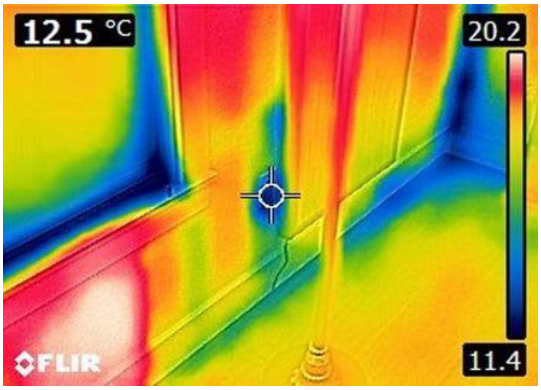
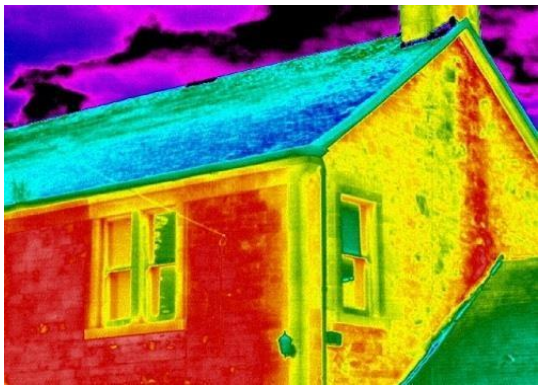
Keep the Heat

How do thermal cameras work?

Thermal cameras detect and measure ‘infrared radiation,’ which is the amount of heat coming from an object. The camera shows you where the high heat areas are, and where heat is escaping, inside and outside your home.

As a general rule, if you’re using the camera **inside** your home, the blue areas are where heat is escaping: **red** is good! And if you’re using the camera **outside** your home, the red areas are where heat is escaping: **blue** is good!





Getting started

1. Check your phone is compatible. You will need at least iOS 17 or Android 13. For Huawei phones, go to www.bit.ly/huaweicompatibility
2. Download the FLIR ONE app from your phone’s app store
3. Open the app and accept the terms and conditions.
4. Select ‘FLIR ONE Edge’ and allow the requested permissions.
5. Clamp the camera to the back of your phone or place the camera close to your phone.
6. Connect the camera to your phone by holding the camera power button for 3 seconds until the light flashes. Allow your phone to find the device (up to 60 secs), press connect and allow it to join the network. You can now start thermal imaging!

How to use the Camera

1. To take a photo, press the grey button at the bottom of the screen.
2. Allow the app access to your photo library to automatically save photos.
3. If you delete a thermal image from your phone’s photo library, it will also remove it from your FLIR One app’s gallery and vice versa. (The camera won’t store any photos)
4. For a quick video, go to: www.bit.ly/flironeedgevideo

Grants and Support

A round up all the offers, schemes, support and grants available to you as a Suffolk resident to make your home warmer.

Visit Sustainable Suffolk - grants and support for Suffolk residents

Top Tips

Using the camera inside: When you use the thermal camera inside your home, the blue areas are where heat is escaping the building.

Ideal conditions:

- 10ºc warmer inside your home than outside
- rooms are at usual temperature and heating is off
- avoid recently used bathrooms

Where to take photos:

- joins in the building work (e.g. where joists meet, or woodwork hides a joint)
- around windows and doors
- floors and external walls
- the flooring in your loft space
- bathrooms and utility rooms

What to look for:

- bluer (cooler) areas of floors and walls may need improved insulation
- in 'wet' rooms such as bathrooms, you may see areas that appear to be very cold, but are in fact areas of water, condensation or damp
- when in your loft, look for cold spots between the insulation.

Using the camera outside: When you use the thermal camera outside your home, the red areas are where heat is escaping the building.

Ideal conditions:

- evening or a cold day
- 10ºc cooler outside your home than inside
- avoid rain or direct sunshine

Where to take photos:

- joins in the building work (such as extensions)
- around windows and doors
- roofs and walls
- ventilation points (such as airbricks, chimneys or extraction fans)

What to look for:

- red-coloured gaps and holes are often draughty spots that can easily be filled.
- redder tints to walls and roofs may need extra insulation installed.

For more tips, go to www.bit.ly/thermaltips

Next Steps

Once you have identified areas where you are losing heat, you can find ways to fix the issues.

Visit www.bit.ly/fixheatloss or scan the QR code.