

Roofing pre-cover inspection checklist

A roofing 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 NRCA guidance, manufacturer installation requirements. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The roofing foreman with the GC's superintendent, releasing sections for field material to be loaded. When: After flashing, valleys and cricket underlayment are complete, before the finish layer (shingle, tile, panel or membrane cap) covers them.

Base and step flashing

- ☐ **Base flashing laps over underlayment, not under it**
Flashing edge visible on top of the underlayment course below it at every wall and curb intersection. 3 photos required
- ☐ **Step flashing set at every course along sidewalls**
One piece per shingle or panel course, each piece lapped by the course above. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Kickout flashing at the bottom of every sidewall run**
Where a sidewall run ends above an eave, a diverter at its lower end turns water into the gutter and away from the wall cladding. No photo required
- ☐ **Wall weather barrier lapped over the flashing's vertical leg**
Where the roof meets a wall, housewrap or wall membrane laid over step, apron and headwall flashing, not tucked behind it, taped where the detail shows. No photo required
- ☐ **Flashing metal and accessories match the approved submittal**
Bundle tag or stamped marking photographed showing metal type, gauge and finish, matched to the submittal and the warranty's accessory list before cover. 1 photo required

Valleys and crickets

- ☐ **Valley lining continuous and at the required width**
Metal or membrane centered in the valley, width measured against the spec at several points along its length. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Crickets built to divert water around chimneys, curbs and skylights**
Cricket ridge height and slope sufficient to shed water to both sides, underlayment and flashing wrapped over it. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Valley centerline kept clear of fasteners**
Where the roof has valleys, no nails or screws inside the fastener-free zone the manufacturer sets, lining held only at its outer edges. No photo required

Penetration prep

- ☐ **Pipe boots and curb flashing set before the field material covers the base**
Boot or flashing collar sealed to the deck, storm collar or counterflashing ready to receive the finish layer. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Skylight and hatch flashing kits installed in sequence**
Where skylights or hatches are set, kit pieces go in their listed order: sill apron first, head flashing lapping over the side pieces. No photo required

Laps, walls and transitions

- ☐ **Laps in the layer about to be covered checked full length**
Welded or taped membrane seams probed, or underlayment and base sheet laps checked for fishmouths, before cap, coating, ballast or field material covers them. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Parapet and wall base flashing carried to the detailed height**
Where the roof meets a parapet or wall, membrane or flashing runs up to the height on the details, terminated with bar or under the counterflashing receiver. No photo required
- ☐ **Low-slope to steep-slope transitions flashed per the detail**
Where the roof changes slope, low-slope membrane carried up under the steep-slope underlayment, transition metal lapped shingle-fashion. No photo required
- ☐ **Manufacturer's in-progress inspection on file where required**
Rep's visit or report recorded before details are covered, for systems whose warranty depends on an in-progress review. No photo required