

Insulation pre-cover inspection checklist

A insulation pre-cover inspection is the hold point before concealed work disappears behind the next layer. This checklist is built for that walk: verify, photograph, then release the cover, not the other way around. Work is commonly verified against the applicable energy code. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The GC's superintendent with the insulation foreman, releasing walls and ceilings for drywall. When: After the rough-in walk passes, the day before drywall is scheduled on each area.

Re-walk after other trades

- ☐ **No bays disturbed since the rough-in walk**
Insulation still fitted tight in bays where electricians, plumbers or HVAC worked after the first inspection. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Vapor retarder continuous and taped**
No tears, seams lapped and taped where the assembly calls for a retarder. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Plates re-checked for late holes left unsealed**
Plates and top plates walked for holes drilled after the rough-in walk for wiring, low-voltage or plumbing; each filled with foam or sealant, not left open behind the batt. 1 photo required

Hard-to-reach areas

- ☐ **Bays behind set tubs, showers and blocking checked by flashlight**
Flashlight check behind anything already set tight to an exterior wall (tubs, shower units, stair stringers, blocking): the bay filled and backed so the batt stays put. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Envelope blocked or backed wherever it changes plane**
At each turn in the insulated envelope (wall to attic, kneewalls, floors over garages or cantilevers) bays are blocked or backed so outside air cannot run in. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Batts sit flush with the stud face, ready for board**
Batts fill the bay without bulging past the face of the studs, so the board lands flat and nothing is crushed behind it; overhead batts supported, not sagging. 1 photo required

Openings and piping

- ☐ **Window and door frames sealed to the rough opening**
The gap between frame and rough opening filled with low-expansion foam or backer and sealant, not packed with batt scraps. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Water lines in exterior walls on the warm side of the batt**
Where supply pipes run in outside walls, the insulation is split behind them toward the exterior, not pushed to the room side of the pipe. No photo required

Release

- ☐ **Every wall and ceiling area walked and released individually**
One photo per room or run showing the insulated condition, tagged to that area's release for cover. 3 photos required
- ☐ **Prior failed items re-checked and closed with photos**
Each correction photographed in place, not just marked done on a list. 2 photos required

- ☐ **Required insulation inspection passed before board starts**
Where the AHJ or a third-party rater inspects insulation before cover, the result is recorded for each released area. No photo required
- ☐ **Held bays flagged on the studs for the drywall crew**
Bays still failing marked on the framing with paint or tape and listed for the drywall foreman, so board is not hung over open insulation items. No photo required