

Drywall inspection checklist

The drywall walk is really two walks: the one before board goes up, which is the last chance to see everything behind it, and the one after finishing, which decides whether paint will look right. Both belong in the record.

Who runs it: Drywall foreman and the GC superintendent; the pre-cover signoff usually needs each rough-in trade to confirm.

When: Pre-cover immediately before hanging. Finish inspection after final sanding, under the lighting the space will actually use.

Before board goes up

- ☐ All rough-in trades signed off in writing
Electrical, plumbing, mechanical, low voltage and fire protection each confirmed complete. 2 photos required
- ☐ Insulation installed, complete and unfaced areas covered
No gaps at plates, corners and around boxes; batts not compressed behind wiring. 2 photos required
- ☐ Blocking and backing verified against the finish plan
Last chance to add blocking for anything hanging on this wall. 2 photos required

Hang

- ☐ Board type correct for the location
Moisture- and abuse-resistant types where specified; correct thickness for the framing spacing. 1 photo required
- ☐ Fastener spacing and depth correct
Screws dimpled but not breaking paper; no missed studs; no fasteners in the field of a floating corner. 2 photos required
- ☐ Joints staggered and gaps within tolerance
End joints offset, cutouts tight to boxes, no gaps that will need filling with compound alone. 2 photos required

Rated assemblies

- ☐ Rated walls built full height and continuous
Board carried to deck where required, no interruptions above the ceiling line. 2 photos required
- ☐ Penetrations firestopped with the listed system
Photograph each penetration with the applied material before the ceiling closes. 3 photos required
- ☐ Rated walls identified above the ceiling
Permanent labelling at the required intervals so a future trade knows what it is cutting. 1 photo required

Finish

- ☐ Finish level matches the specification for each area
Agree the level per space up front; check with a light held close to the surface. 2 photos required
- ☐ Corners, beads and transitions straight and tight
No crowning, no bead exposed through the compound, consistent reveals at openings. 2 photos required
- ☐ Surface ready for finish under final lighting
Walk with the actual fixtures on; document what is accepted and what is on the punch list. 2 photos required