READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Rainscreen cladding pre-cover inspection checklist

A rainscreen cladding 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 building/energy code, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The cladding foreman with the GC's superintendent, at the hold point right before the panels close the cavity. When: After sub-framing and flashings are complete and before panel install starts, the last moment the cavity and barrier are visible.

Drainage cavity

- [ ] Cavity open, vented and clear behind the sub-framing
  Continuous air gap behind the panel line, cavity free of sealant, insulation and debris, path for water to drain and air to move confirmed.
  2 photos required
- [ ] Cavity depth held to the wall section at its tightest point
  Gap from the insulation or backup face to the panel line measured at bowed boards, girt splices and corners; depth matches the wall section with no pinch points.
  1 photo required
- [ ] Insulation dry, fastened and undamaged before panels close it
  No wet, crushed or wind-torn boards; loose boards re-fastened and damaged pieces replaced while the insulation is still in reach.
  No photo required

Flashings and terminations

- [ ] Head, sill and base flashings lapped to drain outward
  Flashings integrated with the WRB, lapped so water sheds to the exterior, end dams where required, no reverse laps at openings or transitions.
  2 photos required
- [ ] Subframe and insulation stopped short at opening returns
  Girts, clips and insulation end where the opening detail shows, leaving room for the sill flashing slope and the jamb and head trims.
  1 photo required
- [ ] Base termination set at the wall section's height above grade or roof
  Base flashing or starter track set at the clearance above finished grade, paving or roof the wall section shows, so splash and snow cannot bridge into the cavity.
  1 photo required

Weeps and venting

- [ ] Weep and vent openings clear at base and heads
  Base track weeps and vent openings open and unobstructed so the cavity drains and breathes once the panels are on.
  1 photo required
- [ ] Insect screen closed at the base, top and heads of the cavity
  Perforated closure or mesh run full length at the base and at the parapet or soffit and opening heads, lapped at corners, with openings clear so the cavity drains and vents.
  1 photo required

Fire-rated cavity barriers

- [ ] Cavity barrier locations checked against the code plan
  Where the code plan shows cavity fire barriers at floor lines or compartment lines, each location is marked on the elevation before panels go on.
  No photo required

- [ ] Cavity barrier type and orientation match the approved submittal
  Where barriers are required, the product, its ventilated or solid type and the up-side orientation match the submittal the design team approved.
  No photo required

- [ ] Cavity barriers tight to wall and girts with no gaps
  Where barriers are shown, they run continuous through girts, splices and corners on the brackets the manufacturer lists, with no open gaps around clips.
  No photo required

- [ ] Ventilated barriers keep the air gap their listing needs
  Where intumescent barriers vent the cavity, the gap to the panel back matches the manufacturer's value and nothing plugs it before panels close.
  No photo required

Panel-ready hold point

- [ ] Girt lines match the panel joint layout before panels start
  Girts or rails sit under every panel's fastening edge or clip line shown on the shop drawings, so no panel edge lands between supports.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Open-cavity walk released by gridline before panels go on
  Superintendent and cladding foreman walked the open cavity, listed open items by gridline and elevation, and panels start only on the bays released.
  No photo required