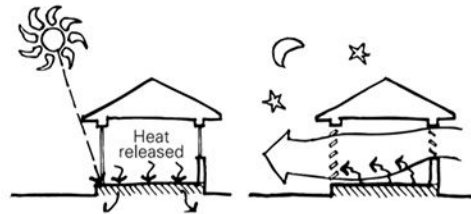
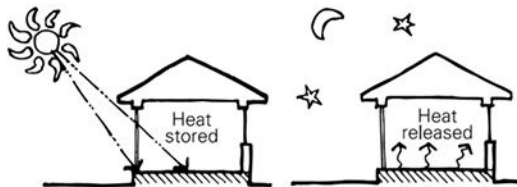


Thermal Mass



Summer

Allow cool night breezes and/or convection currents to pass over the thermal mass, drawing out all the stored energy. During the day protect the thermal mass from excess summer sun with shading and insulation if required.



Winter

Allow thermal mass to absorb heat during the day from direct sunlight or from radiant heaters. It re-radiates this warmth back into the home throughout the night.

Thermal mass is the ability of a material to absorb and store heat energy.

A lot of heat energy is needed to change the temperature of high density materials such as concrete, bricks and tiles: these materials have high heat storage capacity and are therefore said to have high thermal mass.

Light weight materials such as timber have low thermal mass.

More information is available in the Australian "Your Home" guide. For pdfs or to order a copy of the book go to www.yourhome.gov.au

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