


2023 BUILD IT RIGHT SEMINAR

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED IN THE LAST 50
YEARS TO HELP US MAKE SENSE OF HIGH-
PERFORMANCE HOMES?



Workshop Focus

How has building science changed housing in the last 50 years?

Positive discussion

Agree that since I'm the oldest, I've made the most "opportunities for improvement!"

We're here to assist and have a fun day!!

Please Remember Most Of Us Were Trying Our Best

Sources of building knowledge – books and elders

Skill sets – hammer, framing square, no cordless

Available materials – Fuzzboard and Visqueen

Focus on quality – trimwork, cabinets and paint

Market – 1200 to 1500 sq. ft. ranch with 4/12 pitch

Good Sources Of Knowledge



Iowa Green Streets Criteria

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Buildingscience.com

Green Building Advisor

Construction Instruction – Free app

Iowa Association For Energy Efficiency

Dave Ruffcorn

Building Enclosure Council

Sources

The Energy Group

Iowa Central Carpentry

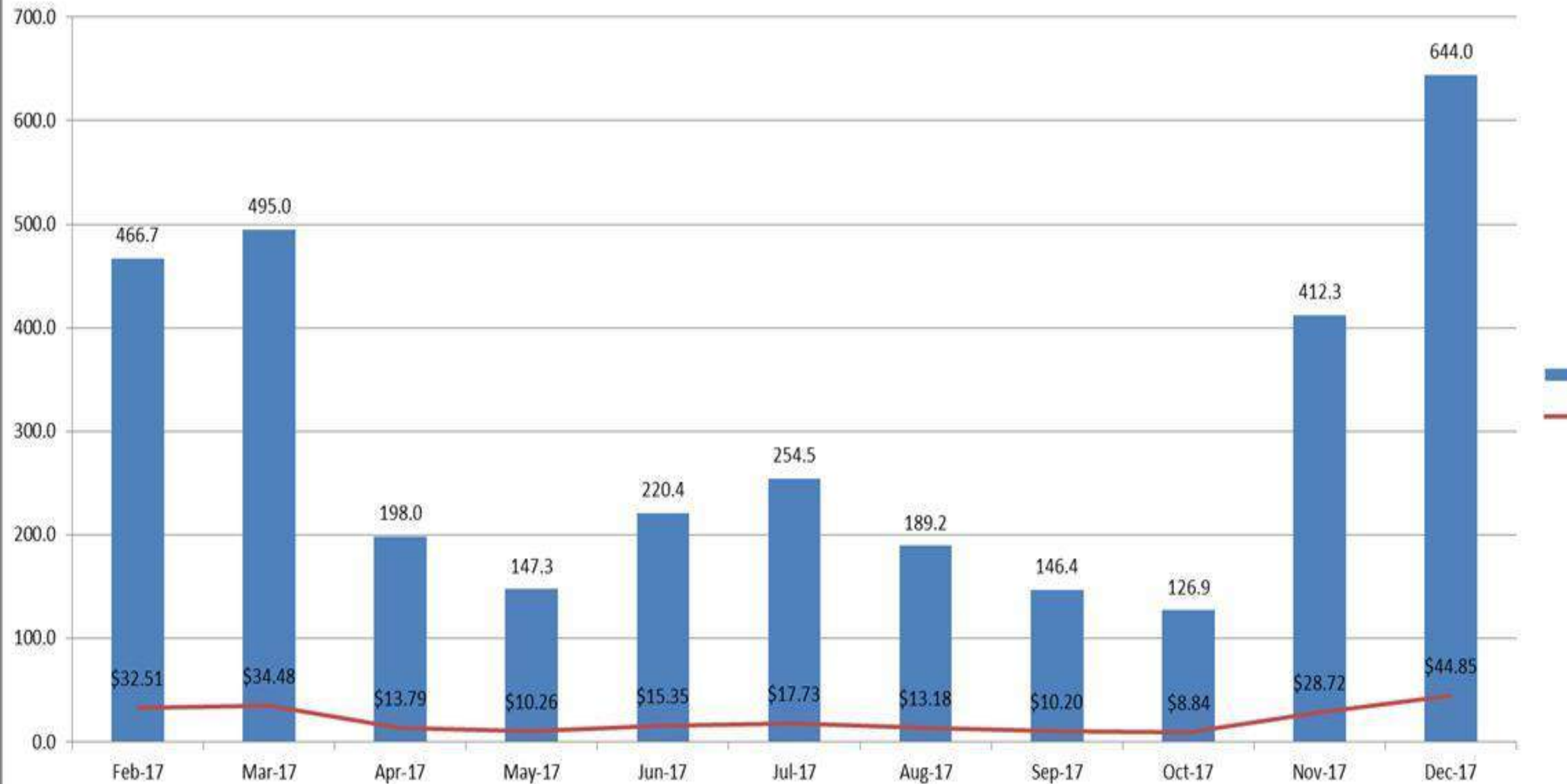
Fine Homebuilding

Iowa State University

University of Minnesota Cold Climate Housing
Program



Geothermal Usage & Cost



What is Building Science?

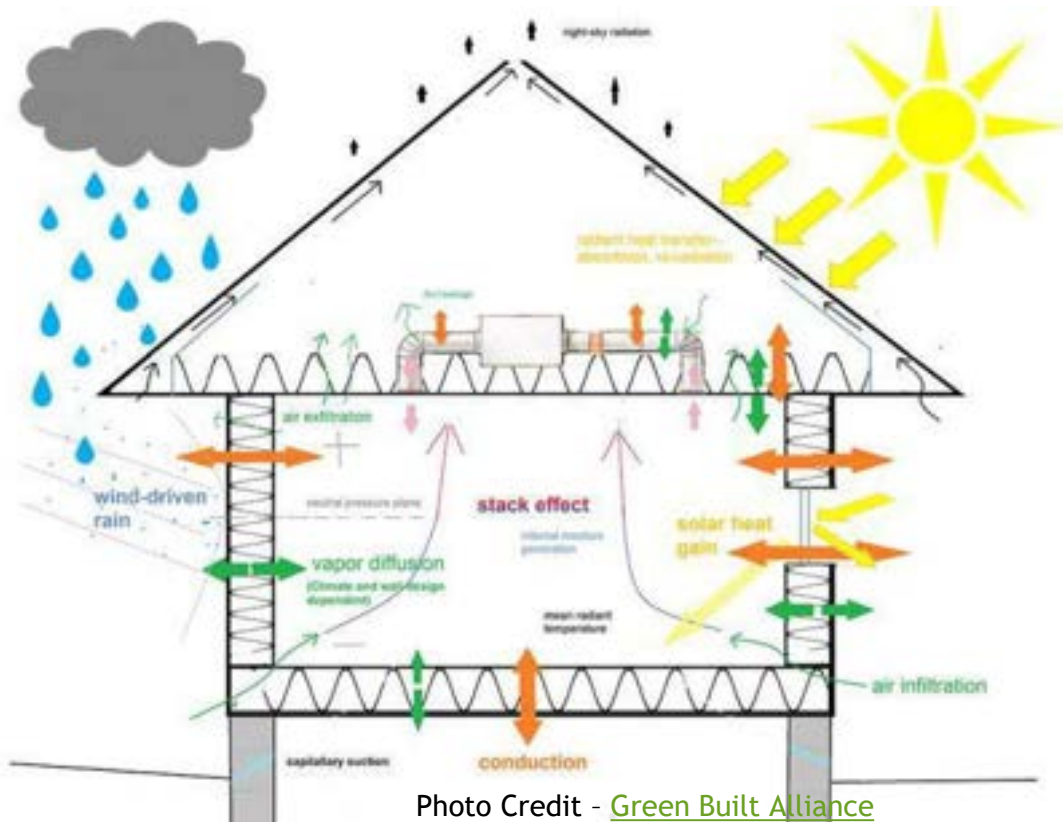
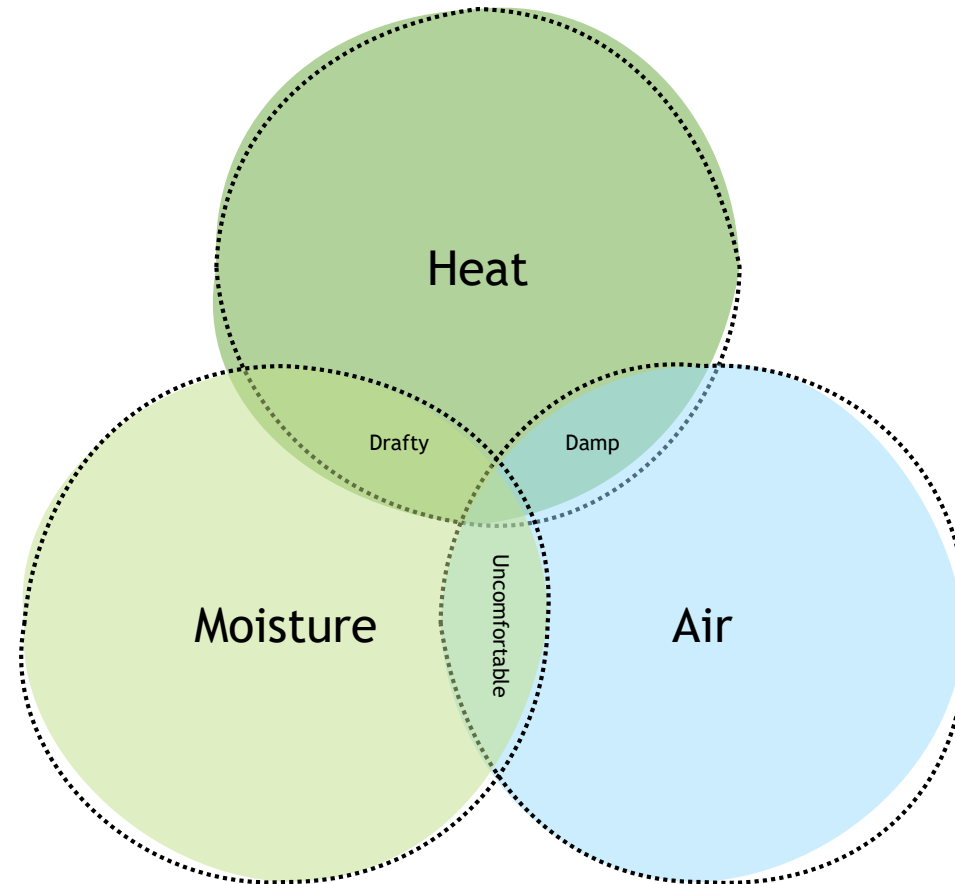


Photo Credit - [Green Built Alliance](#)

- Application of physical sciences to buildings
- Takes into consideration the house as a system, not individual components alone
- Building Science Hierarchy of Importance
 - 1) Bulk Water
 - 2) Air Infiltration
 - 3) Vapor Diffusion
 - 4) Heat/Thermal

Heat, Air and Moisture



Main Building Science Topics

Water and Vapor control

Air Sealing

Capillary Action and Breaks

Thermal Bridging

Insulation

Product Installation

Advanced Framing

Windows and Doors

Frost

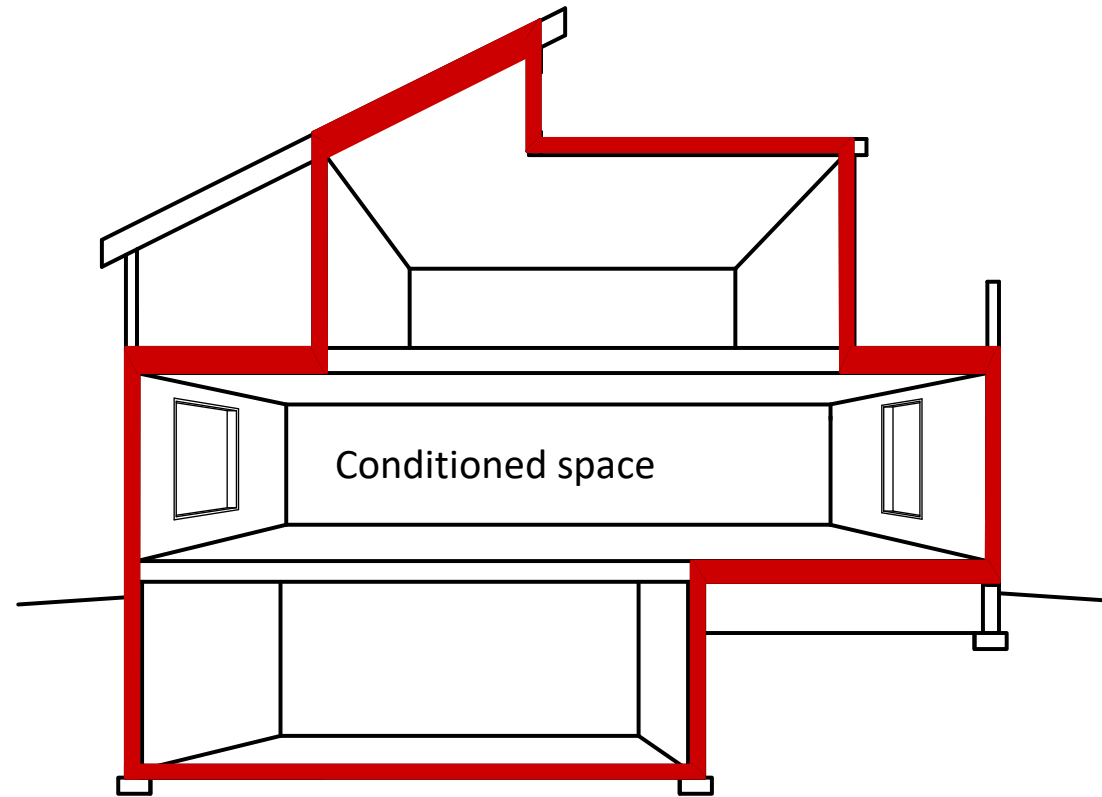
Ventilation

Universal Design

Education sources

Building Envelope

- Building Envelope consists of:
 - ▣ Fenestration
 - ▣ Roof
 - ▣ Ceilings
 - ▣ Walls
 - Above grade
 - Below grade
 - Mass walls
 - ▣ Floors
 - ▣ Slab
 - ▣ Crawl space



Attic Heat Flows

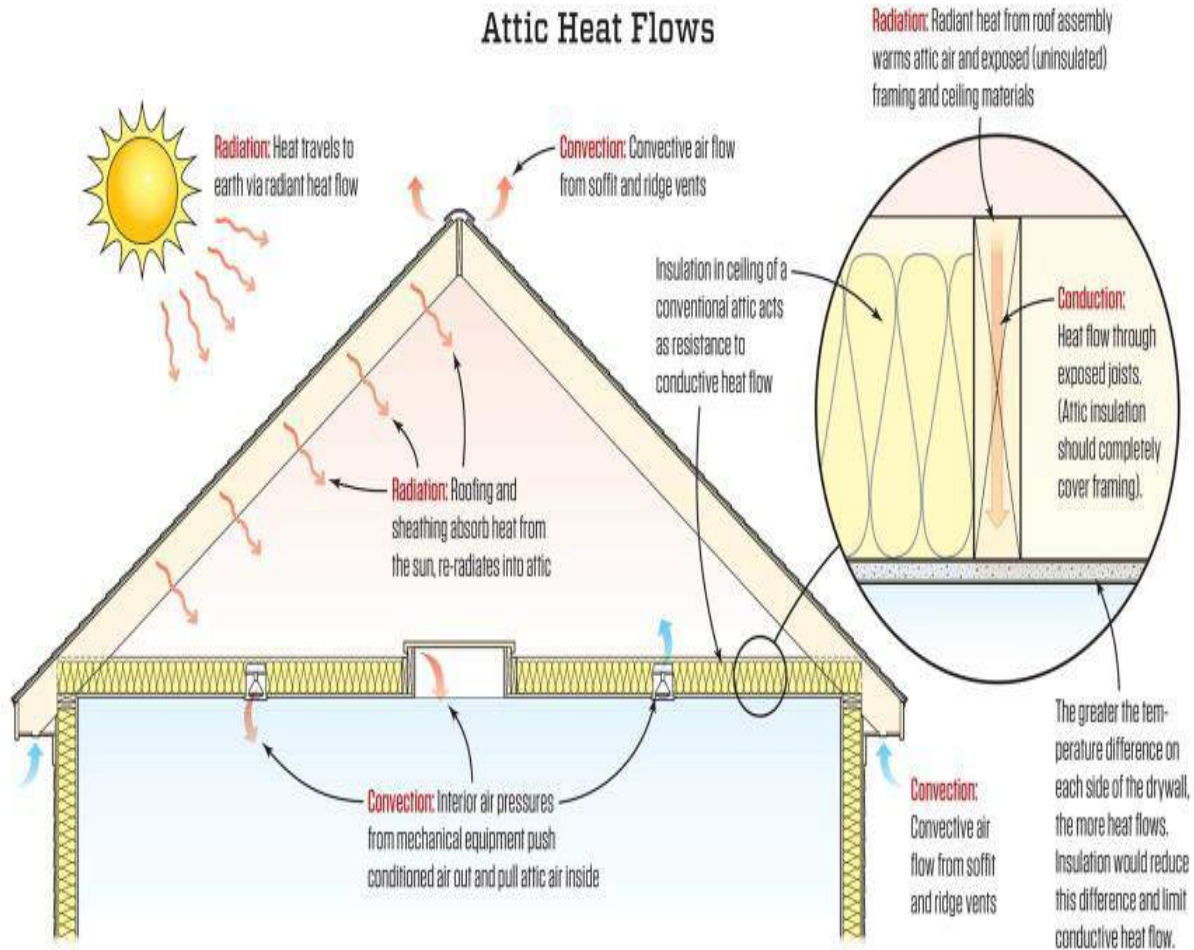


Photo Credit - [Journal of Light Construction](#)

- Three Main Methods of Heat Transport:
 - Convection, Conduction and Radiation
- High R-Value Walls
 - Continuous thermal insulation
 - Reduced Thermal Bridging
- High Performance Fenestration
 - Low U-Value
 - SHGC values engineered for orientation

Air Flows

- Red Line Test During Design – Control layers
- Managed Building Pressures
 - Stack Effect
 - Mechanical Intake and Exhausts
- Unintentional Leakage Pathways
 - Holes in Building Envelope
- Intentional Air Flows
 - Attic Ventilation
 - Make Up Air
- Maximum Leakage of 3 ACH50 (Single Family and Multifamily)

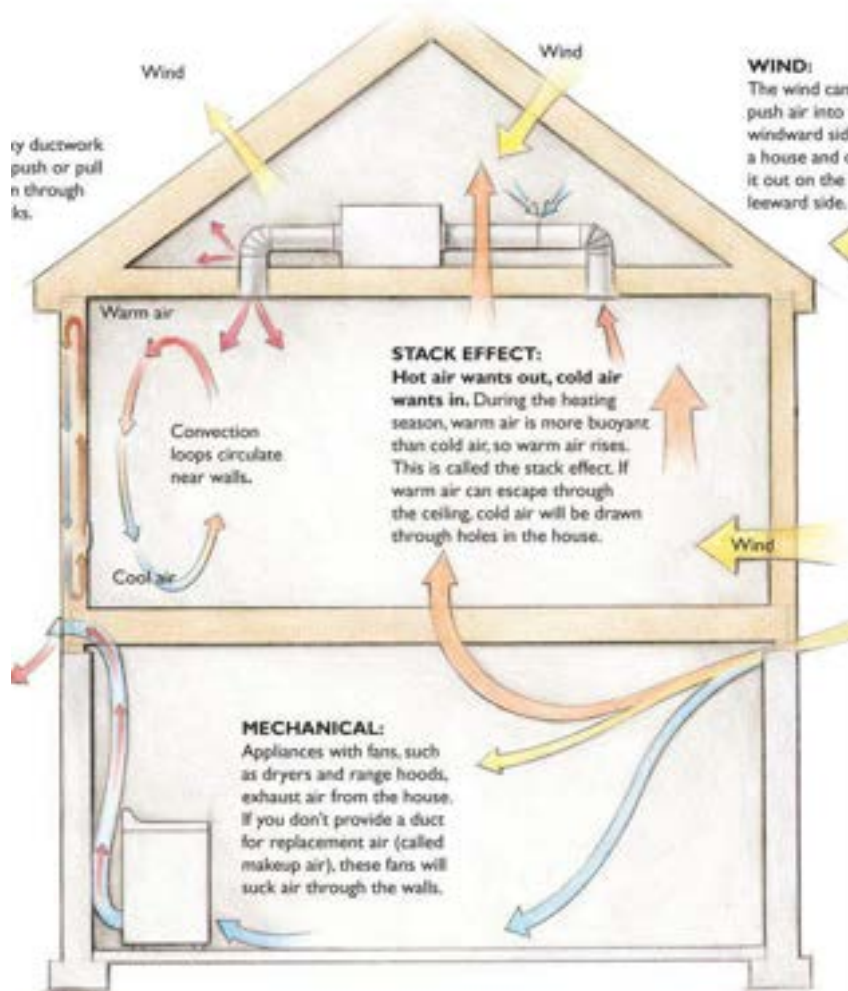


Photo Credit – [Green Building Advisor](#)

Control Layers



Thermal



Air Barrier



Vapor Control



Water Control Layer

“Perfect” Assembly

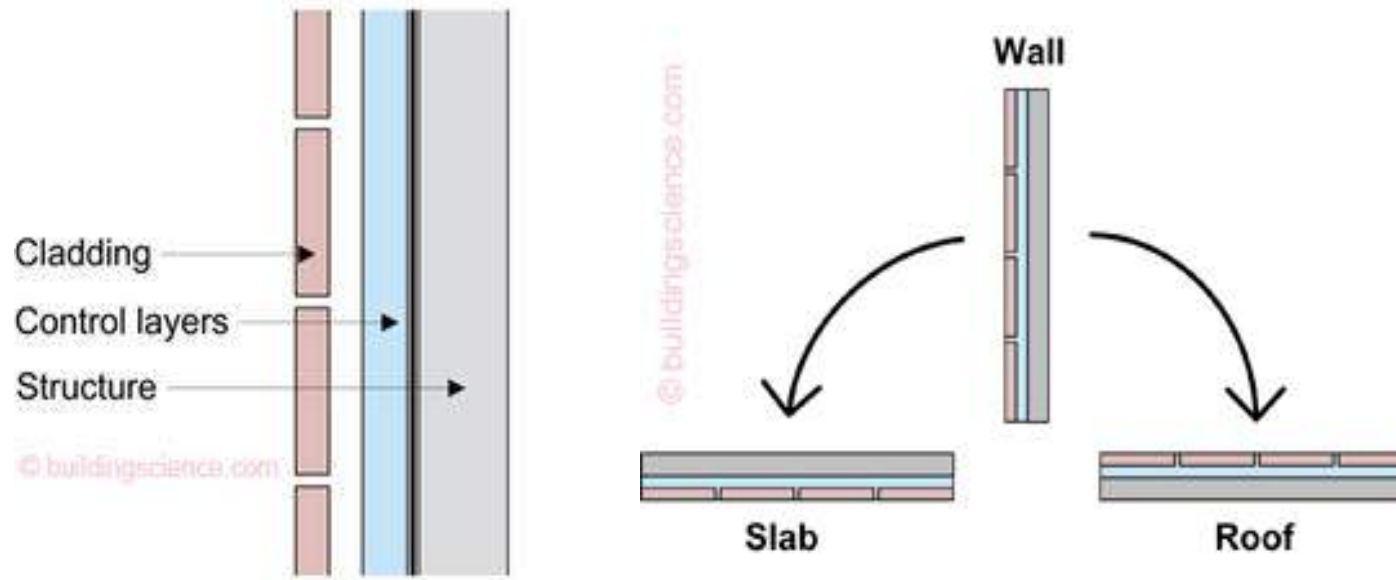


Photo Credit - [Building Science Corporation](https://www.buildingscience.com)

Knowledge Flow - Design to Field

R-values – from prints to actual performance

Air movement – “more caulk”

Vapor/Dew point – “huh?”

Water – “dang windows”

Flashings – “over under/under over”

Material compatibility – “Never had a problem before!”

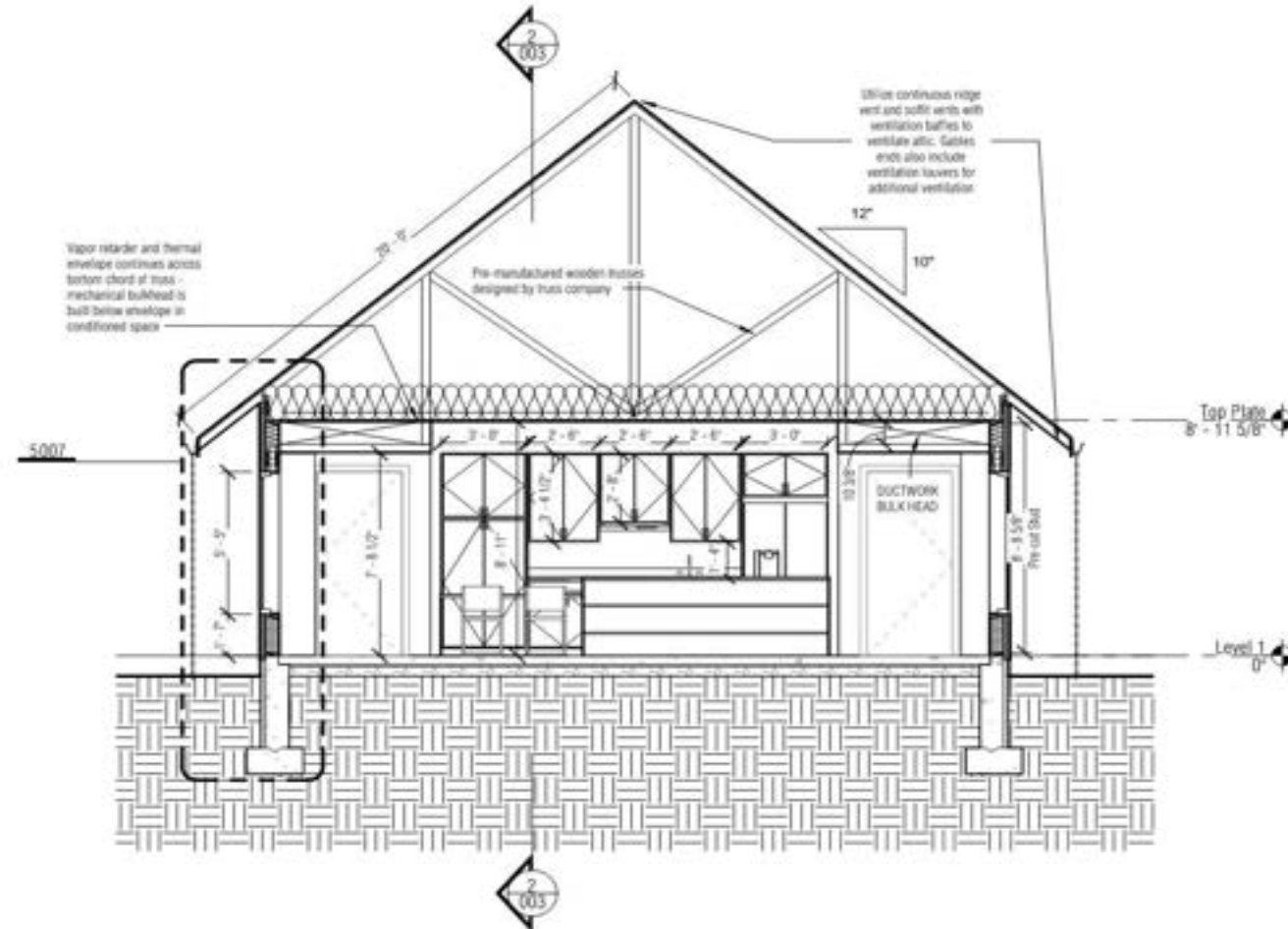
6. ALL MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT SHALL BE APPLIED, INSTALLED, CONNECTED, ERECTED, CLEANED AND CONDITIONED ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURERS' INSTRUCTIONS. IN CASE OF DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN MANUFACTURERS' INSTRUCTIONS AND THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, NOTIFY ARCHITECT / ENGINEER

2014 Builder Training





Application of Building Science



Basements/Below Grade

Water, water everywhere

Wall damp proofing vs waterproofing

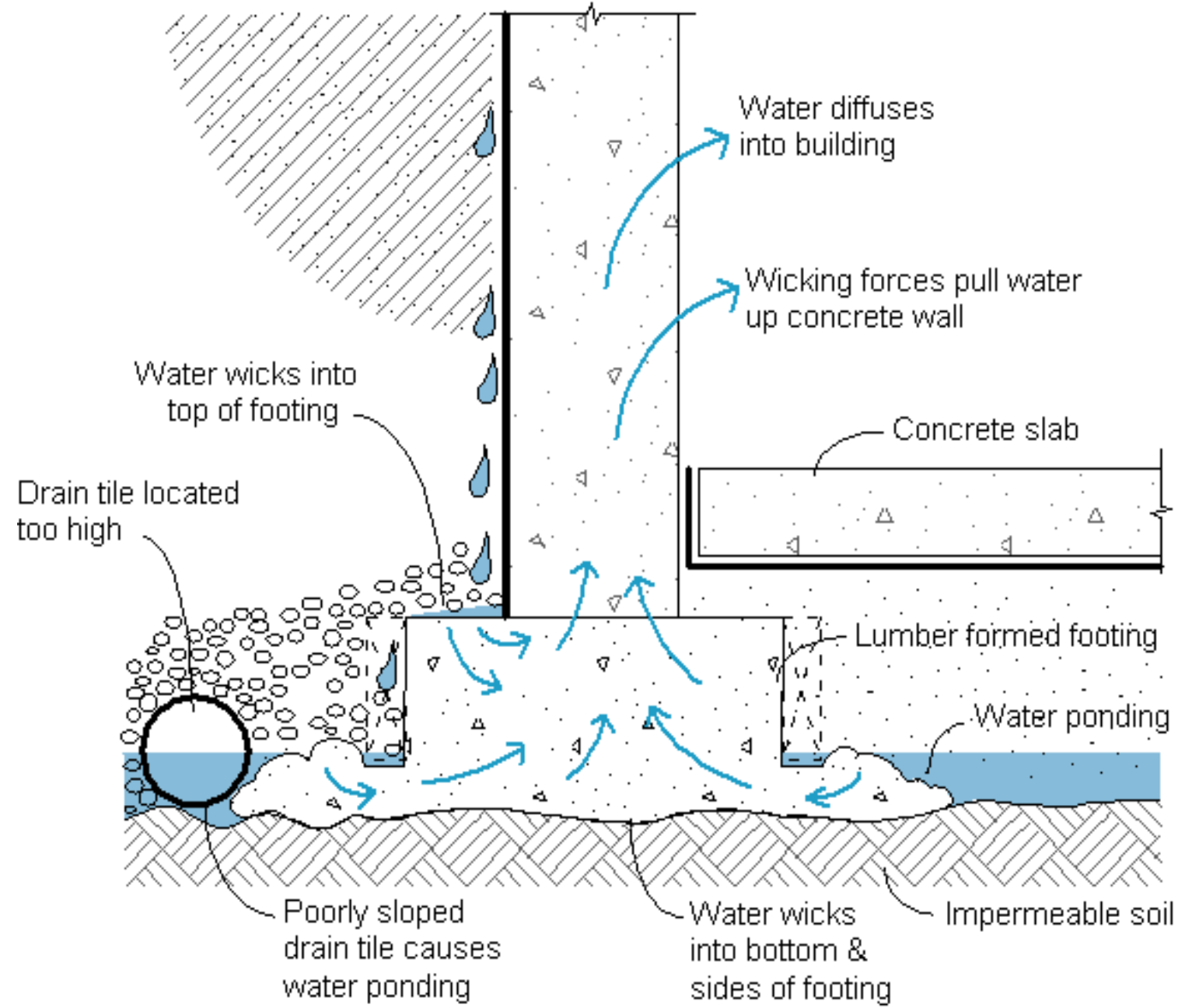
Slab condensation & capillary breaks - 1996

Thermal bridges – not discussed residentially

Too many wrong options – cheap & easy

















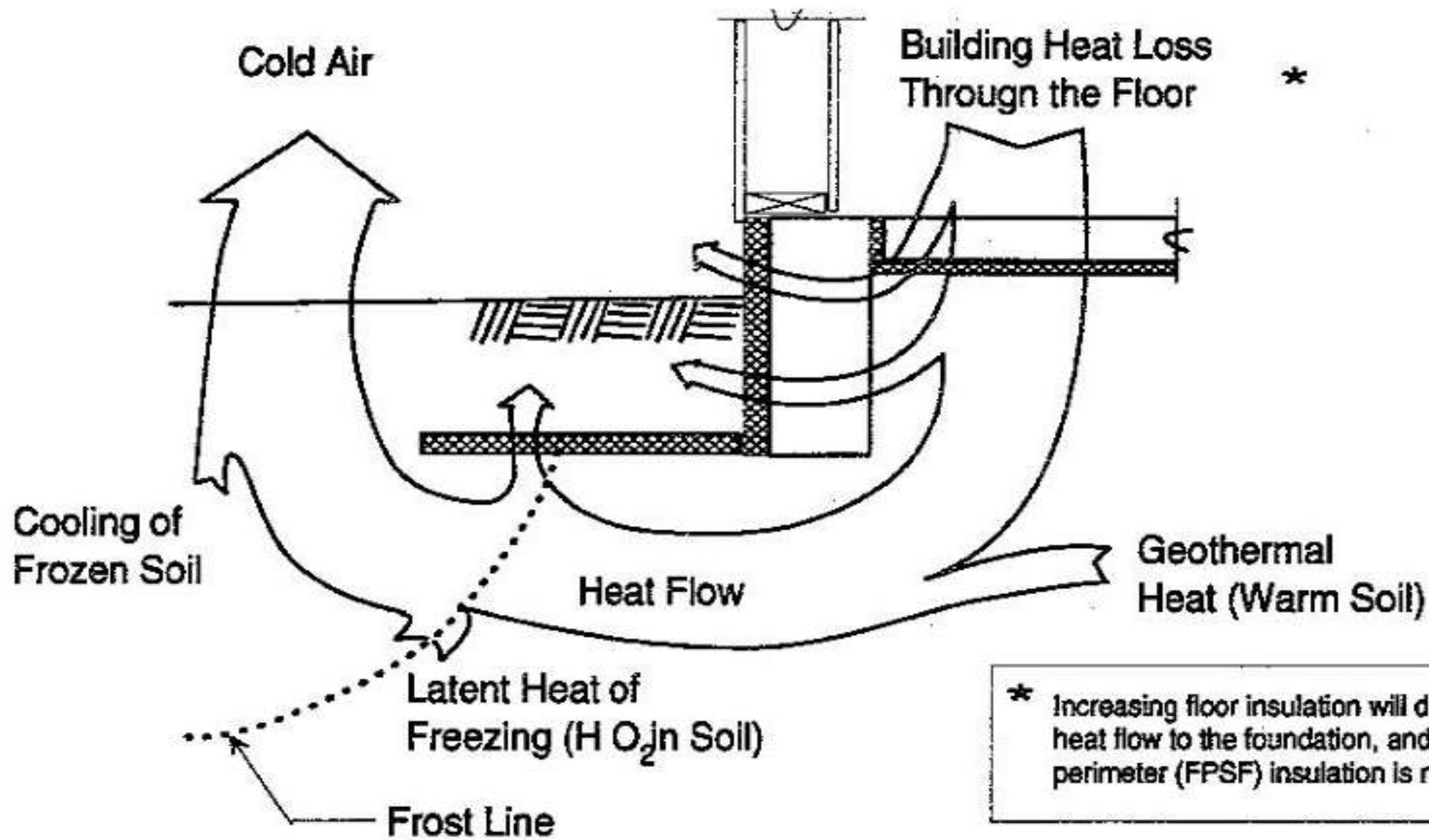


FIGURE 3. FPSF Heat Flow Diagram for a Heated Building with Optional Floor Insulation.









Liber van
1700 4002



Treated Lumber Issues

As early as June 2007 – Forest
Products Journal and
Environmental Building News

New copper based treated
wood prone to brown-rot
fungi

Loses 20%-60% of their mass

Fastener and hanger corrosion

May be a contributing factor
to deck collapse

Corrosion Blocker

When WiseWrap® JoistTape™ is placed between ACQ, CA-B, or ACZA treated lumber and metal surfaces, such as galvanized metal and aluminum, it creates a physical barrier that prevents the corrosion of the metal surface caused by contact with the chemicals in treated lumber.



1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor



FOAMULAR 250

Energy-Saving, Rigid, Noncombustible XPS Insulation
Aislamiento XPS resistente a la humedad y retardador de incendios de muy alta resistencia

R-5.0
1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor

8120602C



FOAMULAR 250

R-5.0
1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor

8120602C



FOAMULAR 250

R-5
1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor

8120602C



FOAMULAR 250

R-5
1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor



FOAMULAR 250

R-5
1 Inch Thickness
1 pulg. de espesor

8120602C





What's The Problem?



DUPON

Tyvek

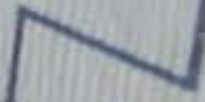
Tyvek

Tyvek

Tyvek

WINDSTOPPER

Windwrap 602









250

250

AMULAR 250

AMULAR 250

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AMULAR 250

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AMULAR 250

AMULAR 250







What Makes a Good Slab-on-Grade Assembly?

- Frost Free
- Vapor Barrier – 10 mil+
- Insulated Slab
- Thermal Break Concerns
- Edge Protection and Elevation

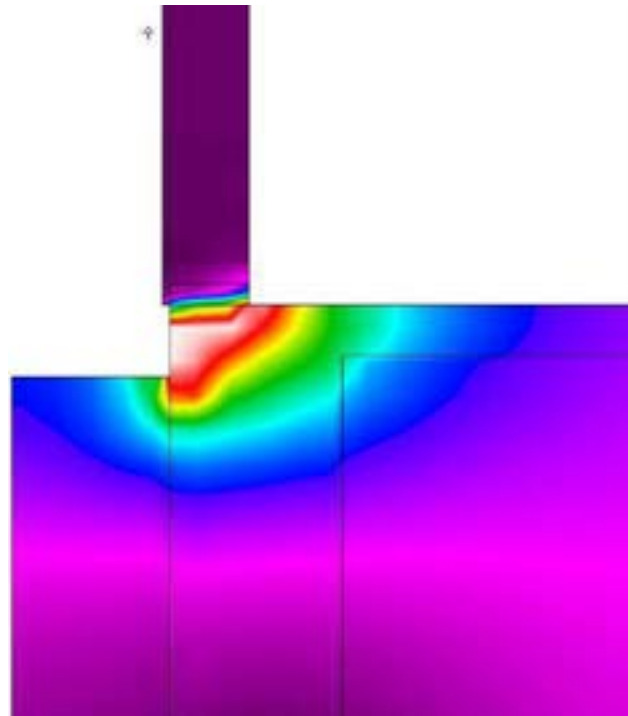
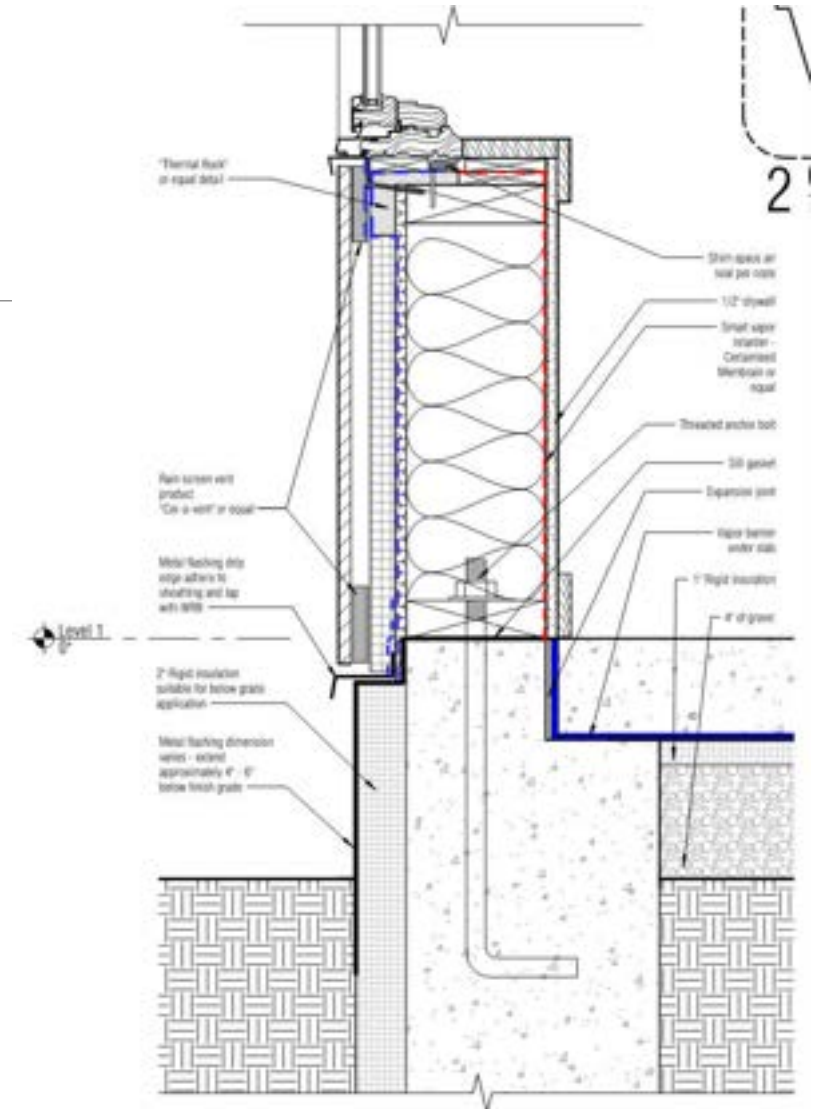
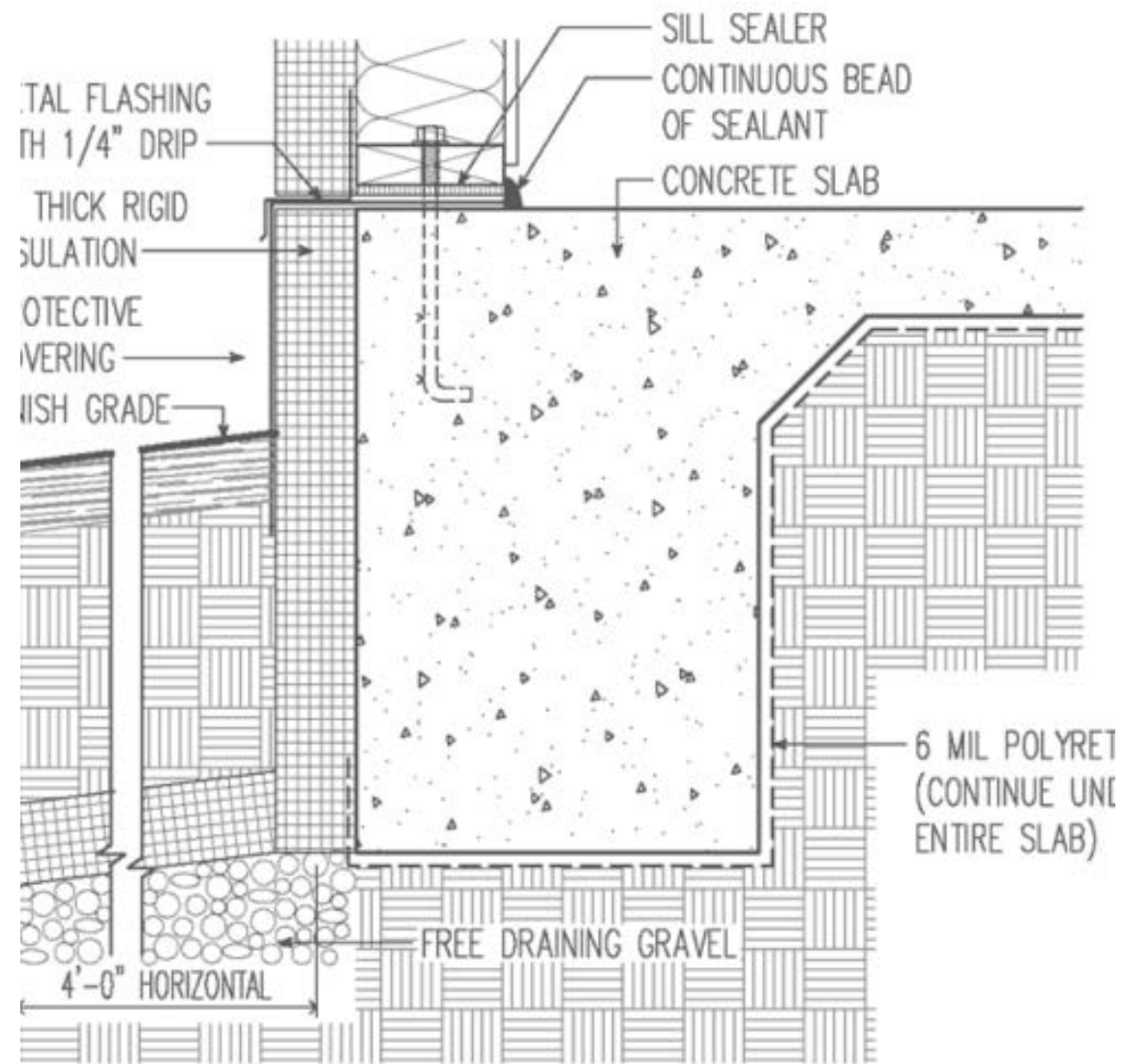


Photo Credit: Green Building Advisor



1 Detail Section - Foundation and Sill
7-1-0 RE 3/07













Walls Terminology

Water – WRB new idea

Vapor – not understood

Penetrations – still overlooked

Air tightness and convective air loops

R-value – I mean total wall value, not the 2” wide rolled up piece of fiberglass between 4 studs!

Types of Exterior Walls

2x4, 2x6, double wall

SIPS – Structural Insulated Panels

ICFs – Insulated Concrete Foundations/Forms

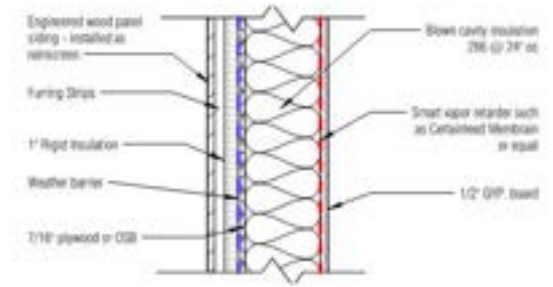
3D Printed

Advanced Framing – 1940's, still fighting myths

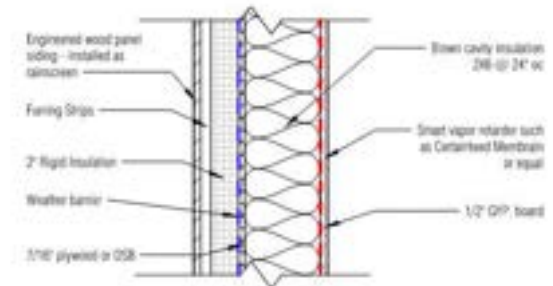
Quality installations – OUR BIGGEST HURDLE!!!!

What Make a Good Wall Assembly?

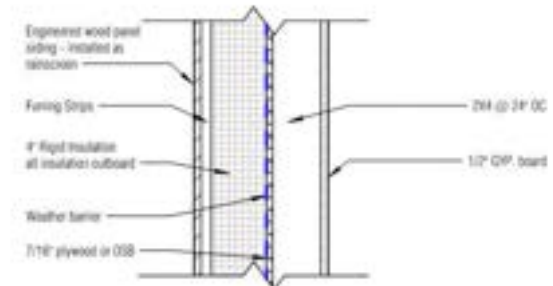
- High R-Value
 - Advanced Framing
 - Continuous Exterior Insulation
- Vapor Controlled
 - Sheathing Temperature Kept Above Dew Point
 - Interior “Smart” Vapor Control Layer Installed
- Bulk Water Controlled
 - WRB Installed According to Manufacturer Specifications
 - Flashed Properly
- Air Controlled
 - Air Sealed at All Penetrations and Material Transitions



1 Wall Type A - Home Plans as drawn
1 1/2" - 1" R / . . .



2 Wall Type B - High Performance Option
1 1/2" - 1" R / . . .

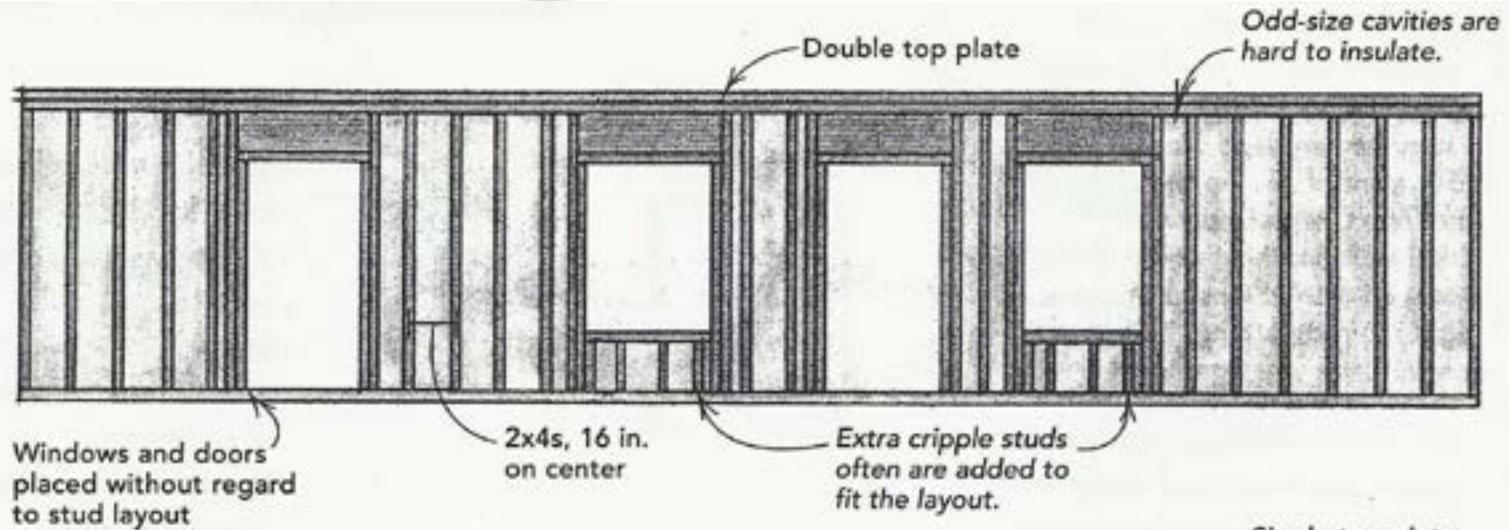


3 Wall Type C - High Performance Option
1 1/2" - 1" R / . . .

Advanced Framing

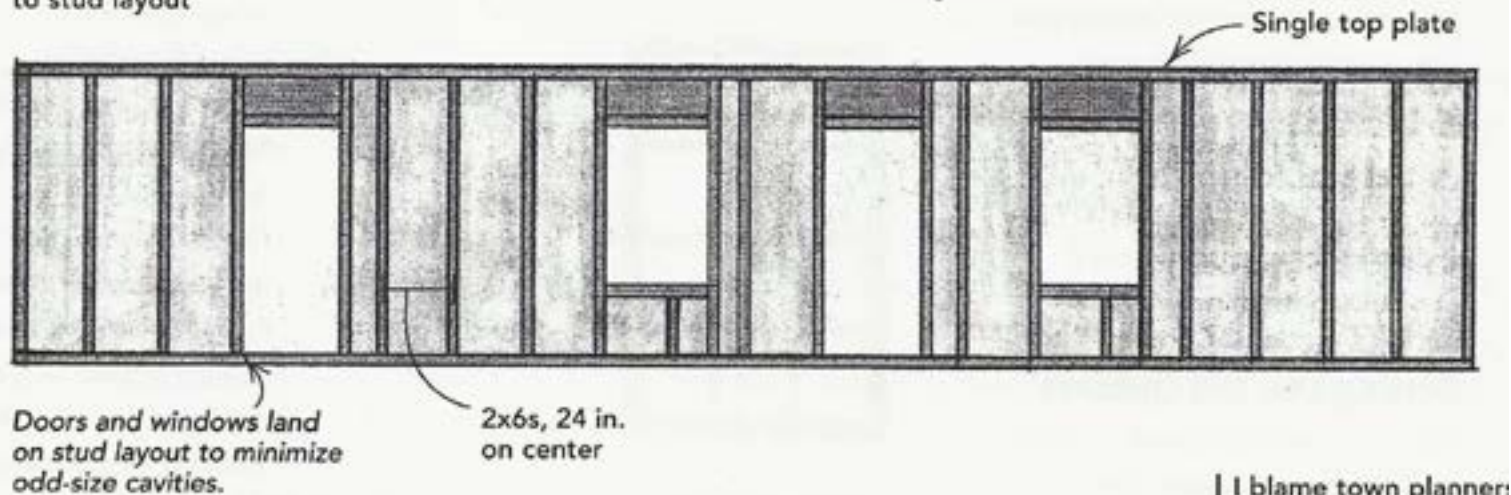
Standard wall framing

- Materials in 40-ft. wall: 35 studs, 10 cripples, 28 insulation pieces
- Amount of wall that can be insulated: 68%
- R-value: 13
- Cost of wall framing, sheathing, and housewrap for entire house: \$4,039
- Annual heating and cooling costs: \$1,003



Smart wall framing

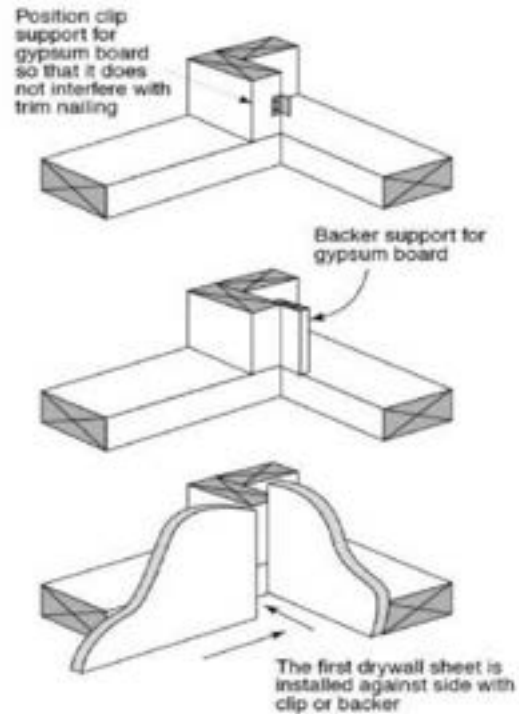
- Materials in 40-ft. wall: 21 studs, 2 cripples, 20 insulation pieces
- Amount of wall that can be insulated: 75%
- R-value: 24 (R-19 fiberglass batts, plus R-5 foam sheathing)
- Cost of wall framing and sheathing for entire house: \$1,927
- Annual heating and cooling costs: \$710



I blame town planner:
for stupid dimensions

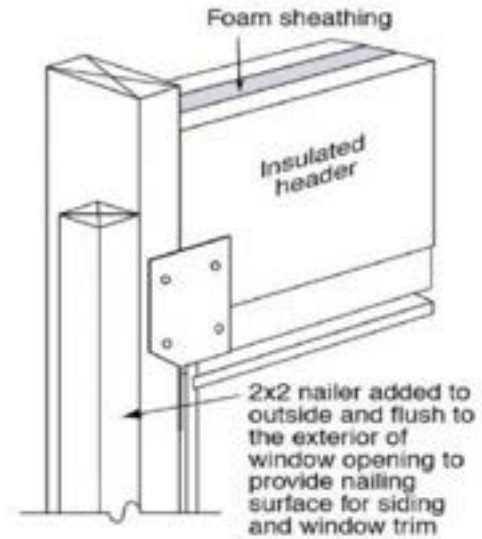
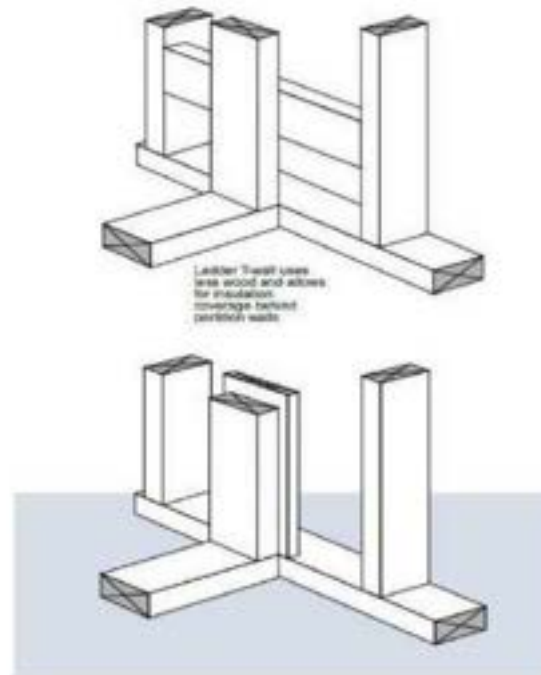
Advanced Framing

INSIDE "TWO-STUD" CORNERS



T-WALL ALTERNATIVES

The use of ladder blocking or a full-length 1x6 or 2x6 blocking allows for increased insulation in the outer wall.



Advanced Framing Details - Example

Details can be found on www.buildingscience.com and DOE Building America Website



As-Built Framing Package:

- Framing Percentage: 32.4%
- Effective R-Value: 24.36

Advanced Framing Package:

- Framing Percentage: 14.2%
- Effective R-Value: 26.82
 - This is assuming 1" of rigid foam (R-5) and a 2-ply header...R-27.75 if it is a 1-ply header and 3" of foam is installed









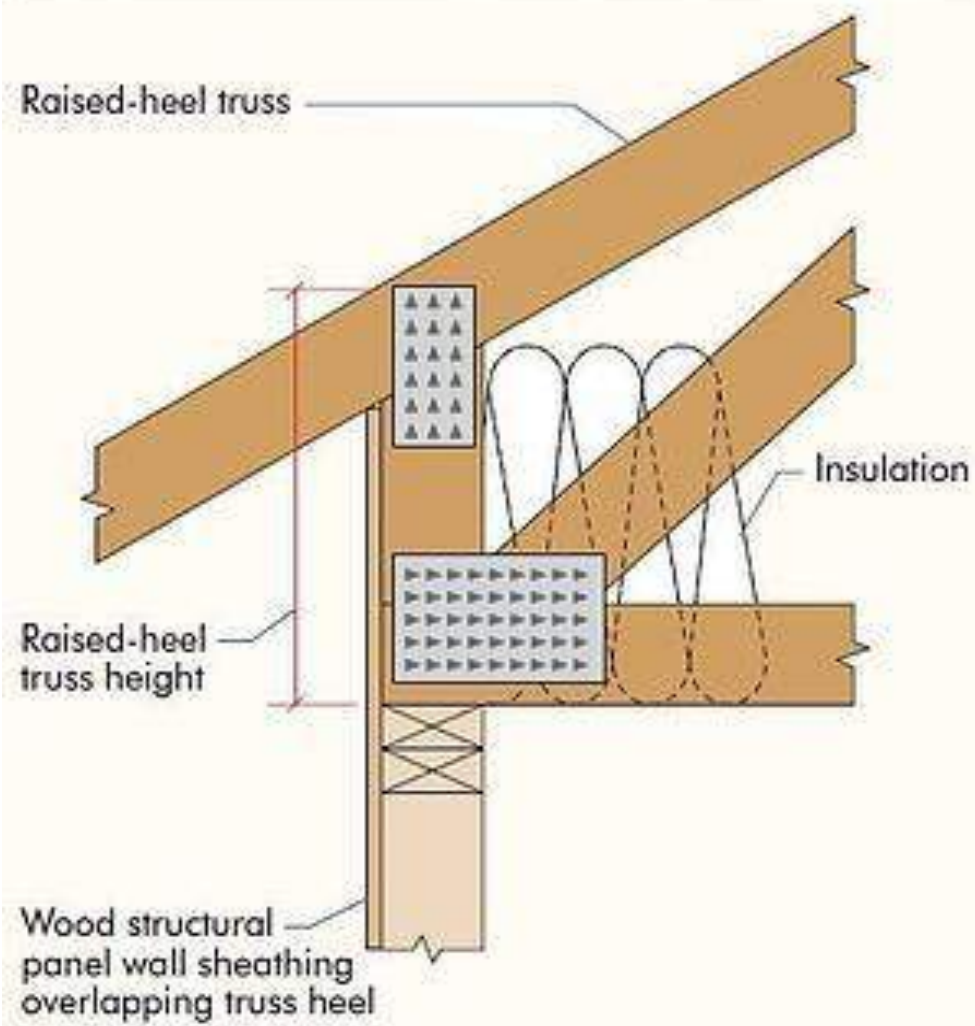
INSULATION BOARD

ACTIV

Stc

HAYFIELD
WINDOW & DOOR

RAISED-HEEL TRUSS
(Ventilation baffles not shown for clarity)







Materials

OSB – Sunday flier

OSB Hybrids – Actually perform

Plywood

Foam or Rockwool

WRBs – Water Resistive Barriers

Rainscreens - 1989

Moisture Damage – Why??









SHEATHING

R VALUE 1.32

WARNING

COMBUSTIBLE

DO NOT EXPOSE TO OPEN
FLAME. MAY SMOKE OR
IGNITE. EXTINGUISH
COMPLETELY.

MANUFACTURED TO MEET
ASTM

11/15

11/15

INS.


SHE.







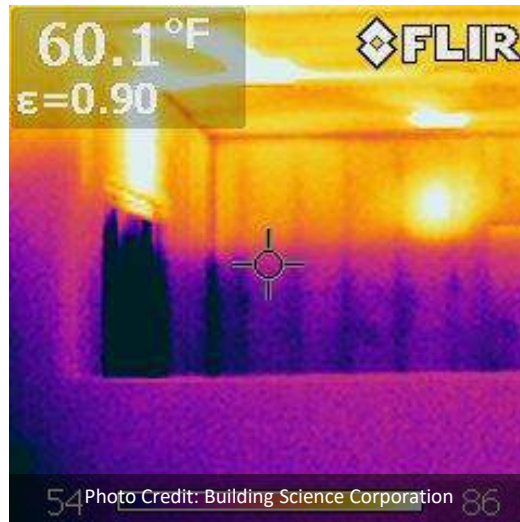
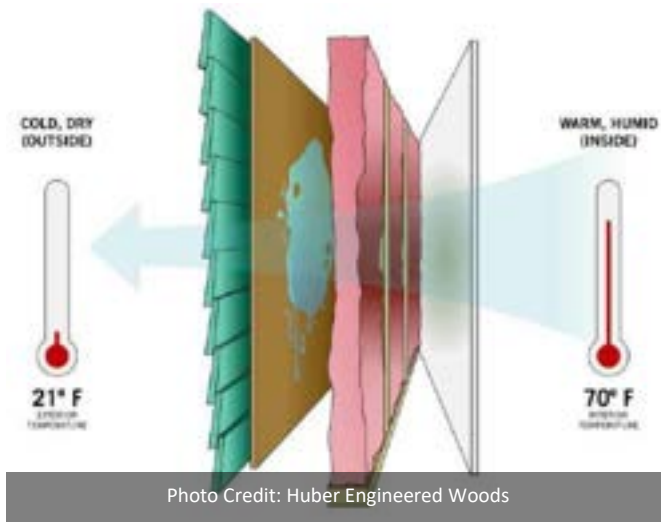




STUDENT CENTER



Continuous Exterior Insulation



- Reduced Thermal Bridging
- Condensation Control
- Rigid Foam vs. ZIP-R/LP
- Novacore
- Rockwool



Green Building Advisor

Batt Insulation

- Fiberglass – 3.7 R/inch
- Mineral Wool – 3.6 R/inch
- What is a Grade I install?
 - Limited Compression
 - Cut Around Obstacles/Split Around Wires
 - In contact with all sides of cavity
 - 98% perfect installation



Grade I



Grade I



Grade II



Grade II

Compression or incomplete fill for different installation grades in RESNET protocol



Grade III

Missing insulation allowed for different installation grades in RESNET protocol

Photo Credit: Energy Vanguard

Blown Insulation

Cellulose: 3.7 R/inch

Fiberglass: 4.1 R/inch

Pros:

Fills Cavity

Higher R-value/inch

Cons:

Settling

Installation Density

Additional Netting Needed

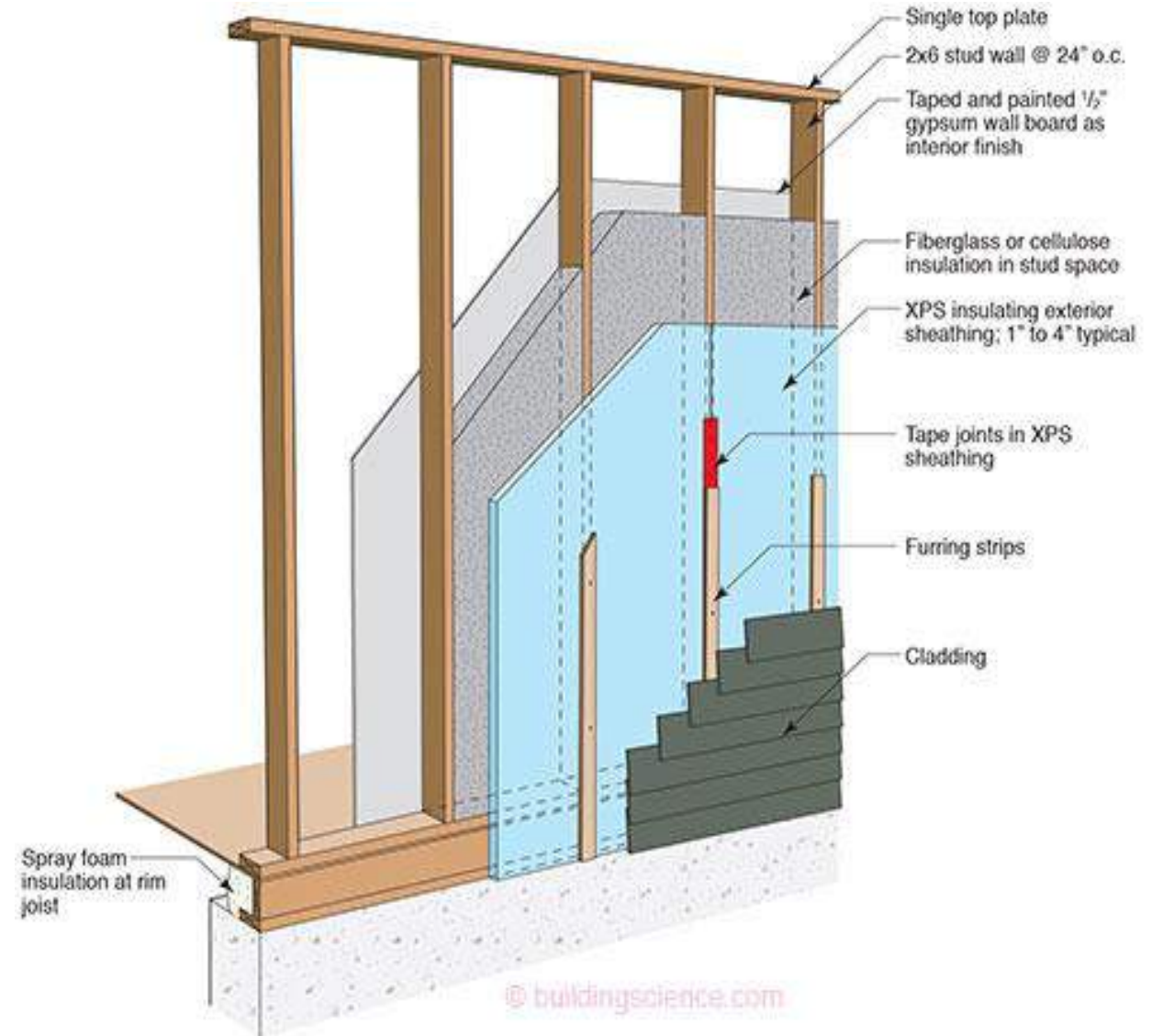


Photo Credit: Building Science Corporation

Spray Foam

Closed Cell – 6.5 R/inch

Open Cell – 3.7 R/inch

Pros

- High R-value/inch
- Helps with air sealing

Cons

- Installation is hard to control temps, mixing conditions, etc
- Derated R-value over time
- Offgassing

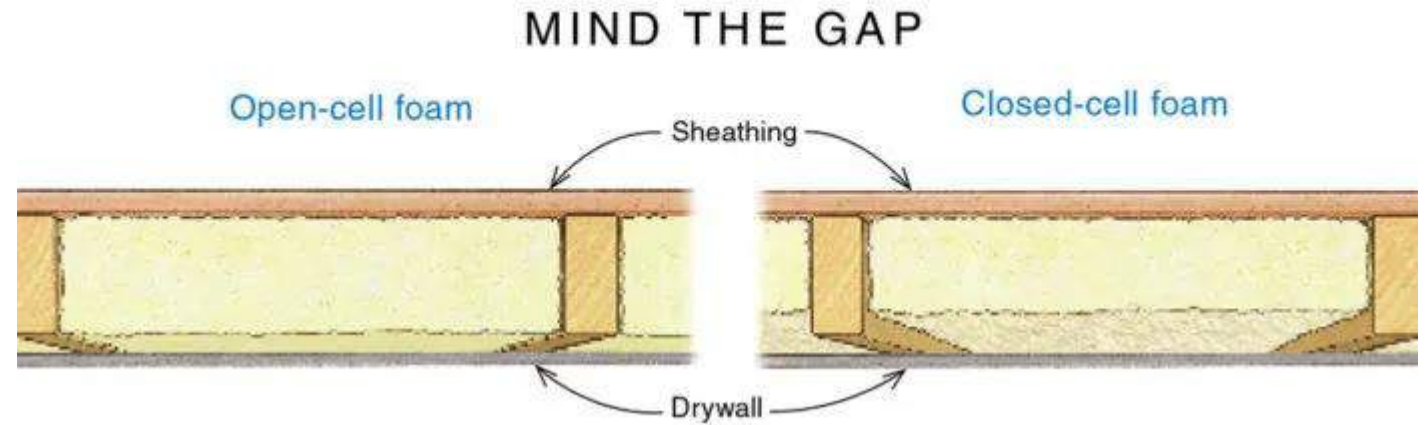


Photo Credit: Fine Homebuilding

Spray Foam

- Turns out it is kind of like “rocket science”
- Which one goes where?
- Temperature
- Moisture
- **INSTALLER!!!**





Double Vapor Barrier

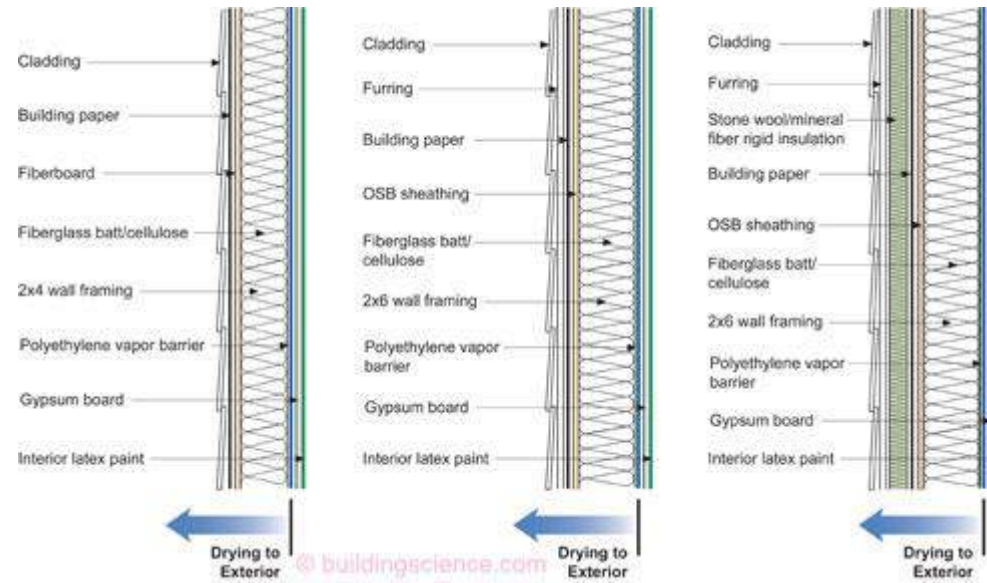
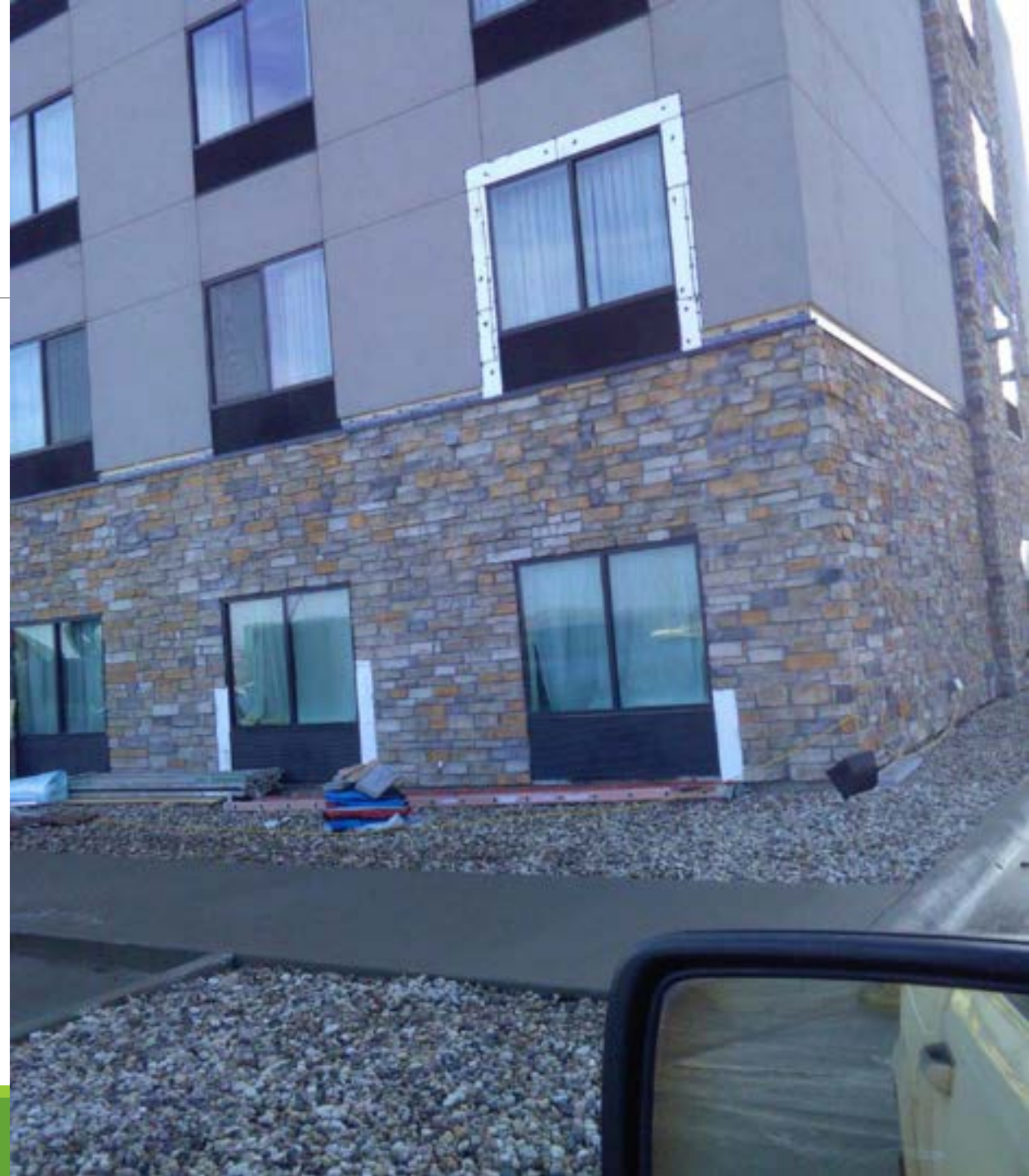


Photo Credit: Building Science Corporation











ADULT MOP

JM

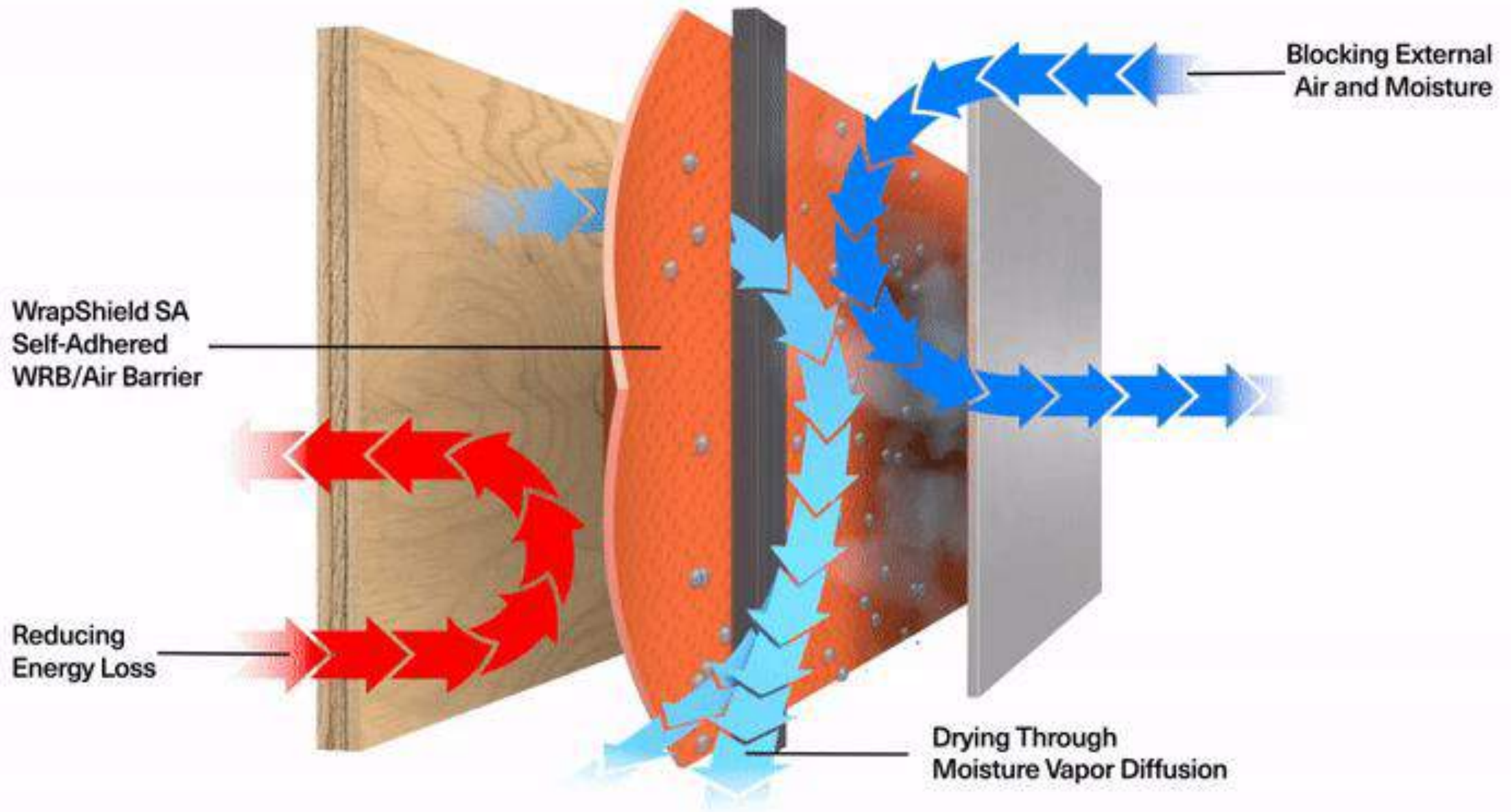
MC

RIS

①

JM

RIS



Aerosolized Air Sealing

“The interior air sealant can seal all building envelope leaks of up to one-half inch in diameter. Using automated sprayers, AeroBarrier passes through gaps in the building envelope and accumulates on the edges of the openings. In less than three hours the sealant fills all the gaps. The sealant itself dries in about 30 minutes, allowing work to resume after a short break.

Meanwhile, the computer-controlled process allows builders to monitor act” - AeroBarrier



Photo Credit: AeroBarrier West









1-800-438-7465
1-800-438-7465



Water Control layer

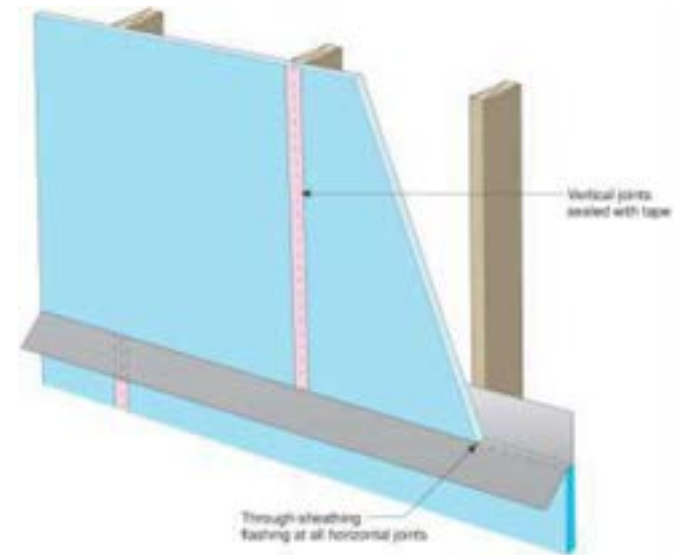
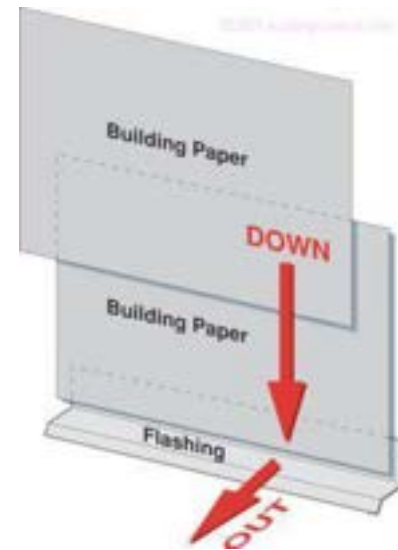
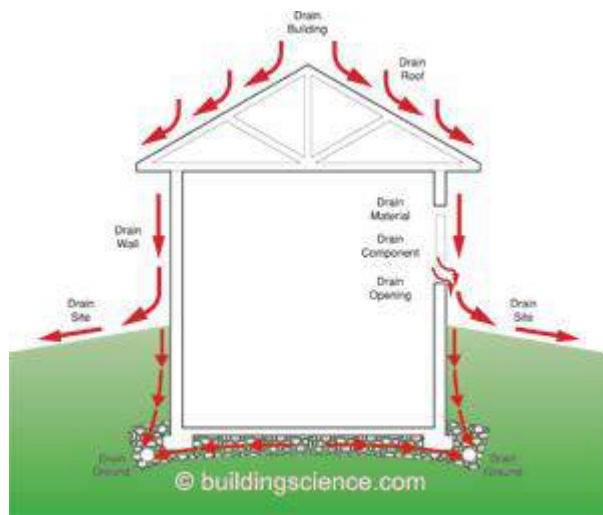
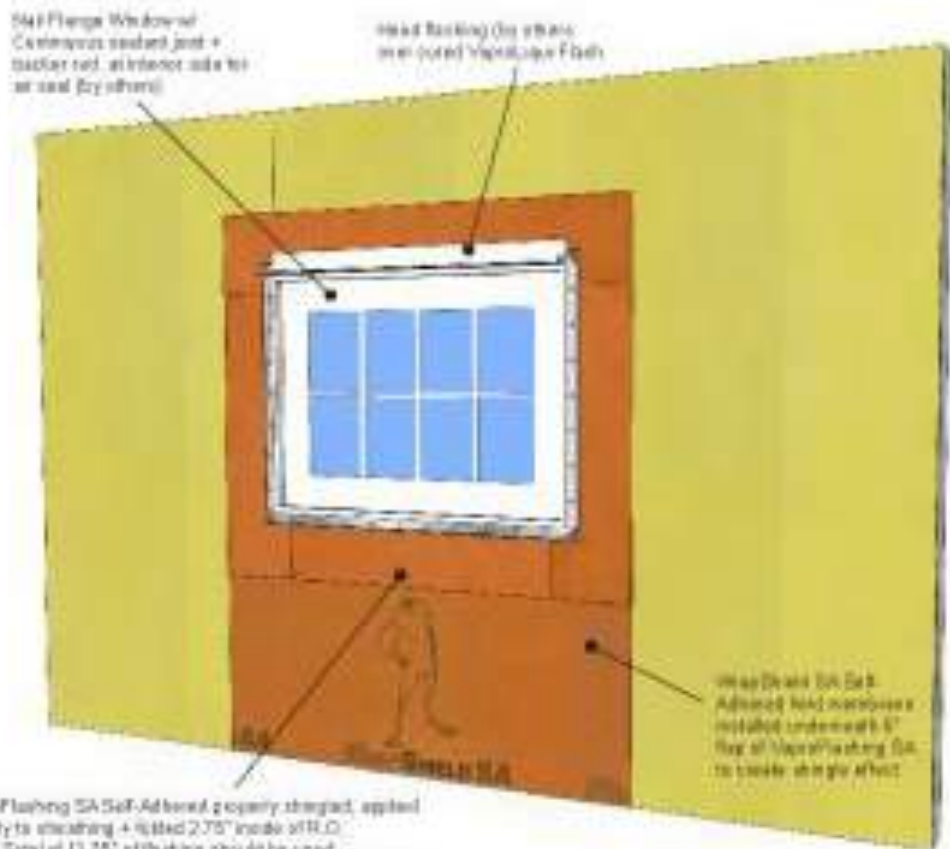


Photo Credit: Building Science Corporation

Step 7: Nail Flange Window RO Flashing System



VaproFlashing SA Self-Adhered properly shingled, applied directly to sheathing + folded 2.75" inside R.O.
Note: Total of 11.75" flashing should be used.
 - 2" flashing should be left on the face of the sheathing.
 - Remove release film from flashing and adhere to backer rod to field membrane.

VaproShield SA Self-Adhered Head Membrane installed underneath 6" flap of VaproFlashing SA to create shingle effect.

VAPROLIQUI-FLASH™

Step 7: Install metal head flashing (by others) over cured VaproLiqui-Flash and install head membrane (shingled underneath window flashing)

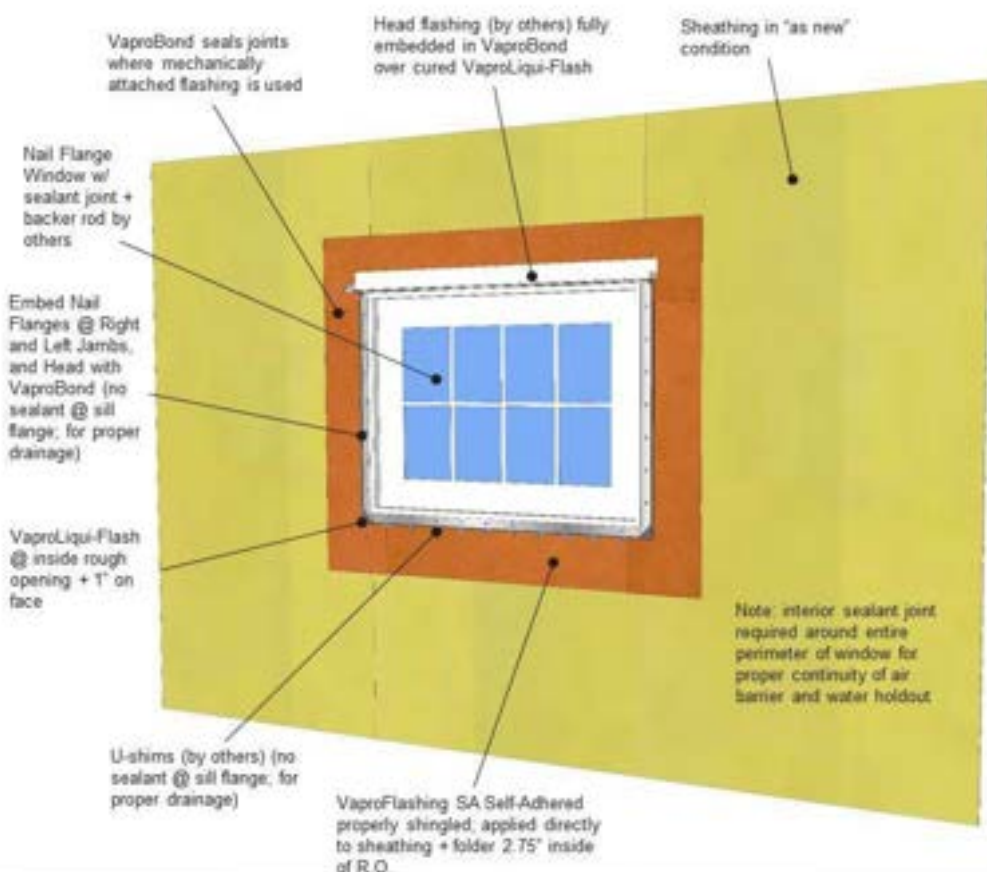
DRAWN BY: AR

DATE: 06.23.16

REF: 1034

Always check www.vaproshield.com for the latest details and installation instructions.

Rough Opening Flashing: Nail Flange Window



U-shims (by others) (no sealant @ sill flange, for proper drainage)

VaproFlashing SA Self-Adhered properly shingled, applied directly to sheathing + folded 2.75" inside of R.O.

Note: interior sealant joint required around entire perimeter of window for proper continuity of air barrier and water holdout.

VAPROLIQUI-FLASH™

DRAWN BY: AR

DATE: 06.23.16

REF: 103

Always check www.vaproshield.com for the latest details and installation instructions.





K[®]

TYVEK

AP[®]

COMME

Meets the ASTM E1677 Type I Air Retarder w/ ICBO ES-84000
CCMC 13113-R, Breather Type Sheathing Membrane / Membrane

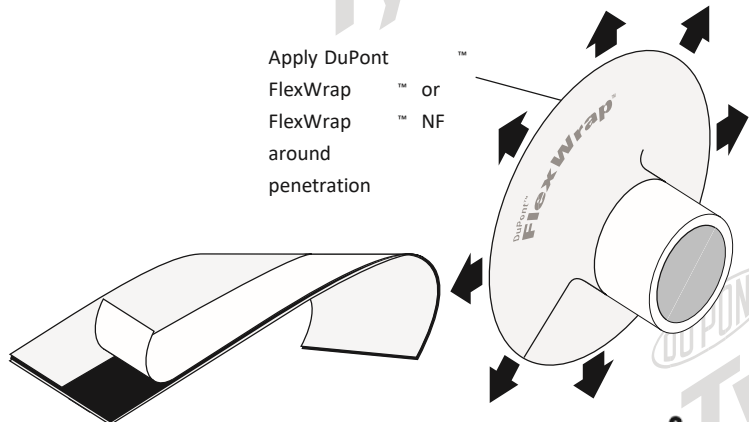
Meets the ASTM E1677 Type I Air Retarder w/ ICBO ES-84000

CCMC 13113-R, Breather Type Sheathing Membrane / Membrane

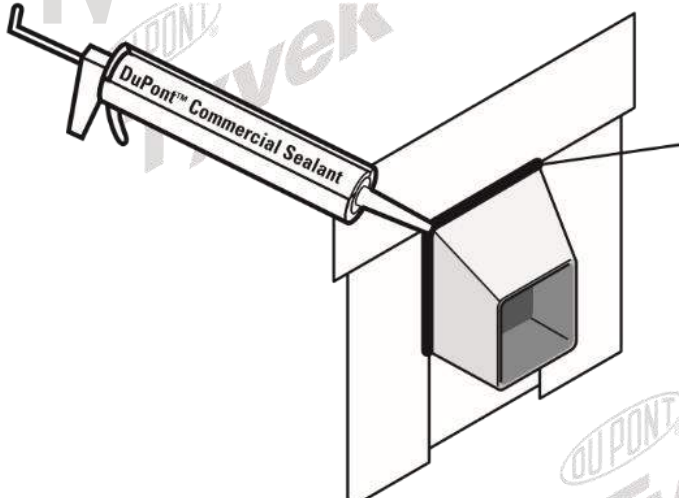
Call 1-800-447

DU PONT TH

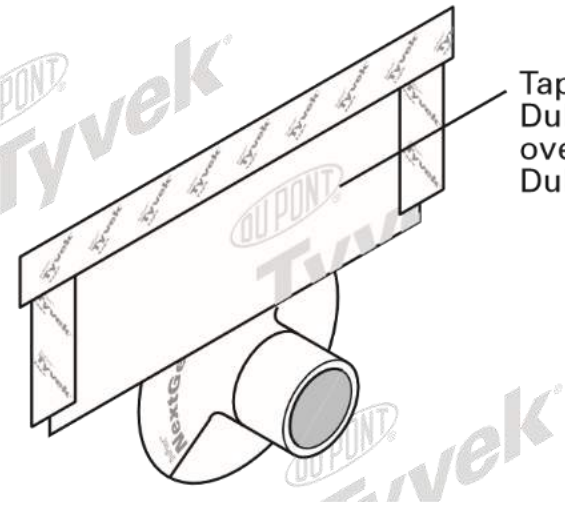




Apply DuPont
FlexWrap™ or
FlexWrap™ NF
around
penetration



Seal around
penetration
using DuPont
Commercial
Sealant or
DuPont
approved
sealant



Tape a piece of
DuPont™ Tyvek®
over the top of the
DuPont™ FlexWrap™

Cobbled?







OUTPORT

Tyvek
HomeW



OUTPORT

Tyvek
HomeW

OUTPORT

Tyvek
Home



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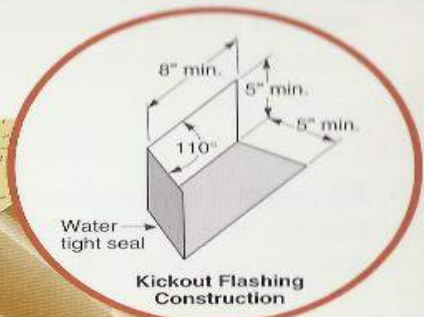
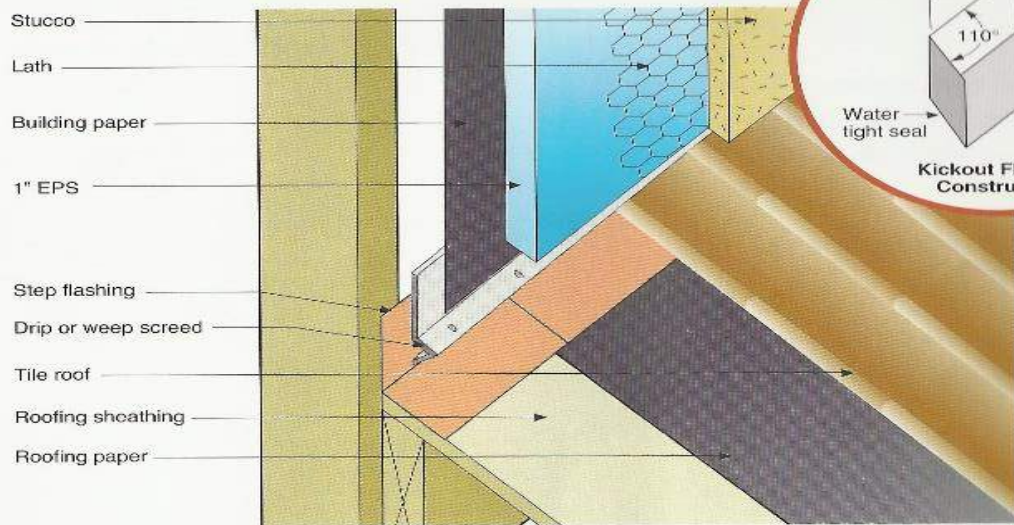
ek
Wrap

tyvek
HomeWrap

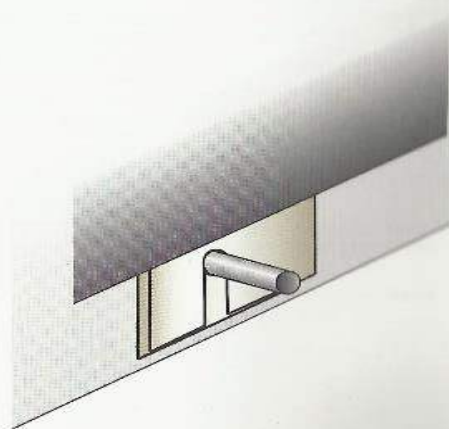
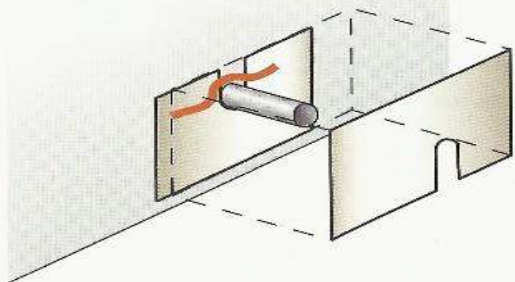
tyvek
HomeWrap

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eWrap

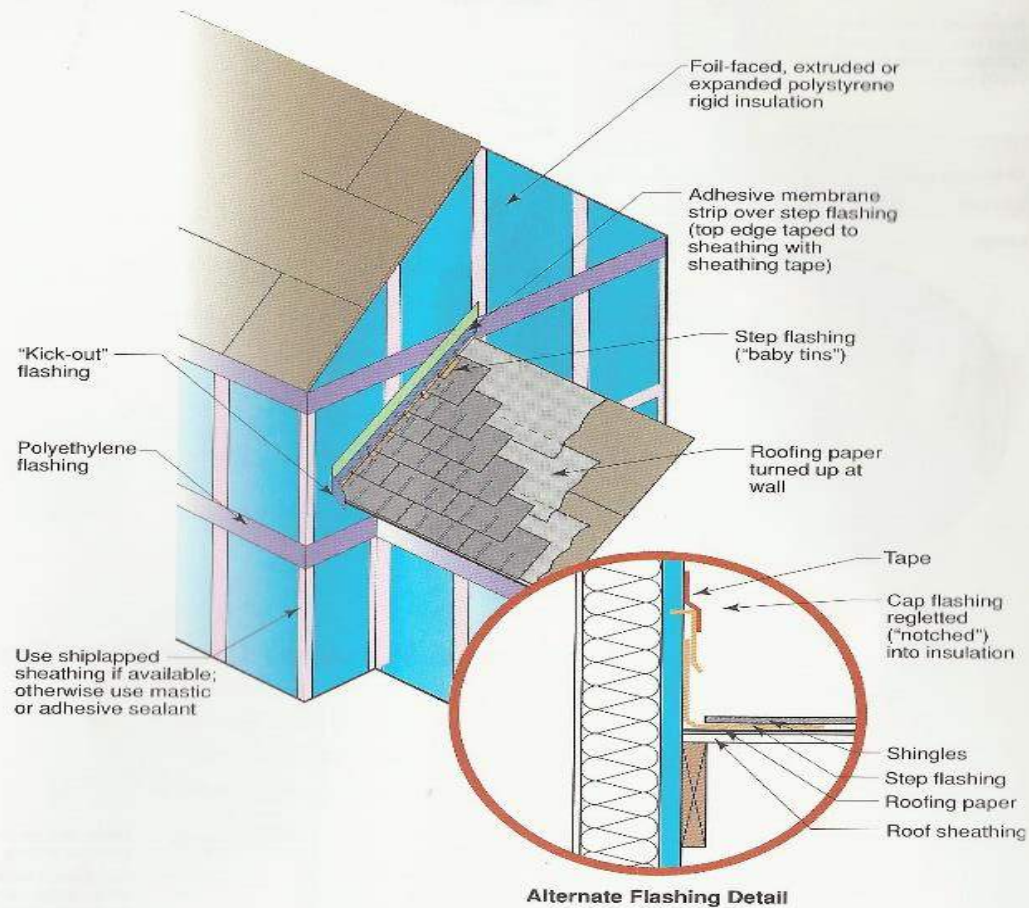
WALL TO ROOF FLASHING



FLASHING PENETRATIONS



WALL TO ROOF FLASHING WITH FOAM SHEATHING





Proper Window Installation

ASTM E 2112 Standard Practice
for Installation of Exterior
Windows, Doors, and Skylights

Sloped sub-sill or beveled siding
filler

Flexible pan and up the sides

Overlaps and drip cap

Caulk and seal corners

Double check your rough
openings against actual unit
dimensions.















Attics

Penetrations –from “has to breathe” to airtight

Air from soffits – “vented”
from bathroom?

Kitchen exhausts – yes - no

R-value – all 6 sides?

Stomped on, wind blown

Access – sealed & fire rated









Causes of Attic Frost

Bath fans with zero ductwork

Range hood fans to attic

Bath or range fans ducted to a vented soffi

Poor air sealing around penetrations and party walls

Poor baffle installs allowing attic insulation to cavitate







Schaeffer's
SPECIALIZED
LUBRICANTS

703 SUPERTECH 7000
API SMALLSAC GF-4
CID-A-A-52039003
ENERGY CONSERVING
SAE 10W-30

7442

Heating and Cooling Common Types

- Ground Source Heat Pump
- Air Source Heat Pump
- Electric Resistance
- Natural Gas Forced Air Furnace
- Natural Gas Boiler

Domestic Hot Water Heating

- Efficient Pipe Layout
 - Central Location of Hot Water Heater
- Insulated Hot Water Piping (R-3)
- High Efficiency
 - Natural Gas
 - Electric Resistance
 - Heat Pump

Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality

- Balanced Ventilation System (ERV/HRV)
 - Dedicated or Integrated System
- Local Mechanical Exhaust
 - Kitchen Vented to the Exterior
 - Bath Fans Vented to Exterior and Energy Star Rated
- Humidity Control
- Low VOC Materials

Now

Continuous exterior insulation

Robust WRB

“Smart Vapor Retarders” or
Warm Surface Walls

Heat Pump Usage

Resilient design for extreme
weather conditions

Universal design – aging in place

Iowa Green Streets Criteria

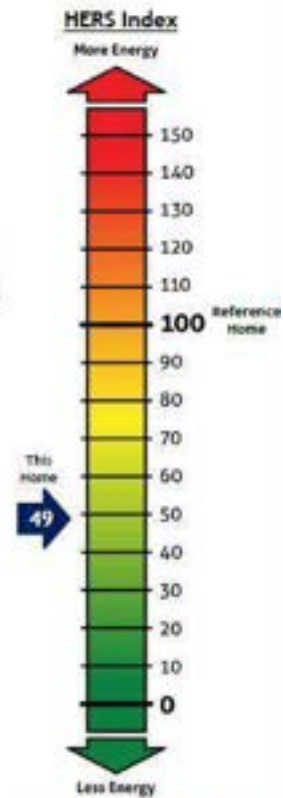
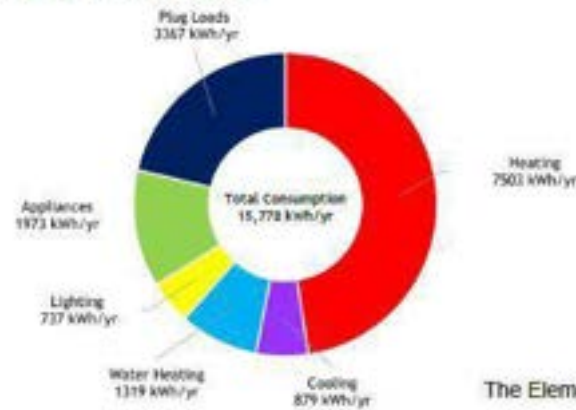
Prototype Option 3B (Modified Envelope & Systems)

Model Information:

- 2 Story, Finished Basement
- Des Moines, IA (Climate Zone 5)
- 4 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom
- Gross Floor Area = 2943 SF
- DOE Net Zero Ready Home
 - Total Building Leakage = 2 ACH50
 - Window U-Factor = 0.30, 0.40 SHGC
 - Increased South Facing Fenestration
 - R-20 Cont. Insulation, 4" Rigid Foam
 - Vaulted Ceiling, R-33.5 CCSP
 - Basement Foundation
 - R-15 CI Foundation Walls, 8"
 - R-5 Under Slab
 - Energy Star Mechanicals and Appliances
 - Air Source Heat Pump (9 HSPF, 16 SEER)
 - Ductwork in Conditioned Space
 - Duct Leakage at Code Maximum Threshold
 - Balanced Ventilation w/ Recovery (SRE 64%)
 - 2.0 EF Heat Pump Water Heater, DHW Insulated R-3
 - Energy Star Appliances
 - 100% LED Lighting Fixtures
 - WaterSense Labeled Fixtures



Annual Energy Consumption:



Detail Driven

Healthy

Comfortable

Energy efficient

Durable / Ready for extreme weather events

Ease of replication

Directions – Why not follow them?

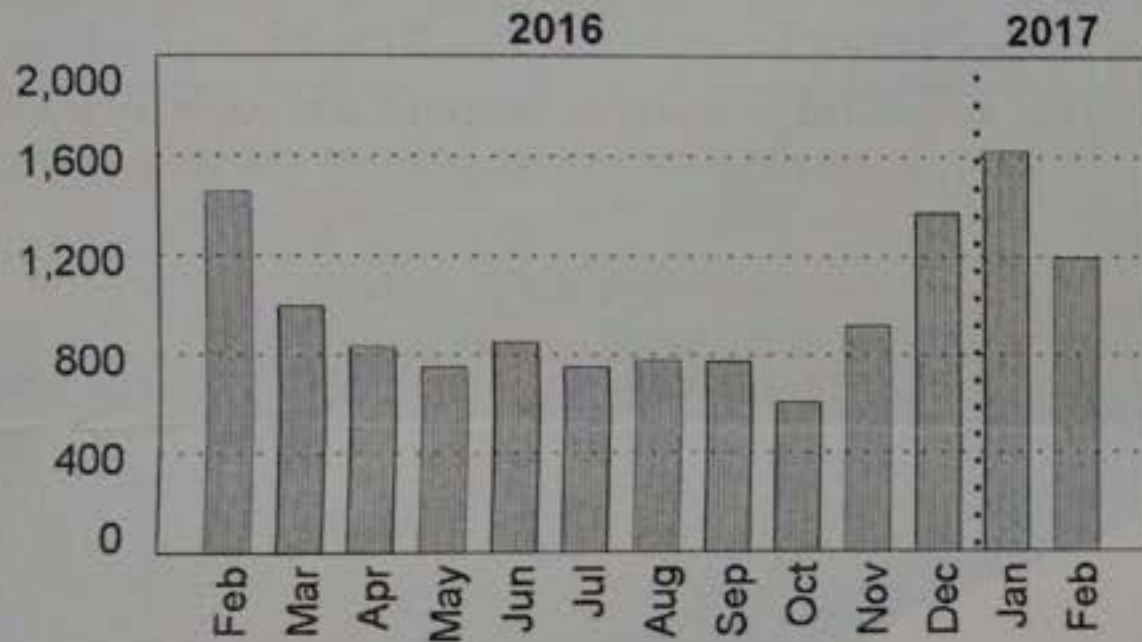
QUESTIONS?



Extra Slides Below



ENERGIC USAGE (kWh) COMPARISON



Month	Days	Usage	Avg Use/Day	Avg Cost/Day	Avg Temp
02/17	29	1,198	41.31	\$3.33	34
01/17	33	1,626	49.27	\$3.49	24
12/16	30	1,375	45.83	\$3.42	22
11/16	33	919	27.85	\$2.43	47
10/16	29	610	21.03	\$1.93	56
09/16	32	776	24.25	\$2.78	68
08/16	29	779	26.86	\$3.07	72
07/16	30	754	25.13	\$2.89	72
06/16	32	851	26.59	\$3.02	72
05/16	29	755	26.03	\$2.29	57
04/16	28	837	29.89	\$2.60	49
03/16	29	997	34.38	\$2.91	42
02/16	33	1,461	44.27	\$3.14	27







ENERGY STAR

Builder Name: Corn Belt Builders & Realty
Permit Date/Number:
Home Address: 101 Arrowhead Ridge Rd
Denver, IA 50622

Rating Company: The Element Group
Rater Identification Number: 8354577
Rating Date: 02/12/14
Version: 3.0

Standard Features of an ENERGY STAR Certified New Home

Your ENERGY STAR certified new home has been designed, constructed, and independently verified to meet rigorous requirements for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including:

Thermal Enclosure System

A complete thermal enclosure system that includes comprehensive air sealing, quality-installed insulation and high-performing windows to deliver improved comfort and lower utility bills.



Air Infiltration Test: **Htg: 875 Cig: 875 CFM50**

Primary Insulation Levels:

Ceiling: R-46.0 FndWall: R-22.2
AGWall: R-26.0 Floor: R-37.3 Slab: R-15.0

Primary Window Efficiency:
U-Value: 0.280, SHGC: 0.280

Water Management System

A comprehensive water management system to protect roofs, walls, and foundations.



Flashing, a drainage plane, and site grading to move water from the roof to the ground and then away from the home.

Water-resistant materials on below-grade walls and underneath slabs to reduce the potential for water entering into the home.

Management of moisture levels in building materials during construction.

Heating, Cooling, and Ventilation System

A high-efficiency heating, cooling system, and ventilation system that is designed and installed for optimal performance.



Total Duct Leakage:
326.00 CFM25.

Duct Leakage to Outdoors:
0.00 CFM25.

Primary Heating (System Type • Fuel Type • Efficiency):
Electric, Htg: 5.0 COP, Cig: 20.1 EER, w/DSH.

Primary Cooling (System Type • Fuel Type • Efficiency):
Electric, Htg: 5.0 COP, Cig: 20.1 EER, w/DSH.

Energy Efficient Lighting and Appliances

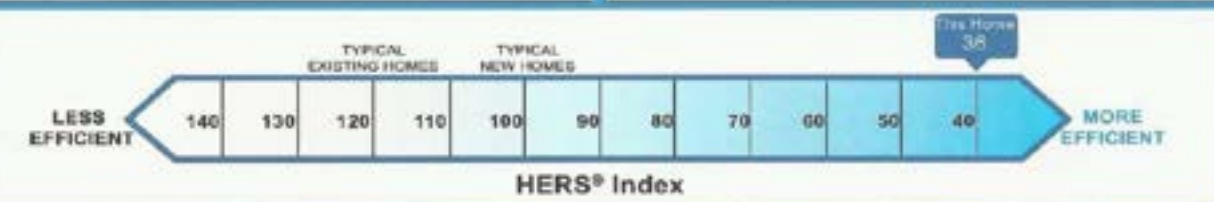
Energy efficient products to help reduce utility bills, while providing high-quality performance.



ENERGY STAR Qualified Lighting: **80%**

ENERGY STAR Qualified Appliances and Fans:
Refrigerators: 1 Dishwashers: 1
Cooling Fans: 0 Exhaust Fans: 0

Primary Water Heater (System Type • Fuel Type • Efficiency):
Conventional, Electric, 6.94 EF, 56.0 Gal.



This certificate provides a summary of the major energy efficiency and other construction features that contribute to this home earning the ENERGY STAR, including its Home Energy Rating System (HERS) score, as determined through independent inspection and verification performed by a third-party professional. The Home Energy Rating System is a nationally recognized software measurement of the energy efficiency of homes.

Note that when a home certifies multiple performance levels for a particular feature (e.g., window efficiency or insulation levels), the preannounced value is shown. Also, homes may be verified to earn the ENERGY STAR using a sampling protocol, whereby one home is randomly selected from a set of homes for representative inspection and testing. In such cases, the features found for each home within the set are intended to meet or exceed the values presented on this certificate. The actual values for your home may differ, but offer equivalent or better performance.

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II. V.O.A.T. Wall



Energy Efficiency

Exceeds the energy code. Continuous insulation helps cancel the thermal bridging through the studs. Airtight.

Install Complexity

- Very complex - lots of components. All the newest building concepts combined into one idea.
- Six times around the house. Plywood, WRB, ThermalBuck,™ Exterior ROCKWOOL™ insulation (x2), and 5/8" strapping,

When

Best used with new construction and additions.

Moisture Management

Extremely effective.

