

Roofing rough-in inspection checklist

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

Who runs it: The roofing foreman walking the deck with the crew, ahead of the GC's dry-in inspection. When: After the deck is installed and underlayment is run, before the field material, tile or panels are loaded onto the roof.

Deck condition

- ☐ Sheathing sound, flat and properly fastened
No soft spots, delamination or sagging between rafters, fasteners set flush without overdriving. 2 photos required
- ☐ Deck gaps and damage addressed before covering
Gaps beyond the allowed spacing filled or sheathing replaced, no holes left unpatched under the underlayment. 1 photo required
- ☐ Deck dry and swept before the first course goes down
No dew, frost or wet sheathing trapped under the underlayment, deck swept of nails, chips and loose debris. 1 photo required
- ☐ Deck openings and curbs at the drawing size and location
Every opening cut in the deck for vents, stacks, skylights or units, and any curb, measured against the drawings, framed and anchored before underlayment runs to it. 1 photo required
- ☐ Sheathing nailing inspection recorded where the project requires it
AHJ or GC sign-off on the deck fastening logged before underlayment hides the nail pattern. No photo required

Underlayment and fastening

- ☐ Underlayment lapped correctly with the slope
Upper courses overlapping lower courses shingle-fashion, laps at the required minimum width. 2 photos required
- ☐ Fastener type, pattern and spacing correct for the wind zone
Fastener spacing consistent across the field, tighter pattern visible at edges and corners where required. 2 photos required
- ☐ Underlayment continuous with no exposed deck
No gaps, tears or fishmouths left uncovered, especially around penetrations and at hips and valleys. 2 photos required
- ☐ Eave and valley underlayment run to the line on the drawings
The eave and valley treatment the drawings show (ice barrier, self-adhered strip or doubled underlayment) carried to its line and rolled tight with no wrinkles. 1 photo required
- ☐ Edge metal sequenced with the underlayment at every roof edge
Lap order at eaves, rakes and perimeter edges matches the manufacturer's detail, so water sheds onto the metal and not behind it. 2 photos required
- ☐ Underlayment product matches the approved submittal
Roll label or printed marking photographed and matched to the submittal and the roof system the warranty is written on. 1 photo required

Drainage prep

- ☐ **Drains, scuppers and crickets roughed in at the correct slope**
Tapered insulation or framing directs water toward drains, no flat or backward-pitched areas visible. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Water path from each roof area to its outlet traced**
Each area walked from its high point to its drain, scupper or eave; nothing dams the flow, and drain bowls or eave edges sit low enough to receive the finish layer. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Overflow drains or scuppers set at the height shown on the drawings**
Where the drawings show overflows, the inlet is measured against the primary drain level shown, with a clear path to its outlet. No photo required