READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Below-grade waterproofing final inspection checklist

Below-grade waterproofing final inspection is where the punch list is either short or expensive. This checklist walks the finished work the way an owner or AHJ will see it: devices on, systems running, everything labeled. Each item gets the photo that closes it instead of reopening it. Work is commonly verified against manufacturer's published instructions, the applicable building code. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The GC's superintendent with the waterproofing foreman, releasing the wall for backfill. When: After the membrane is complete and any adhesion or flood test is done, immediately before protection board and backfill go on.

Before the walk

- [ ] Protected access to the wall confirmed before the final walk
  Walk party reaches the waterproofing side of the wall only by the sloped, benched or shored route the competent person cleared that day, never from an unprotected cut.
  No photo required

- [ ] Adhesion checks recorded across the wall
  Peel or pull checks the manufacturer or specs call for done at spread-out locations, each logged with its gridline, and short areas re-rolled or re-coated.
  No photo required

Membrane continuity

- [ ] Membrane continuous with correct laps and overlaps
  Full coverage with no pinholes, fish-mouths or unbonded areas, laps shingled to shed water and rolled or sealed to the specified overlap.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Fluid membrane at the specified thickness
  Wet or dry film thickness checked across the wall on fluid systems, no thin or holidayed areas, cured before covering.
  No photo required

- [ ] Membrane carried over the cant and onto the footing
  Field membrane runs down over the cant and onto the footing top or face as far as the detail shows, bonded tight into the corner with no bridging or open edge.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Bentonite or crystalline coverage matched to the system
  Bentonite panels lapped, staggered and fastened with none hydrated; crystalline coats at the listed coverage rate with the curing the manufacturer requires.
  No photo required

Terminations and flashings

- [ ] Top-of-wall termination sealed and secured
  Termination bar, reglet or seal at the top edge fastened and sealed so water can't get behind the membrane from above.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Flashings tied into the membrane
  Flashings at grade, steps and transitions lapped and sealed into the field membrane, no open edges left exposed.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Termination height held to the finished grade line
  Top edge of the membrane at or above the height the drawings set relative to finished grade, checked against grade stakes or the civil plan, not the rough cut.
  1 photo required

Protection before backfill

- [ ] Protection board or drainage mat installed
  Protection board or drainage mat covering the membrane over its full height before any backfill, seams butted and secured so it stays put during backfill.
  2 photos required

- [ ] No punctures or damage before covering
  Wall walked for punctures, tears and pulled laps, any damage repaired and photographed before backfill goes against it.
  1 photo required

- [ ] No fasteners driven through the membrane field
  Protection board and drainage mat held with the adhesive or top-edge fastening the manufacturer allows, no nails or pins shot through the membrane below the termination.
  1 photo required

Backfill handoff

- [ ] Each wall photographed in full before backfill
  Overlapping shots along every wall with gridlines or station marks in frame, showing membrane and protection in place, so a later leak can be traced to a spot.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Backfill material and lifts confirmed with the sitework crew
  Backfill free of rock and debris that could puncture the protection, placed in lifts with light compaction near the wall as the specs call for, agreed before the first load.
  No photo required

- [ ] Dewatering kept running until backfill and drains are in
  Where the excavation is pumped, shutoff timing confirmed with the GC so groundwater doesn't rise against uncovered membrane or hydrate bentonite before it's confined.
  No photo required