READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Fluid-applied air barrier rough-in inspection checklist

Fluid-applied air barrier rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against the applicable building/energy code, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The applicator's foreman prepping the wall, with the GC's superintendent walking the sheathing before the membrane is applied. When: After the sheathing is fastened and before the field coat is applied, while joints, fastener heads and transitions are still open to treat.

Product and conditions

- [ ] Membrane pail labels match the approved submittal
  Product name, type and lot on the field membrane, liquid flashing and joint fill pails at the wall match the approved submittal, with no pail past its shelf-life date.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Compatibility letter covers the materials the barrier touches
  Manufacturer's compatibility letter or list on file for the sheathing, window flashing tape, sealants and the roof and below-grade membranes this barrier laps onto.
  No photo required

- [ ] Surface temperature and dew point read before application
  Surface and air temperature and dew point spread read at the wall and logged before the first pass, inside the manufacturer's range, with no rain due before its rain-ready time.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Mockup or first area reviewed before production
  Mockup with an opening and a dissimilar-material transition built to the approved details, or the first coated area where no mockup is specified, reviewed and recorded before production starts.
  No photo required

Substrate condition

- [ ] Sheathing sound, dry and clean
  Sheathing fastened flat with no loose or swollen panels, surface dry and free of dust, frost or bond-breaking residue within the manufacturer's moisture and temperature range.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Substrate moisture checked by the manufacturer's method
  Moisture read on sheathing, concrete or masonry at each elevation, including low courses and around openings, within the manufacturer's published limit; wet areas left to dry before coating.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Joint gaps and overdriven fasteners within the detail's limits
  Sheathing gaps no wider than the joint treatment is rated to bridge, overdriven or missed fasteners re-set, broken panel edges patched before treatment starts.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Dissimilar substrate joints located along the elevation
  Every change from sheathing to concrete, masonry, steel or wood blocking found and marked, so each one gets the transition the detail shows instead of field coat alone.
  1 photo required

Joint and fastener treatment

- [ ] Joints, corners and fastener heads detailed
  Sheathing joints, inside and outside corners and fastener heads treated with the specified fill, tape or liquid flashing before the field coat, so nothing relies on the field coat to bridge a gap.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Transition membrane bridging dissimilar materials
  Transition sheet or reinforced liquid flashing across foundation-to-wall, slab-edge and framing-to-steel joints, lapped onto each substrate the width the detail shows and rolled tight.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Primer applied or waived per the substrate list
  Primer used on each substrate the manufacturer's data requires it for, at the stated open time, and the waiver noted for substrates that need none.
  No photo required

- [ ] Joint treatment cured before the field coat goes over it
  Liquid flashing and joint fill at the cure the manufacturer requires before overcoating; tape seated flat with no fishmouths or wrinkles at laps.
  1 photo required

Openings and penetrations

- [ ] Rough openings and penetrations flashed
  Rough openings, pipe and conduit penetrations and deck junctions flashed with the detailed material and shingle-lapped to shed water before the field coat ties in.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Rough-opening corners reinforced before the field coat
  Head, jamb and sill corners wrapped with the corner patch or preformed piece the detail shows, liquid flashing carried onto the framing return inside the opening.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Sleeves and anchor plates set before the field coat goes on
  Other trades' sleeves, anchor plates and conduit through the sheathing confirmed in place with the super before application, so they aren't cut in later.
  No photo required