

Garage Door Insulation & Seals - Energy

Details:

B&D;® InsulShield® Insulation & Seals Guide ## AI Summary **Product/Option:** B&D;® InsulShield® (Garage Door Insulation) + B&D; Exterior Seal Options **Brand:** B&D; (B&D; Doors & Openers) **Category:** Garage door options & upgrades (insulation and seals) **Primary Use:** Improve comfort and usability of the garage by helping regulate temperature, reducing noise transfer, and improving sealing against drafts and debris. --- ## Quick Facts - **Best for:** Households using the garage for more than car storage (e.g., gym, workshop, play area, study space). - **Comfort benefit:** Insulation helps act as a barrier to heat flow—helping keep spaces warmer in winter and cooler in summer. - **Noise benefit:** With insulation, external noise can be reduced by **18 dB** (B&D; published figure). - **Thermal performance:** B&D; publishes a thermal resistance **R** value of **1.4** for its insulation solution. - **Core material:** B&D; uses **graphite-infused** (graphite embedded) **EPS** in the insulation core. - **Door feel:** B&D; describes its insulation as a **sleek, slim-line** solution that won't affect the door's day-to-day raising/lowering. - **Looks:** Insulation includes an **attractive backing** for a tidier interior appearance. - **Important purchasing note:** Insulation cannot be retrofitted—it needs to be selected at the point of purchase. *See "Important notes" at the end for the test context behind the 18 dB figure. --- ## Common Questions This Guide Answers 1. **Do I need insulation for my garage door?** If you use the garage for more than storing the car, insulation can make the space more comfortable and help reduce noise transfer. 2. **Can insulation reduce noise?** Yes—B&D; states that with insulation you can reduce external noise by **18 dB** (test context applies). 3. **What does the R value mean?** R value is a measure of resistance to heat flow (higher generally means better insulation performance). 4. **Can I add insulation later to my existing garage door?** No—B&D; states insulation **cannot be retrofitted** and must be installed at the point of purchase. 5. **Does insulation make the door stronger?** B&D; describes insulation as adding thickness and strength, making the door tougher and harder to penetrate and lift. 6. **What seals can help keep dust and drafts out?** B&D; offers exterior sealing options (e.g., bristle seals), and bushfire solutions like **BAL-Maze** for relevant applications. --- ## Contents - [What InsulShield is](#what-insulshield-is) - [What insulation changes in a real garage](#what-insulation-changes-in-a-real-garage) - [Key benefits of insulating your garage door](#key-benefits-of-insulating-your-garage-door) - [How B&D; insulation is constructed](#how-bd-insulation-is-constructed) - [Exterior seals and protection options](#exterior-seals-and-protection-options) - [Set expectations after installation](#set-expectations-after-installation) - [Care and maintenance basics](#care-and-maintenance-basics) - [FAQ](#faq) - [Important notes](#important-notes) --- ## What InsulShield is B&D;® InsulShield® is B&D;'s insulated garage door solution designed to help you get more usable, comfortable space from your garage—particularly if you're turning it into a gym, work zone, kids' space, or general hangout area. In simple terms: it's a door solution that helps **dampen noise** and **regulate temperature**, helping make the garage a more practical part of the home—year round. --- ## What insulation changes in a real garage A garage door is a large surface area that can let heat and noise move in and out. Adding insulation and the right sealing approach helps reduce: - **Heat transfer** through the door surface - **Noise transfer** from outside-to-inside (and inside-to-outside) - **Gaps around the door** where dust, leaves, drafts (and in some areas embers) can enter This can be especially noticeable if: - You've got a bedroom above/near the garage - You use power tools or gym equipment in the garage - The garage faces a busy street or noisy environment - You store items that benefit from a steadier temperature --- ## Key benefits of insulating your garage door ### Energy efficiency and comfort Insulation acts as a barrier to heat flow and helps with seasonal

comfort—helping keep the garage warmer in winter and cooler in summer. If your garage connects to the home, improving garage comfort can also support overall comfort—especially if you regularly open the internal access door between the house and garage. ### Noise reduction Insulated garage doors are thicker, which helps reduce noise transfer. B&D publishes that its insulation can reduce external noise by **18 dB** (test context applies), helping with:

- Road noise and storms
- Workshop or hobby noise
- Music, gaming, kids' activities, or exercise noise

B&D also notes that insulating a door may contribute to quieter operation while the door is moving. ### Makes your door stronger B&D describes insulation as adding an additional level of protection that makes the door thicker and stronger—harder to penetrate and lift—so you're improving comfort and strengthening the door at the same time. ### Better-looking interior finish Unlike “aftermarket-looking” insulation solutions, B&D describes its insulation as having an attractive backing designed to create a tidier interior look—useful if your garage is becoming a more visible “living” zone. --- ## How B&D insulation is constructed B&D's InsulShield construction is described using three key layers:

- **Steel outer**
- **Graphite EPS (graphite-infused) inner core**
- **Polypropylene backing sheet**

B&D also highlights that graphite-infused EPS improves insulation efficiency compared with standard EPS, and that its insulation is designed as a sleek, slim-line solution. --- ## Exterior seals and protection options Insulation improves the door panel's performance, but sealing the perimeter helps protect the garage from the everyday stuff that makes a garage uncomfortable or messy. ### Bristle seals Bristle seals are designed to fill gaps around the door and act as a barrier against dust, sand, or leaves entering the garage—helping keep the space cleaner (especially important when the garage is used as a living or work area). ### BAL-Maze for bushfire-prone areas For bushfire-prone areas, B&D offers BAL-Maze, described as a **BAL-40 rated** solution. B&D states it is the only BAL-rated door system in Australia tested by CSIRO and confirmed to pass BAL-40 performance requirements **when fitted with BAL-Maze and installed on a B&D sectional door to B&D instructions**. > If you're in a bushfire-prone area, make sure you're selecting the correct door system and options for your site requirements and local regulations. --- ## Set expectations after installation ### The “first few weeks” reality check After installation, it's a good idea to treat the first few weeks as a settling-in period where you:

- Get familiar with how the garage feels in different weather
- Check that seals are doing their job (drafts, dust, leaves)
- Confirm door operation remains smooth and consistent

Keep the garage usable Insulation supports comfort, but overall comfort still depends on:

- How often the garage door is opened (air exchange)
- How well the perimeter is sealed (including any internal access door)
- The condition of surrounding walls/roof/floor (the full “garage envelope”)

--- ## Care and maintenance basics A simple routine keeps insulation and seals working as intended:

- **Keep the door and surrounding area clean:** Reduce dust and debris build-up around edges where seals contact.
- **Visually inspect seals:** Look for obvious gaps, damage, or areas where debris is being pulled into the garage.
- **Listen for changes:** If the door becomes noticeably noisier or rougher to operate, arrange an inspection/service.
- **Use the right support:** For adjustments or concerns, contact a **B&D Accredited Dealer** or qualified technician—especially for anything involving door balance, springs, or structural door hardware.

--- ## FAQ ### Do I need insulation for my garage door? If you use your garage for more than storing the car (e.g., home office, gym), B&D recommends insulating your garage door to improve comfort and usability. ### Can you add insulation to an existing garage door? No. B&D states insulation **cannot be retrofitted** and needs to be installed at the point of purchase. ### How does garage door insulation work? Insulation helps regulate the temperature inside the garage by reducing heat flow—helping keep it cooler in summer and warmer in winter. Insulation is typically made from materials such as polystyrene or polyurethane foam (B&D notes these as common examples). ### Is it worth the extra cost to buy an insulated garage door? While insulated doors may be more expensive upfront, insulation can improve comfort and may help reduce energy consumption and energy bills over time. ### What is R-value and U-value? R-value measures insulation's ability to resist heat flow. U-value measures the ability to conduct heat. Generally, **higher R-value** and **lower U-value** indicate more effective insulation. --- ## Important notes - **Noise reduction claim context:** The 18 dB figure is linked to an independent Acoustic Logic test (dated 9/9/14) measuring R'w of a garage door system using **B&D Panelift InsulShield® with jamb and lintel seals**. - **Door reinforcement:** Some doors require reinforcing for doors over certain sizes and

weights—check with your dealer. - **Installation matters:** Like any insulation/seal solution, real-world results depend on correct product selection and correct installation for your door and site conditions.

Source Data (JSON):

```
"{\n  \"_type\": \"article\", \n  \"title\": \"Garage Door Insulation & Seals - Energy\", \n  \"body\": \"# B&D
```