

Crawlspace Encapsulation

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Advantages

There are many benefits to encapsulation, including:

- Preventing mold, rotting wood, and other moisture-related damages
- Protecting the integrity of your foundation and your floors
- Preventing animal, rodent, or insect infestations
- Decreasing your energy bill
- Improving the quality of air in your home



Who Needs It?

Anyone with a crawl space can benefit from crawl space encapsulation. However, there are a few factors that might make you a better candidate for sealing your crawl space than someone else:



Humid climate:

Too much moisture in your crawl space can lead to mold and other types of damage. If you regularly battle humid summers, encapsulating your crawl space may be a good idea.

Extreme temperatures:

No one likes dealing with blazing heat or below-freezing temperatures. Unfortunately, heating or cooling your home in extreme temperatures can be costly. Encapsulating your crawl space actually insulates it and can help you save on your energy bill.

Infestation:

You may already be dealing with a mold infestation or some critters who have made your crawl space their home. After your crawl space has been cleaned and cleared out, encapsulate it to prevent another infestation from happening again.

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Our Process

- **Assess:** First, evaluate your crawl space as-is. Depending on how often you check your crawl space, you may find some unpleasant surprises: animals (alive or dead), insects, rusted junk from previous owners, rotting wood, termite damage, leaky pipes, or something else. Remember to call in a professional if you encounter standing water—you don't want to risk electrocution.
- **2. Clean:** Now it's time to remove all of the fun surprises you found. Clean your crawl space of anything that doesn't belong there. Make sure to also remove sharp debris to create a nice, flat surface.
- **3. Fix:** During your initial assessment, you may have discovered plumbing or foundation problems. Make sure to fix these issues before sealing your crawl space. It's more difficult to fix these problems after your crawl space has been sealed than before.
- **4. Measure:** Once your crawl space is ready for encapsulation, measure the areas you plan on covering. Cut your sheets of polyethylene plastic to fit your crawl space.
- **5. Seal:** Now you can encapsulate your crawl space. Start with the walls first, and make sure to overlap the sheets of plastic to create a tight seal. Seal awkward shapes like pipes, pillars, and vents. Then, install the plastic vapor barrier on the floor.
- **6. Dehumidify:** After encapsulation, you will need to regulate the humidity within your crawl space. Install a dehumidifier to ensure that the moisture in your crawl space is always at an acceptable level.

Does Crawlspace Encapsulation Add Value to Your Home?

Yes. Sealing your crawl space decreases your energy bill, better regulates the temperature in your home, increases your air quality, and prevents pest and mold infestations—all attractive features to prospective buyers.

What does Crawlspace Encapsulation cost?

The cost of encapsulating your crawl space depends on a number of factors.

Generally speaking, crawl space encapsulation costs thousands of dollars—anywhere from \$5,000 to \$15,000, depending on the job.

However, keep in mind that you can expect your investment to protect your crawl space for up to 20 years.



