a pair of handy snow over shoes. You can get your Snow Over Shoes at [Heat Merchants](#) for only €8.99!
- 🏠 Clearing snow can be quite demanding work – only undertake the task if you are reasonable fit and you do not have any underlying medical conditions.

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- 🏠 Never use boiling water to clear snow (it may re-freeze and cause the formation of black ice)
- 🏠 Use a shovel. There are special shovels for this task to make your life a little easier but any garden shovel will do!
- 🏠 Make a path down the centre of the area you are clearing so that you will have a clear surface to walk on.
- 🏠 Prevent further ice from forming by spreading de-icing salt on the area that you have cleared. We have Bags of De-icing Salt at [Heat Merchants](#) for only €6.90 per bag!
- 🏠 When you are clearing snow it is very important that you do not create any obstacles for pedestrians or passing traffic. Ensure that you remove the snow to a location that is hazard free!

## Attic Insulation

Similar to the way people lose most of their heat through their heads, Houses lose most of their heat through the attic! Attic Insulation is a tiny measure that brings forth amazing benefits. Effective attic insulation reduces energy costs and can pay for itself within two to three years.



Here are some handy tips for taking care of your attic:

- 🏠 Ensure you caulk any holes or drafty spots in your attic to prevent heat from escaping.
- 🏠 The thicker the insulation the less heat you will lose. (a minimum depth of 10inches is recommended)
- 🏠 Make sure there are no animals nesting in your attic as they can burrow their way through your insulation. This damages your weather proof barrier and enables water to get in.
- 🏠 Keep an eye out for ice dams (ice collecting in the lip of the roof or gutters); as this can cause melting snow or rain to back up and find its way under your roofing and into your home.
- 🏠 Air-seal the attic floor. The extra insulation prevents heat loss and ice dam formation.

Call into your local [Heat Merchants](#) for fantastic offers on Insulation and great advice from our expert staff!

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