

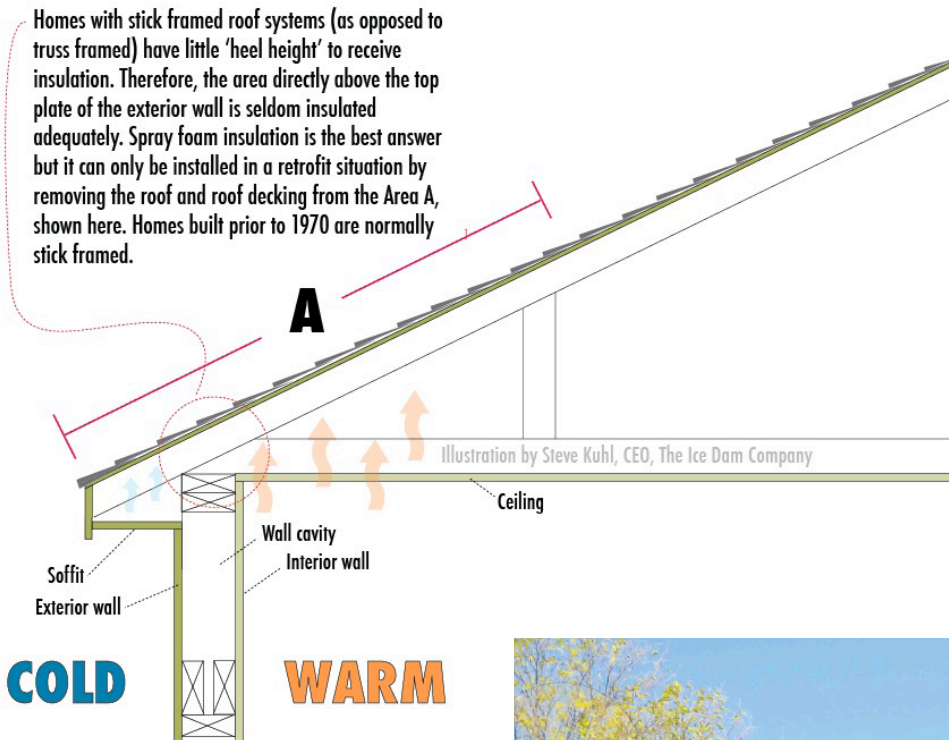
Minneapolis Ice Dam Prevention

Using Insulation and Roofing to Address Chronic Ice Dam Issues In Minnesota

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Spray foam insulation + new roof = Success

Homes with stick framed roof systems (as opposed to truss framed) have little 'heel height' to receive insulation. Therefore, the area directly above the top plate of the exterior wall is seldom insulated adequately. Spray foam insulation is the best answer but it can only be installed in a retrofit situation by removing the roof and roof decking from the Area A, shown here. Homes built prior to 1970 are normally stick framed.



How to Prevent Ice Dams In Minnesota
Ice dam prevention in Minnesota is a tricky business. So much so that we hesitate to say any home is truly ice dam proof. It's true that homes built after roof trusses became popular are far less likely to have ice dams than stick frame homes. There is simply more room in the roof system for insulation and ventilation, the two primary considerations when exploring ice dam issues on the standard home. A project we do quite frequently is shown in the photo below. We remove the roofing from the affected roof pitch, remove the roof decking, add high-performance spray foam urethane insulation and then re-roof using ice and water membrane to exceed Minnesota building code.

