

IN THE KNOW WITH FAKRO

Malcom Price of Kington in Herefordshire asked us a question through his local merchant

I'm doing some work for a home owner who wants a new loft ladder and there seems to be a pretty wide choice available through merchants these days. The lady concerned wants a pine ladder but asked if there is a ladder which offers really good insulation to prevent heat loss through the hatch space when it's closed. What should we be looking at?

A Fakro has two loft ladders which offer exceptional insulation. The LWT ladder was designed for use where the emphasis is on minimising heat loss so it has a triple edge seal, an 80mm thick hatch and a 74mm depth of insulation. In case your client is interested it

offers the highest rating of airtightness available – Class 4. The LTK Thermo is a similar pine ladder offering the same basic features but with a slightly smaller hatch thickness at 66mm and 60mm of insulation. It's slightly less efficient in terms of its insulation performance but is still 30% more efficient than our standard ladders. We should point out too that even our basic ladders outperform many ladders with names which suggest they offer 'eco performance'.

Chris Phillips of Tiverton in Devon rang about a subject which is probably

one of the most frequently asked – about positioning of roof windows in a loft conversion.

I have two roof windows in another part of the house and always need a pole to open and close them because the handle is at the top of the window. We are about to convert



the loft and have been told that there are manually operated windows available which are more practical to use. Can you explain?

A The reason the handle is high in older style roof windows is that the handle also incorporates the vent. Fakro windows all have their vent in the top of the frame so their operating handle is in the base of the sash. This makes them far easier to operate, sometimes without an extension rod, but it also means you can have them higher in the roof with no more difficulty opening and closing them. The little diagram we've enclosed probably shows this to best effect. Perhaps just as important though is the fact that this means our frames are far sleeker so the glazing area is that much bigger. This brings more daylight into the room and you also get a window with an automatic vent to reduce heat loss, all at a price which is no more, and often less, than the type of roof window you fitted before.

For further information on Fakro use the reader enquiry number 272



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