

The HERS Associate and Taking the Performance Path

Module 1 – Fundamentals of Building Science



VIRTUAL HIGH PERFORMANCE
HOME SUMMIT 2020

EEBA.

SEPT 29 - OCT 9 | ONLINE VIA WHOVA

Presented by:
Mike Barcik



About EEBA



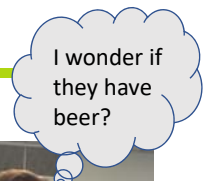
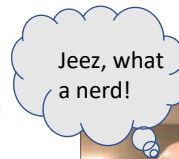
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Introductions



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About Southface



- *Building a Regenerative Economy,
Responsible Resource Use & Social Equity
Through a Healthy Built Environment for All*

www.southface.org



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Module Learning Objectives – Building Science Fundamentals

- Understand the concept of houses are systems
- Master Heat flow
- Appreciate Air movement
- Comprehend Moisture transport
- Learn from real world application



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The house as a system

A house is a system made up of interrelated parts:

- The building thermal envelope
- The weather barrier
- Space conditioning
- Ventilation
- Lighting & appliances & plumbing
- The site and neighboring homes

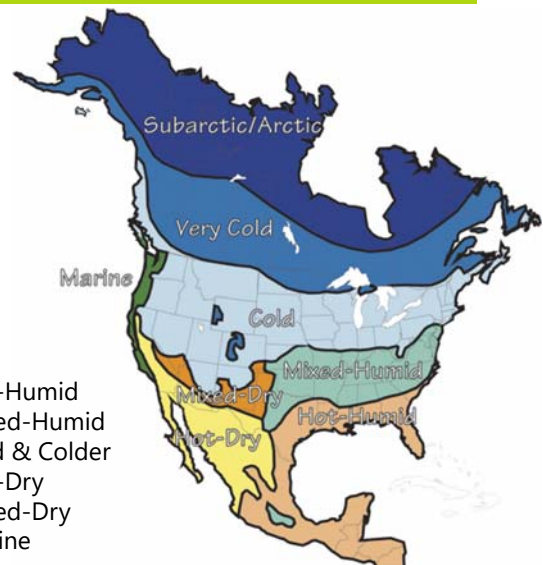


- All efficiency measures should take occupants into account (e.g., air sealing & ventilation)

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Building Science:

- Employ scientific principles from a variety of fields that govern building performance
- Optimize building performance and understand, predict, prevent and correct building failures
- Systems approach to houses
- Physics of:
 - **Heat:**
Flows from hot to cold
 - **Air:**
Flows from high pressure to low
 - **Moisture:**
Flows from wet to dry (liquid and vapor)



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Occupants – Question 1

In your opinion, how much impact do the occupants have on building performance?

- A. < 10%
- B. Between 10 & 15%
- C. I don't know but I think it's a lot



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Building Science: Heat transfer

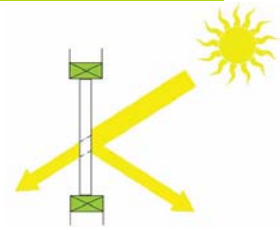
- Heat is a form of energy
- Heat moves from hot to cold
- 3 methods of heat transfer:
 - **Radiation:**
Heat emits from a hot surface or hot object, e.g. hot coals
 - **Conduction:**
Heat moves through a material by contact, e.g. the grill grates
 - **Convection:**
Heat energy carried by a fluid, e.g. the air inside the covered grill



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Heat transfer: Radiation

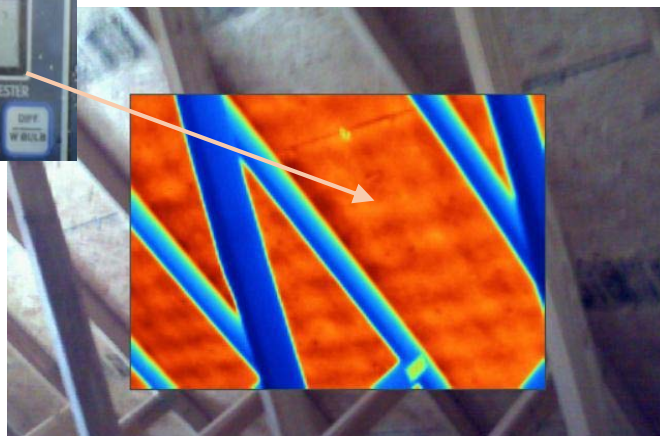
- **Radiation** is the movement of heat from a hot surface to a cooler surface with nothing solid or opaque in between



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Heat transfer: Radiation

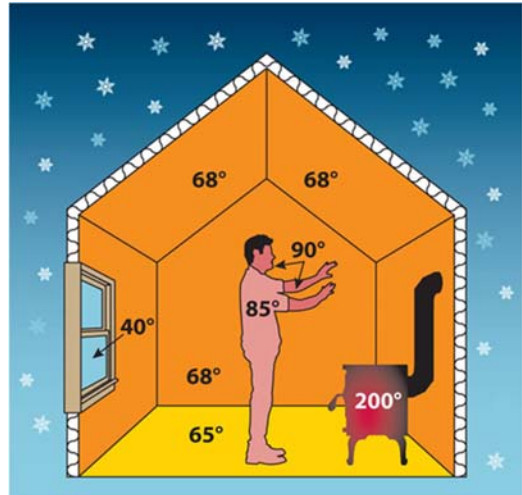
- Low-emitting surfaces slow radiation



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Mean radiant temperature

- When the surfaces in the home (walls, floors, ceilings, windows, and doors), are different than the room air temperature, additional body heat can be lost or gained through radiation.
- This can have a major impact on comfort



$$(T_H^4 - T_L^4) = (660^4 - 550^4) = (190\text{Billion} - 91\text{Billion}) = 100\text{Billion}$$

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Heat transfer: Conduction

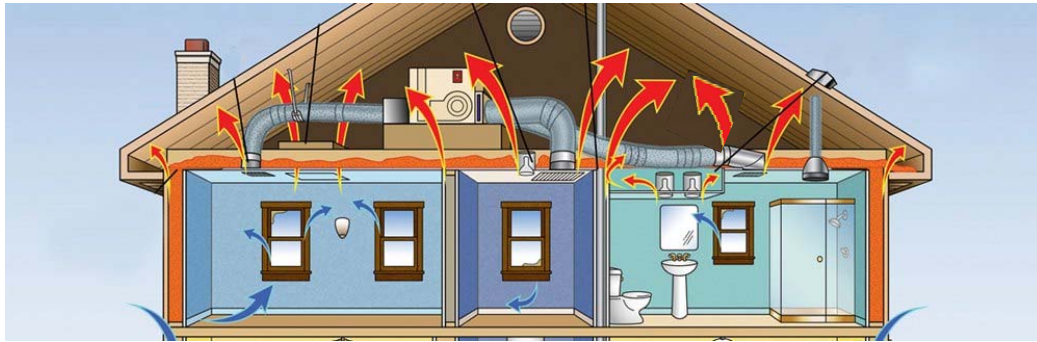
- **Conduction** is heat flowing through a solid material (insulation slows conduction)



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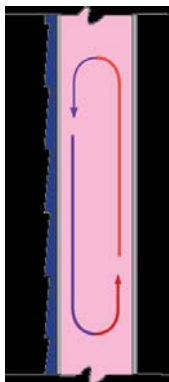
Heat transfer: Convection

Convection is the transfer of heat caused by the movement of a fluid, like water or air (air barriers slow convection)

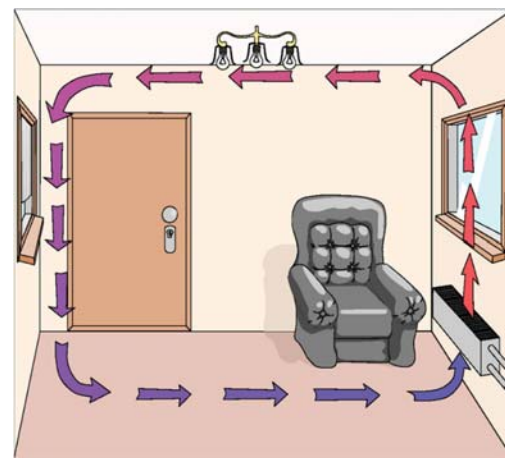


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Convective Loop



- Air movement due to temperature and pressure gradients
- Air rises along warm surface and falls along cold surface
- Creates circular movement of air within enclosed space
(wall cavity, band between floors, even a room within living space!)
- Increases heat flow and can reduce insulation effectiveness

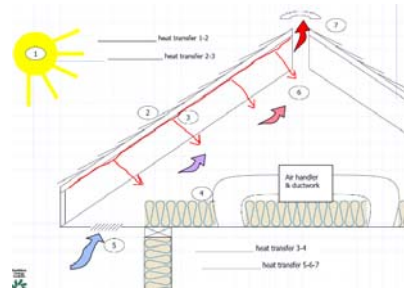


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Question 2

On the following slide, a section of an attic on a hot afternoon is featured. Describe the dominant type of heat transfer for each segment described. Answer choices:

- Conduction (solid)
- Convection (air)
- Radiation (surfaces)



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Knowledge Check

Heat Transfer Problem – Question 2

Your Choices:

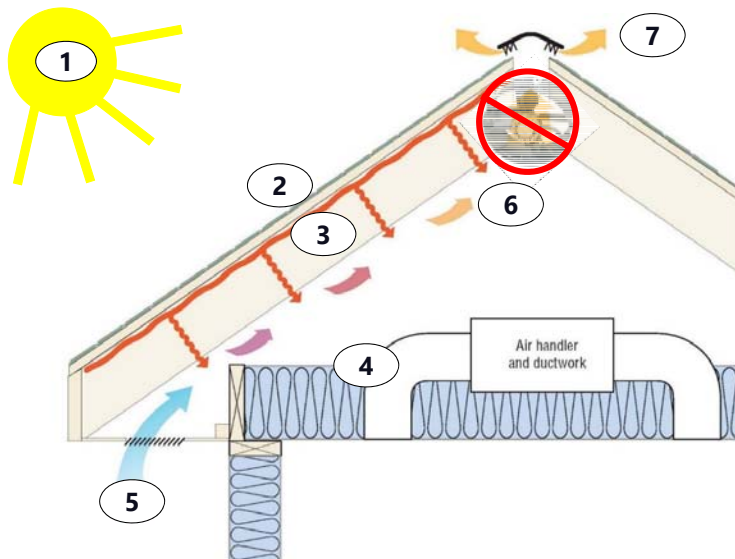
Radiation
Conduction
Convection

1 → 2 = Radiation

2 → 3 = Conduction

3 → 4 = Radiation

5 → 6 → 7 = Convection



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Spray foam rooflines

There are multiple ways of defining the building thermal envelope.

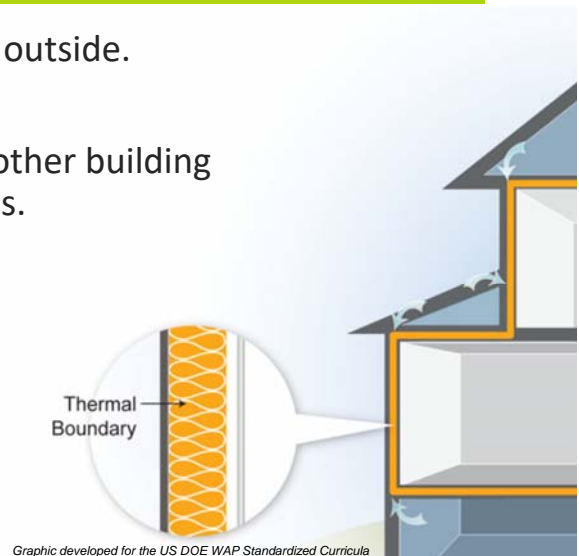
What's the advantage when a home's envelope is defined by the roof, not the flat ceiling?



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Thermal Boundary

- Limits heat transfer between inside and outside.
- Identified by the presence of insulation.
- The location of insulation in relation to other building components is critical to its effectiveness.
- Even small areas of missing insulation are very important.
- Voids of 7% can reduce effective R-value by half.



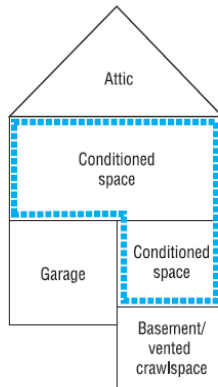
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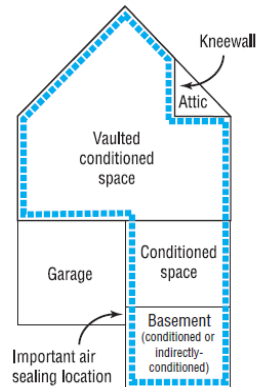
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Building Thermal Envelope

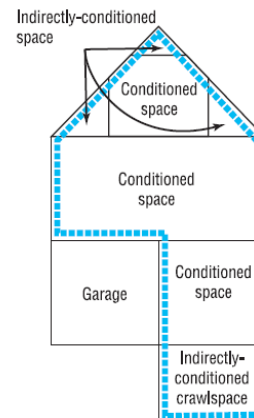
Example 1



Example 2



Example 3



- Although these three homes look identical from the outside, each has defined the building thermal envelope differently

Heat Flow Calculations

Conduction Heat Flow Calculations

- Heat transfer through a solid object: the formula for calculating transmission heat loss is:

$$q = U \times A \times \Delta T$$

- q = heat flow (Btu/hr)
- U = inverse of R-Value [$U=1/R$, $R=1/U$] (Btu/hr ft²°F)

U is referred to as the *Conductance* or *Thermal Transmittance*

- A = area (square feet)
- ΔT = temperature difference across component (°F)

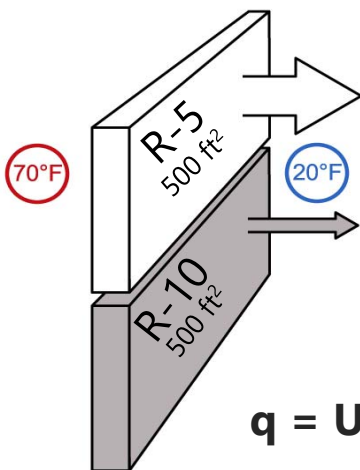


Btu = British Thermal Unit



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Conduction Example



- Low R-value (R-5)
- $(1/5) \times 500 \times (70-20) = \underline{5,000}$ Btu/hr

High R-value (R-10)
 $(1/10) \times 500 \times (70-20) = \underline{2,500}$ Btu/hr

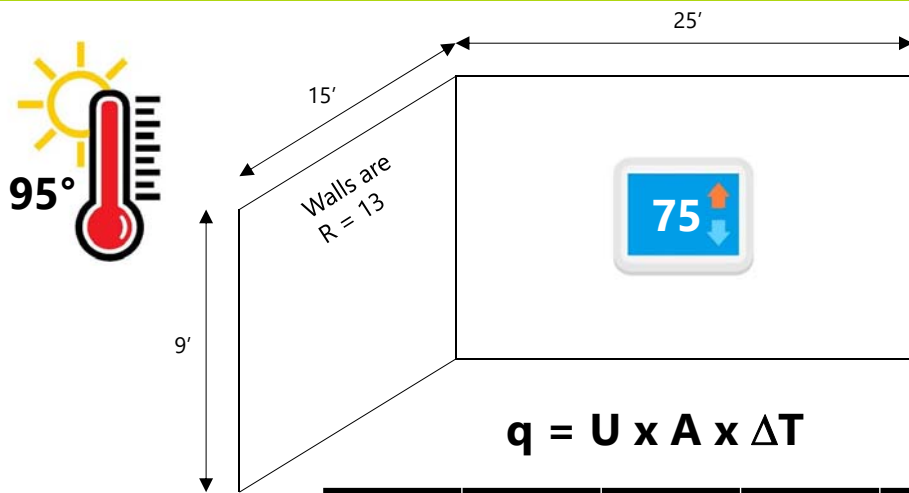
$$q = U \times A \times \Delta T$$

Total = 7,500 Btu/hr



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Gross Wall Area Example

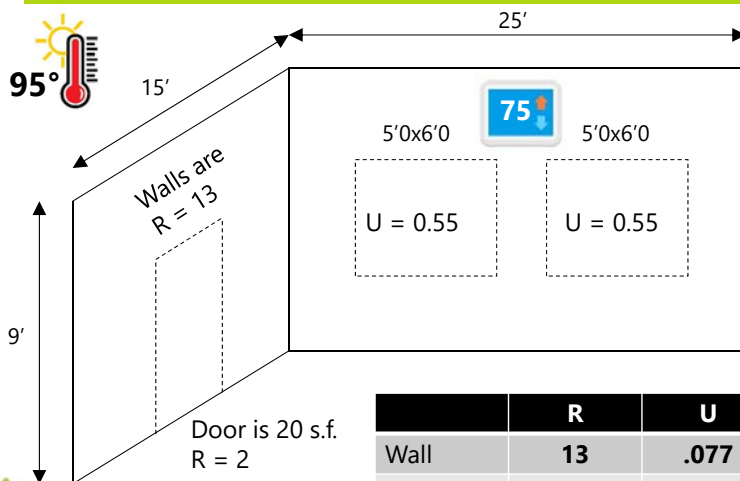


R	U	Area	Delta T	q
13	.077	360	20	554 Btu/hr



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Net Wall Area Example



$$(1/13) \times 360 \times 20 = 554$$

	R	U	Area	Delta T	q
Wall	13	.077	280	20	431Btu/hr
Door	2	.5	20	20	200Btu/hr
Window		.55	60	20	660Btu/hr

1291 Btu/hr



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Convection Heat Flow

- Heat transfer through a fluid (liquid or gas) – usually air.
For air, the formula for calculating convective heat transfer is

$$q = 1.08 \times \text{CFM} \times \Delta T = \text{convective heat flow (Btu/hr)}$$

- CFM = Cubic Feet per Minute of air being transported
- ΔT = temperature difference of entering air and ambient air ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)



Example:

A supply fan delivers 50 cfm of OA into a 75°F home when the ambient is 90°F.
Sensible heat added is $q = 1.08 \times 50 \times (15) = \underline{810}$ Btu / hr

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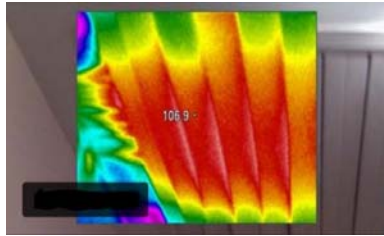
Conduction - Question 3

- Which of these is NOT needed to calculate heat transfer?
 - a) Area
 - b) Delta T
 - c) U-Factor
 - d) Material Density

d) Material Density

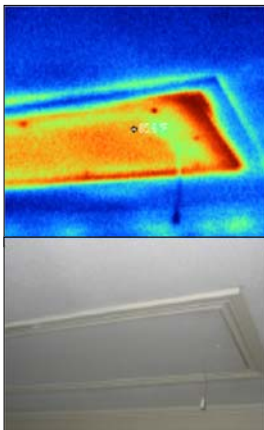


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Insulation Coverage is Key!

Attic Stairs



- Attic pull-down stairs efficiency retrofit



Attic Hatch



- Attic scuttle hole efficiency retrofit

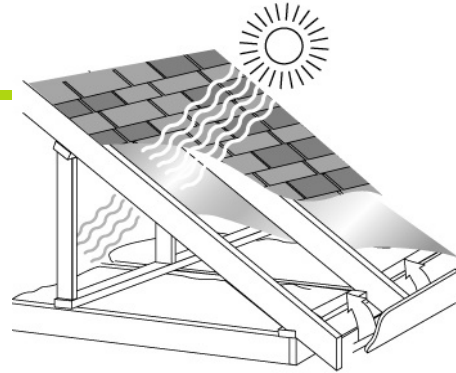


- Whole house fan insulated cover efficiency retrofit



Keeping Attics Cool

- Dark, asphalt shingles are excellent solar collectors (unfortunately)
- One option is to reduce the solar gain into an attic by using a less absorptive roofing material such as an ENERGY STAR shingle or metal roof with reflective coating



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Radiant Barriers

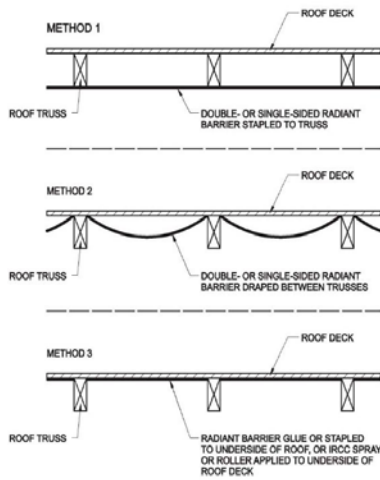
- All materials give off, or emit, energy by thermal radiation as a result of their temperature.
- Radiant barriers work by reducing heat transfer by thermal radiation between the roof and the rest of the attic.
- According to the Oak Ridge National Lab, radiant barriers can reduce cooling bills by 2-10 percent.



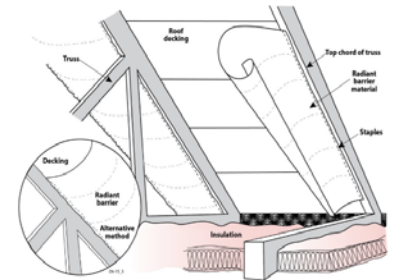
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Radiant Barrier Installation

- Radiant barriers can be installed four ways:
 1. Along top chord of truss
 2. Against the roof deck (with an air space)
 3. As part of the roof decking assembly (foil or spray-on product)
 4. On top of ceiling insulation



- RB decking is easiest for new construction
- Perforated products permit the decking to “breathe,” allowing the passage of moisture



- Attic catwalk / platform retrofit



- Attic radiant barrier retrofit



Air Leakage

Building Science: Air Movement

- Air moves from high pressure to low
- Air leakage requires
 - A hole or pathway
 - A pressure difference
- 3 forces cause pressure differences:
 - **Wind**
 - **Stack**
 - **Fans**

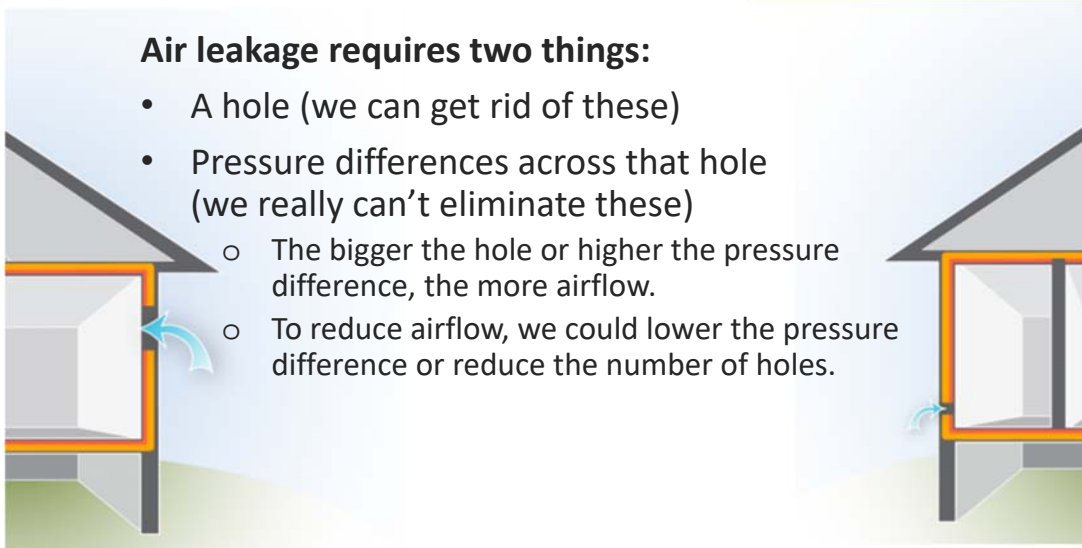


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Air leakage

Air leakage requires two things:

- A hole (we can get rid of these)
- Pressure differences across that hole (we really can't eliminate these)
 - The bigger the hole or higher the pressure difference, the more airflow.
 - To reduce airflow, we could lower the pressure difference or reduce the number of holes.

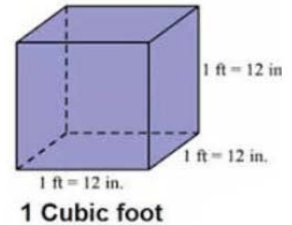


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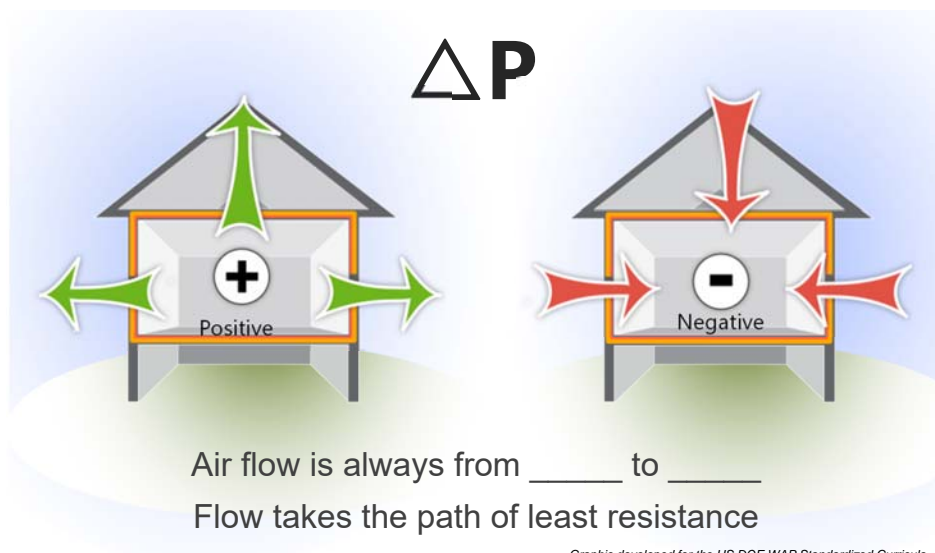
Air Leakage

- Airflow is measured in cubic feet per minute, also written as ft^3/min , or CFM.
- 1 CFM out = 1 CFM in
- Airflow takes the path of least resistance.
- Air moves from high to low pressure areas.
- Warm air rises, cool air sinks.



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Air Leakage: Pressure

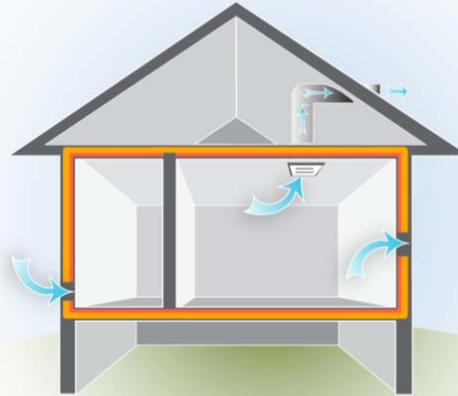


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Air Leakage

Ventilation = Controlled air exchange

Infiltration = Air leaking in



Exfiltration = Air leaking out

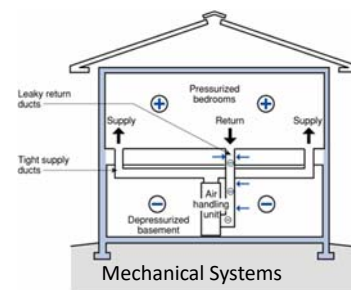
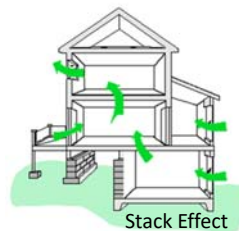
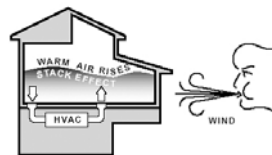


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Air Leakage: Driving Forces

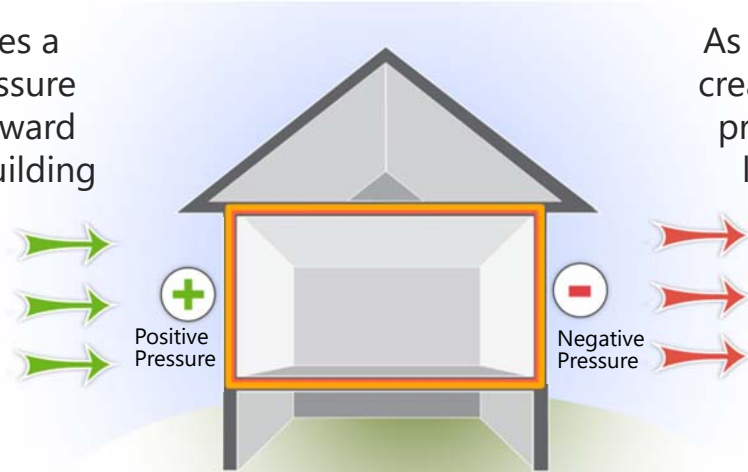
• Three forces create pressure differences in a home:

- Wind
- Stack Effect
- Mechanical Fans



Driving Forces: Wind Effect

Wind creates a positive pressure on the windward side of the building



As it flows past, it creates a negative pressure on the leeward side



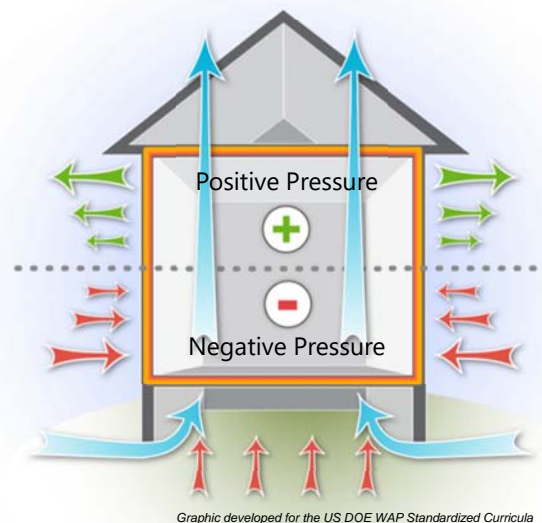
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Driving Forces: Stack effect

Warmer air rises and escapes out of the top of the house...

...which creates a suction that pulls in outside air at the bottom of the house.

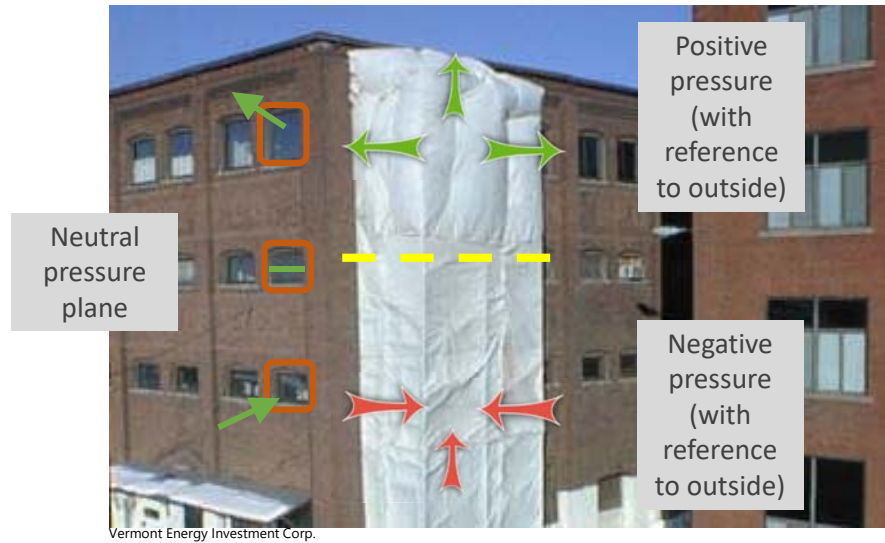


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Stack effect

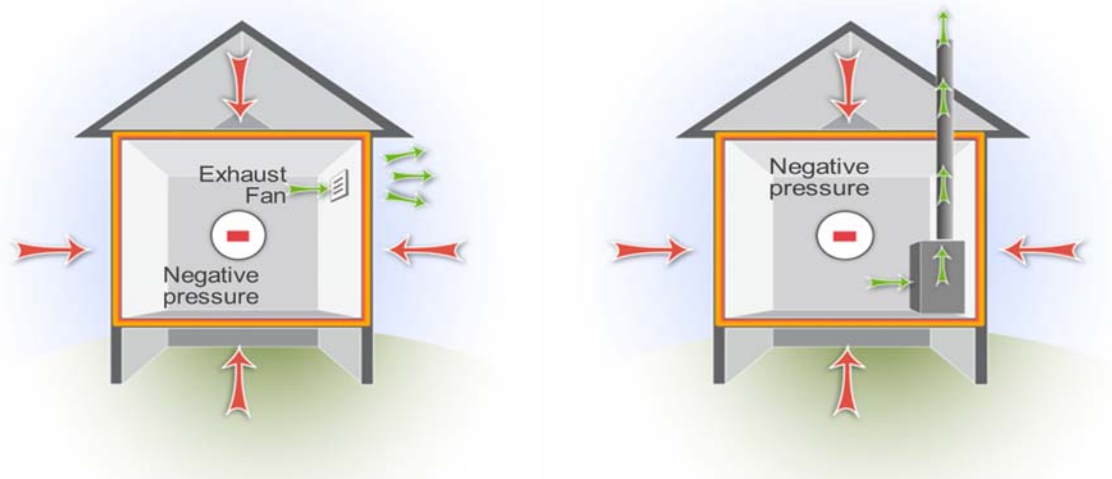
- Function of
 - Building Height
 - Temperature difference



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Driving Forces: Mechanical effect

Combustion Equipment & Exhaust Fans



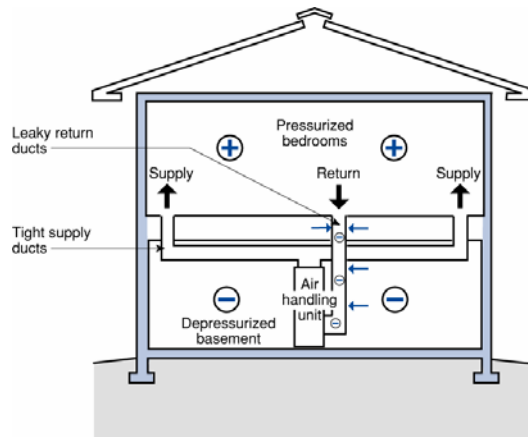
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Fans—Driving Forces for Infiltration

Device	CFM
Bath	50
Range hood	150
Downdraft hood	500
“Commercial” Hood	1500
Dryer	200
Air Handler	400 / ton



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Make up air for large kitchen hoods

Details

- Motorized damper for make up air (not shown)
- Wire damper to open when fan operates

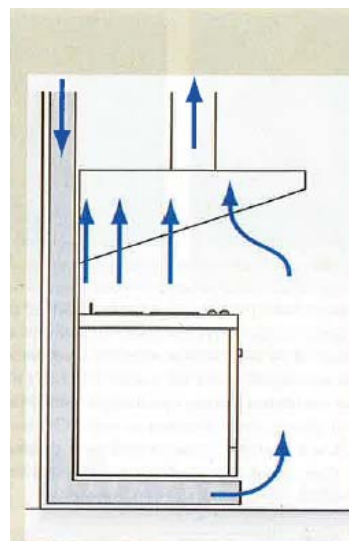


Figure 2: Capture the Effluent. The first thing we make sure is that the exhaust hood actually works to capture the effluent. The hood must overhang the cooking surface big-time. The absolute best approach is to use a backshelf hood with side panels and large overhangs on both sides and the front. Backshelf hoods can typically use 30% less exhaust to capture bad stuff compared to other hoods. Side panels can get you another 30% improvement. Note the direct makeup air using a modified backwall approach such that this makeup air is introduced at floor level. This direct makeup air introduced at floor level should never provide more than 60% to 70% of the hood exhaust. Why? Ah, we need a zone of negative pressure around the cooking surface. You don't want to push the bad stuff; you want to pull the bad stuff.

www.buildingscience.com

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsvMB9bJeE>

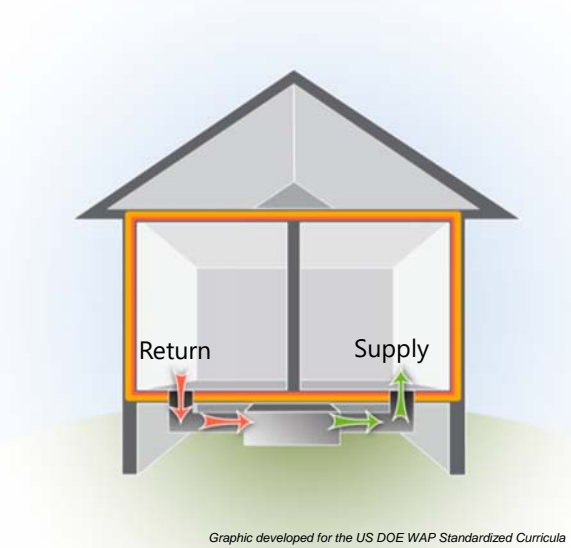
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Driving Forces: mechanical effect

Duct Leakage

Duct leakage can create positive and negative pressures in different areas of the house

The pressures associated with duct leaks can be larger and more significant because the driving force is stronger.

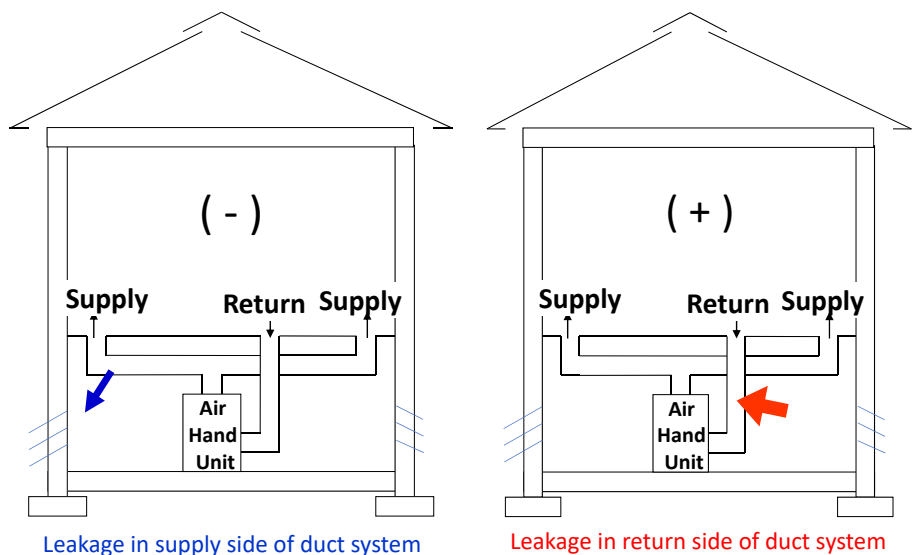


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Driving Forces: mechanical effect

Duct Leakage

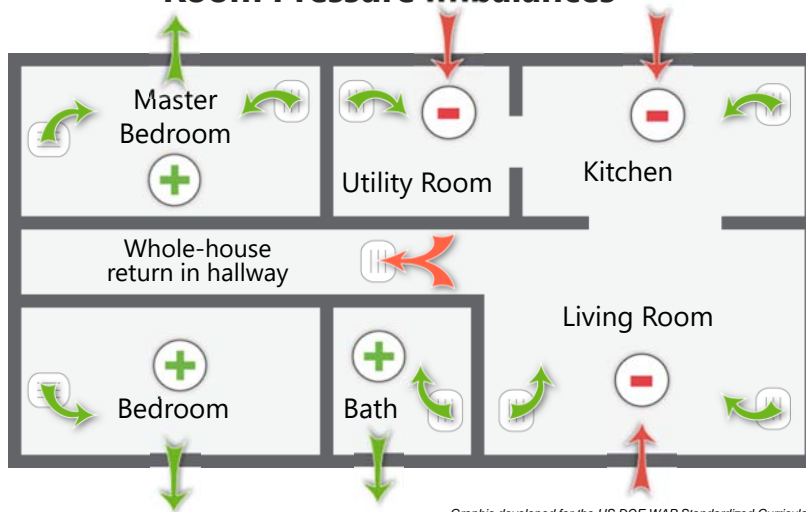
Duct leakage can create positive and negative pressures in a house.



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Driving Forces: mechanical effect

Room Pressure Imbalances

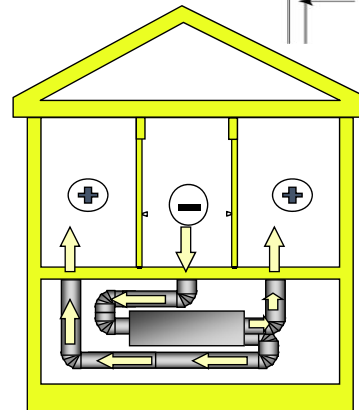
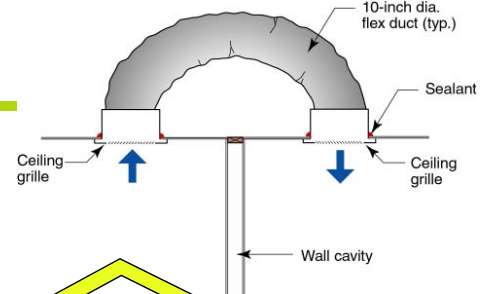
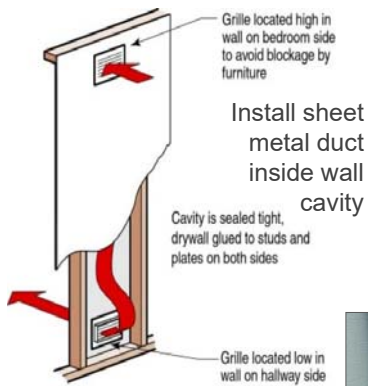


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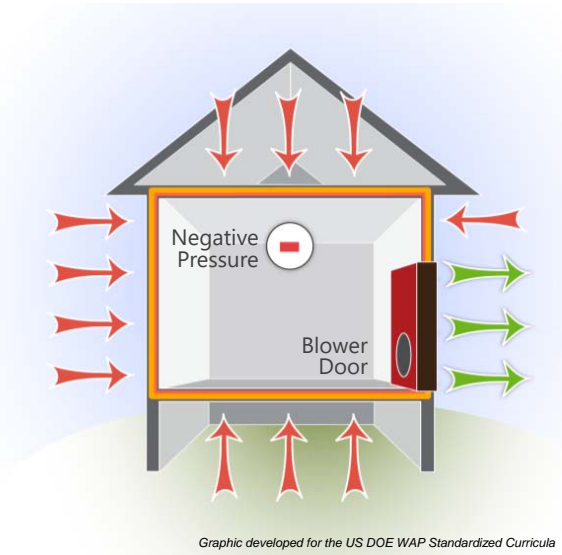
Driving Forces: mechanical effect

DESIGN FOR PROPER RETURN PATH



Driving Forces: mechanical effect

- **Use a Blower Door as a Controlled Driving Force**
- Using the blower door depressurizes the house, drawing air through all the holes between inside and outside.



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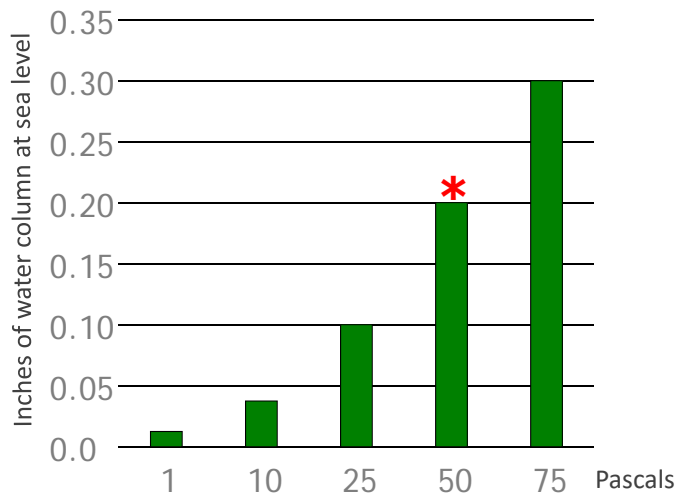


What is a Pascal?

50 Pascals (0.2" w.c.) is approximately the same as a 20 mph wind blowing on all six surfaces of a house

A Pascal is the unit of pressure in the International System of Units. Named after French scientist Blaise Pascal (1623-1662), it is abbreviated Pa.

1 Pa = 1 Newton of force applied over 1 square meter.



1 inch of water column = 248 Pascals

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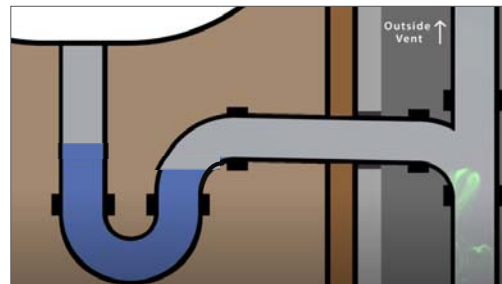


Blower Door – Question 4

A blower door is used to depressurize a house to -50 Pa.

While the fan is running, the water in a sink's P-trap will...

- Be pushed downward by 0.2"
- Stay the same – it wouldn't move
- Rise up (towards the house) by 0.2"
- Rise up (towards the house) by 1"



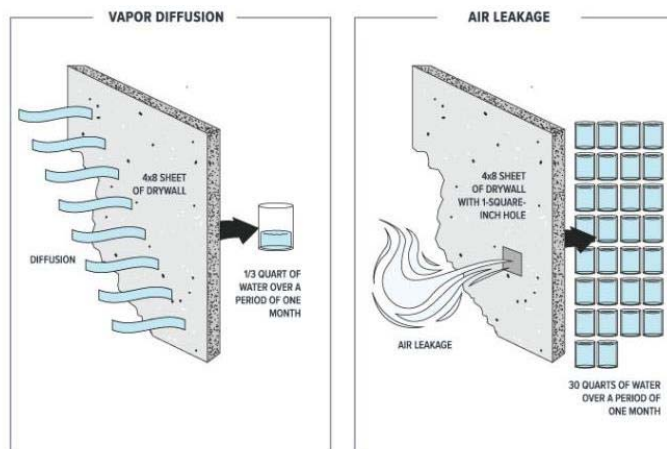
ANSWER: c. Water in trap will rise up 0.2" towards the house



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Managing Water Vapor

- Another reason to limit air flow in a home is to reduce moisture intrusion.
- Even a small hole can allow a large amount of water vapor into the building.



VAPOR DIFFUSION VS. AIR LEAKAGE

INTERIOR TEMPERATURE = 70° F
RELATIVE HUMIDITY = 40%

©CCPA

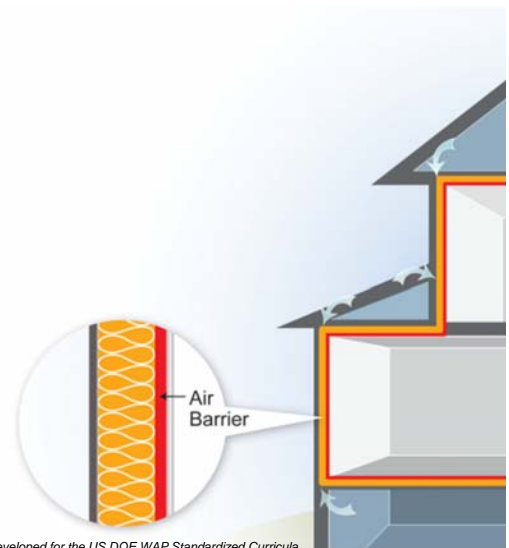


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Air Barrier Installation

Air Barrier

- Limits airflow between inside and outside.
- The IECC defines the air barrier as materials assembled and joined together to limit air leakage.
- Should be collocated with the thermal boundary
- New homes – wall sheathing
Old homes – wall interior finish

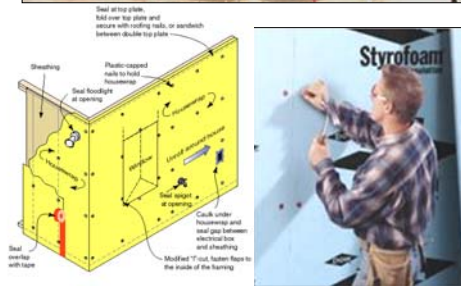


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Air Seal Exterior Sheathing

- No unsealed gaps
- Tape or caulk sheathing seams / penetrations
- Caulk or glue to framing



- Seal to framing, top plate, bottom plate
- Seal window & door openings
- Seal all penetrations

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Shower/Tub on Exterior Wall



66

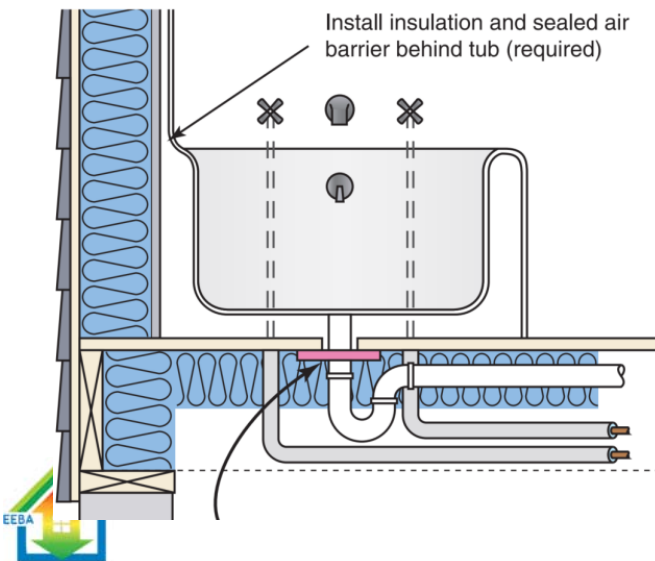
Shower/Tub on Insulated Wall

- Coordinate with your subcontractors so that insulation and air sealing details are not missed before it is too late!



67

Plumbing and wiring



68

Cantilevered floor



Didn't Install Blocking
(Just Covered Over With Insulation)



69

Fiberglass does not stop airflow!



70

Install expanding-foam sealant at perimeter gaps around rigid insulation.

Continuous bead of sealant

1½-in. rigid insulation

1½-in. rigid insulation with ¾-in. gap for expanding foam

Cantilevered floor

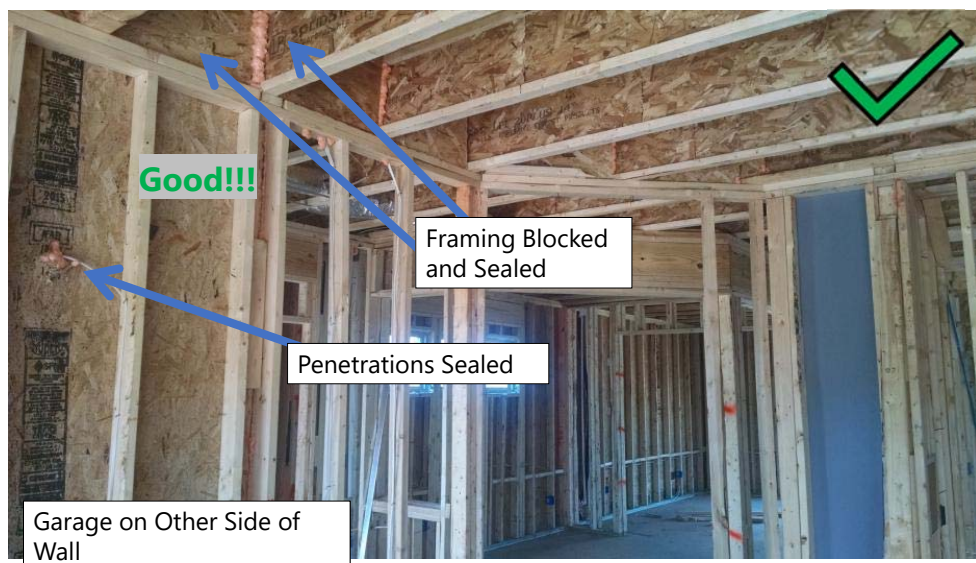
The blocking above the bearing wall helps to define the home's air barrier, so each piece of blocking needs to be sealed at the perimeter with caulk or canned spray foam. As long as both layers of rigid foam are installed with attention to airtightness, this type of cantilevered floor performs well.

Sealant

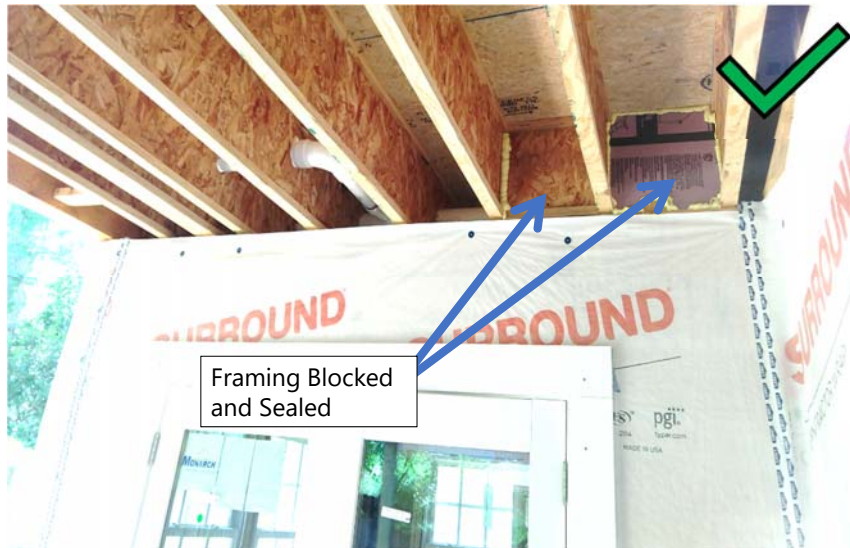
Cover foam with plywood, fiber cement, or other solid soffit material.



Garage Separation



Cantilever support wall



74

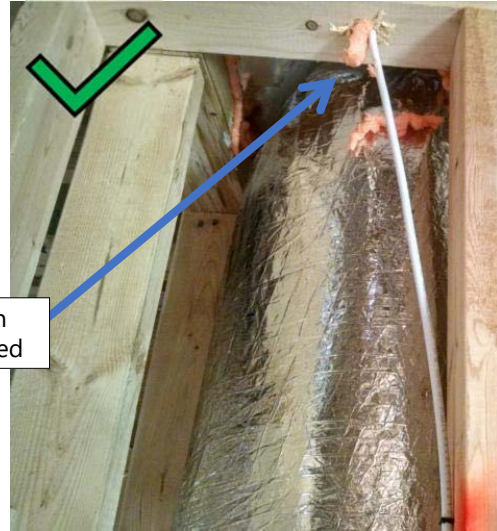
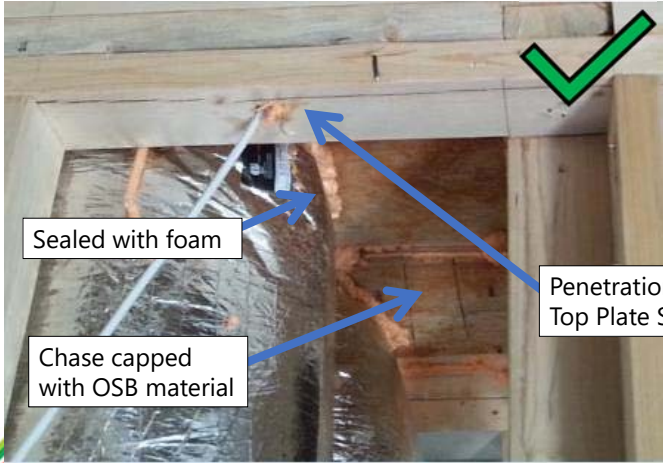
Duct Shafts

Cap chases with rigid material and seal tight around ducts or flue pipes



75

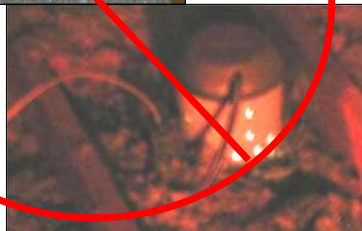
Duct Shafts



76

Recessed Lights

- Standard Can Light



Airtight and IC Rated



- All recessed luminaires shall be labeled as having an air leakage rate not more than 2.0 cfm tested at 75 pa
- All recessed luminaires shall be sealed with a gasket or caulk between the housing and the interior wall or ceiling covering



77

Air Sealing After Drywall

- Top plate to drywall (interior wall cavities often connect to attic)
- HVAC, plumbing and electrical penetrations



78

Sill (bottom) plate



79

Sill (bottom) plate

- Dirty carpet on **exterior** wall indicates leak at wall sill plate
- On **interior** wall indicates wall leaking to attic



80

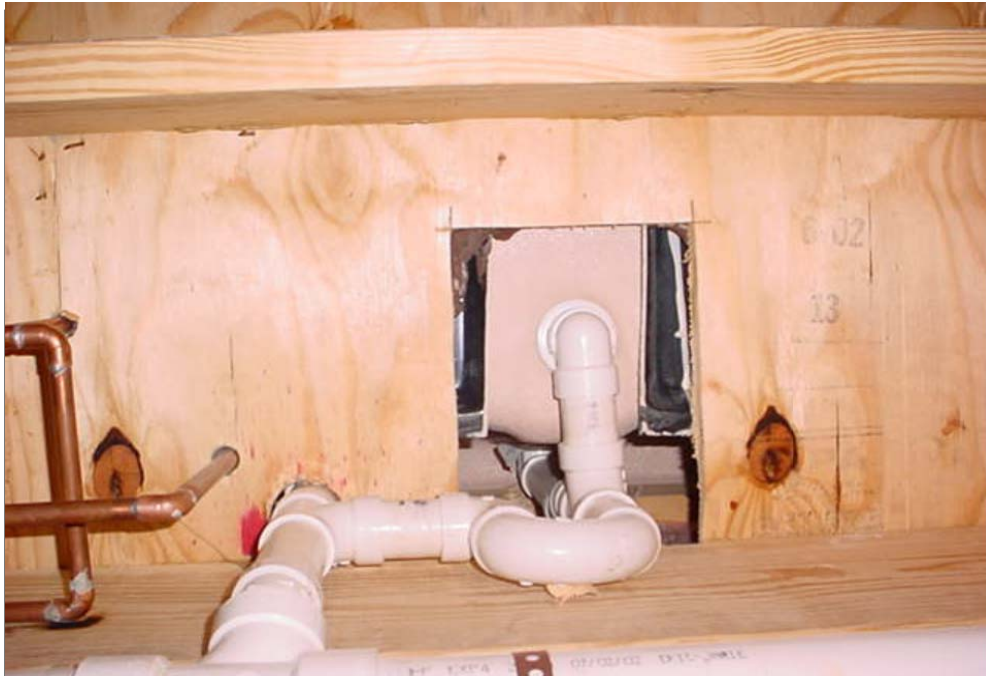
Air Sealing 101 - No BIG Holes!

- First, cover with sheet material and seal
- Then insulate

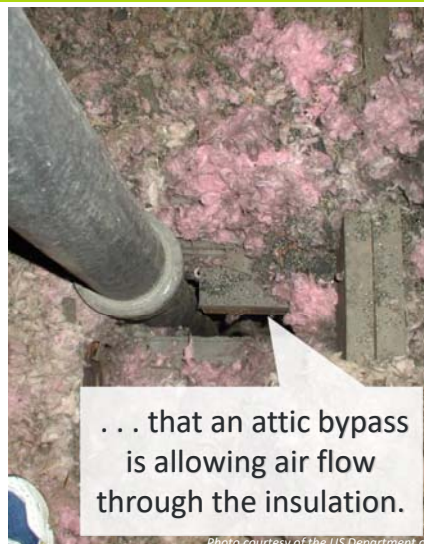


81

Air Sealing - Tubs



Looking for Leaks

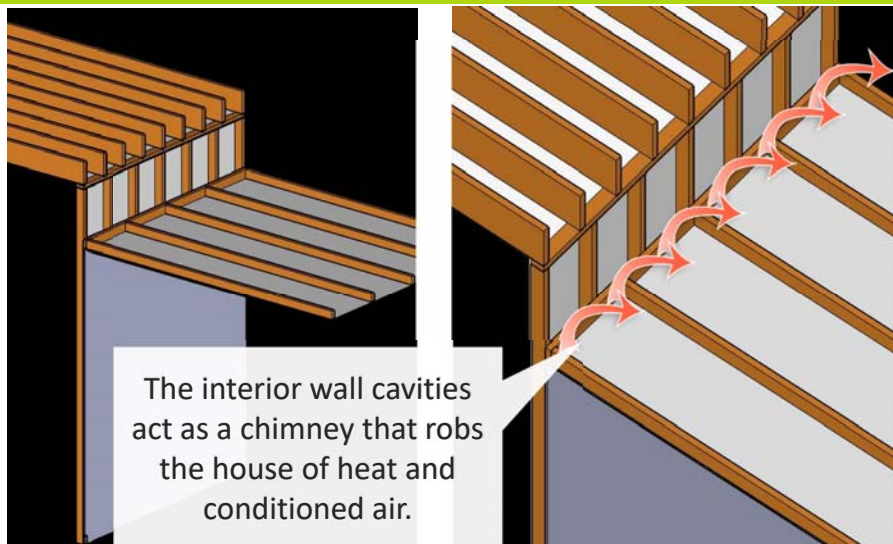


Sealing Attic penetrations



84

Changes in Ceiling Height



85

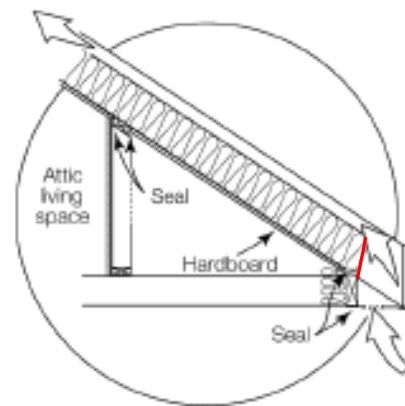
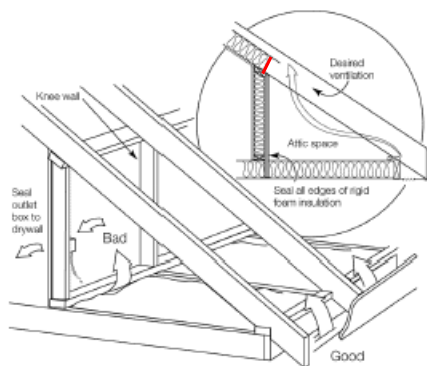
Changes in Ceiling Height



86

Sealing Attic Kneewalls

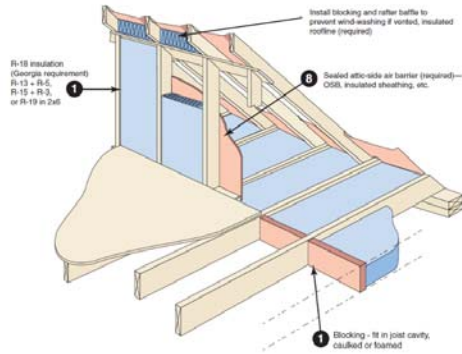
An attic *kneewall* has unconditioned attic space on one side and conditioned space on the other



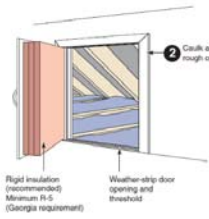
87

ATTIC KNEEWALLS

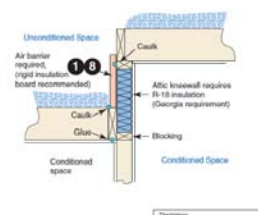
(Want higher R-value with attic- side air barrier)



Attic knee-walls



Two-level attic



No Blocking under Attic Kneewalls



KNEEWALL – PICS SHOWS NEED FOR BLOCKING & SHEATHING



Proper Blocking under Attic Kneewalls



Sealing ducts with mastic



Sealing wall hvac boots



Forms of Moisture flow

Building Science: Moisture transport

- Moisture moves from wet to dry
- Liquid water flows downhill (but can be wicked up)
- Water vapor diffuses from high concentration to lower concentration
- Air movement can carry lots of humidity



Forms of Moisture flow

LIQUID

and

VAPOR

Bulk

Liquid water (rain, drainage, plumbing leaks)

Capillarity

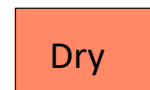
Wicking through porous materials (concrete, wood, paper drywall, fiberglass and cellulose insulation)

Diffusion

Molecules of water moving through porous materials

Infiltration

Moisture laden air brought into the house



99

Managing Bulk Moisture

- Foundation waterproofing
- Proper site drainage
 - Gutters channel water away from foundation
- Drainage planes with proper flashing in walls allows water to escape (e.g. behind brick)



100

Encountering Bulk Moisture

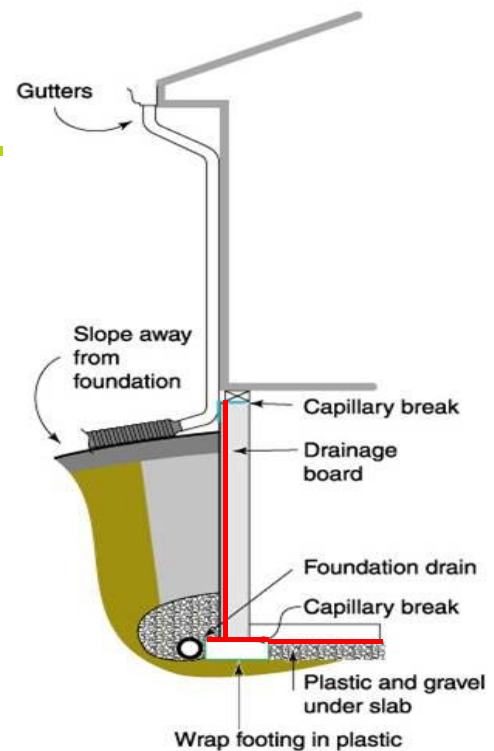


101

Managing Bulk Moisture

Foundation waterproofing

- Plastic under slab
 - Gravel base under plastic
- Waterproofing foundation wall
 - Drainage mat, dimpled with filter, then backfill
- Footing
 - Wrap footing in plastic –tie into other plastic and waterproofing
 - OR waterproof top of footing before stem wall is poured
- Foundation drain tile
 - Adjacent to footing (better than on top)
 - Routed to daylight or sump pump
- Positive exterior drainage
 - Gutters, downspouts, grading slopes away from foundation
- Capillary break at top of stem wall



Bulk Moisture – foundation waterproofing



Dimpled drainage mat with filter



Drainage system



Plastic wrapped beneath footing

- Spray on waterproofing plus drainage board



Managing Bulk Moisture

- Proper site drainage is crucial



Bulk Moisture Control

- Proper site drainage
 - Swales
 - Positive slope grading
 - French drains



105



Bulk Moisture Control

- Proper site drainage
 - Swales
 - Positive slope grading
 - French drains



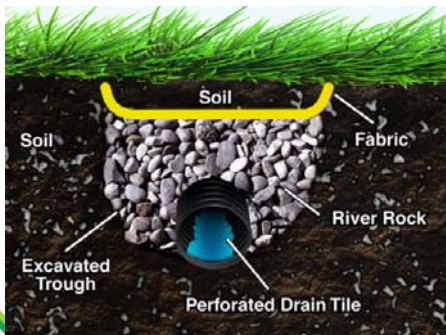
Bulk Moisture Control

- Proper site drainage
 - Swales
 - Positive slope grading
 - French drains



Bulk Moisture Control

- Proper site drainage
 - Swales
 - Grading with positive slope
 - French drains



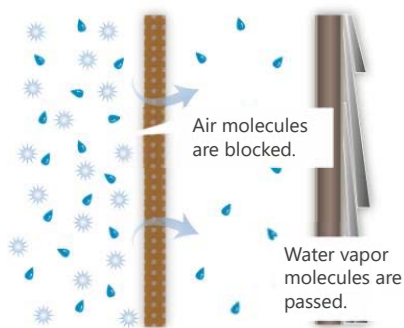
Encountering Water Vapor



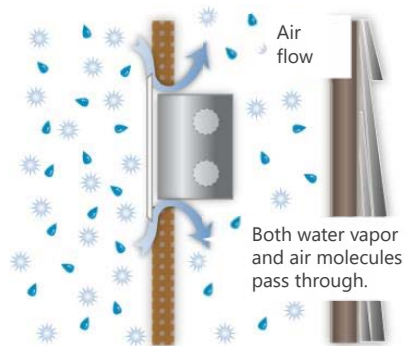
109

Managing Water Vapor

Water Vapor Movement



Diffusion Through Surface



Convection Through Holes

The measurement of the permeability of a material is its **Perm Rating**



110

Vapor Diffusion Retarders



Appropriate measures for moisture control are essential!

112

Moisture – Question 5

- Which of these is not one of the four forms of moisture transport?

1. Bulk
2. Capillarity
3. Air Movement
4. Diffusion
5. Flux Capacitance

Flux Capacitance



113

Psychrometrics

Moisture: Some Definitions

- **Psychrometrics:** The measurement of water vapor and heat in an air sample
- **Absolute humidity:** The ratio of the mass of water vapor to the mass of dry air in a given volume of air at a given temperature - the amount of moisture in the air (grains)
- **Relative humidity:** is the percent of moisture absorbed in the air compared to the maximum amount possible (the amount of moisture in the air in relation to the amount of moisture the air could hold at that temperature)
- **Dew Point:** The temperature at which water vapor condenses into liquid (related to absolute humidity)

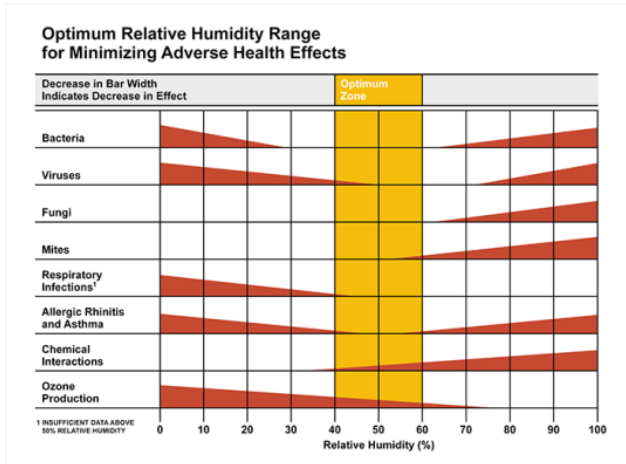


Moisture Vapor content

- Ideal Health & Comfort is ~50% RH at room temperature (~72°F)
- Building decay
- Interior Mold
- Dust Mites
- Viruses
- Static electricity, dry sinus

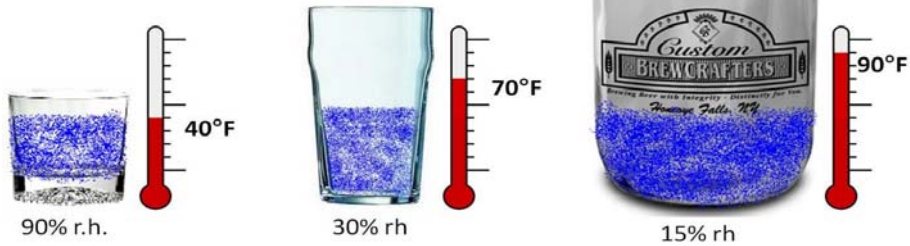


- 100% RH
- RH > 70%
- RH > 50%
- RH < 40%
- RH < 25%



Temperature and Relative Humidity



Each glass contains 30 "grains" of water vapor

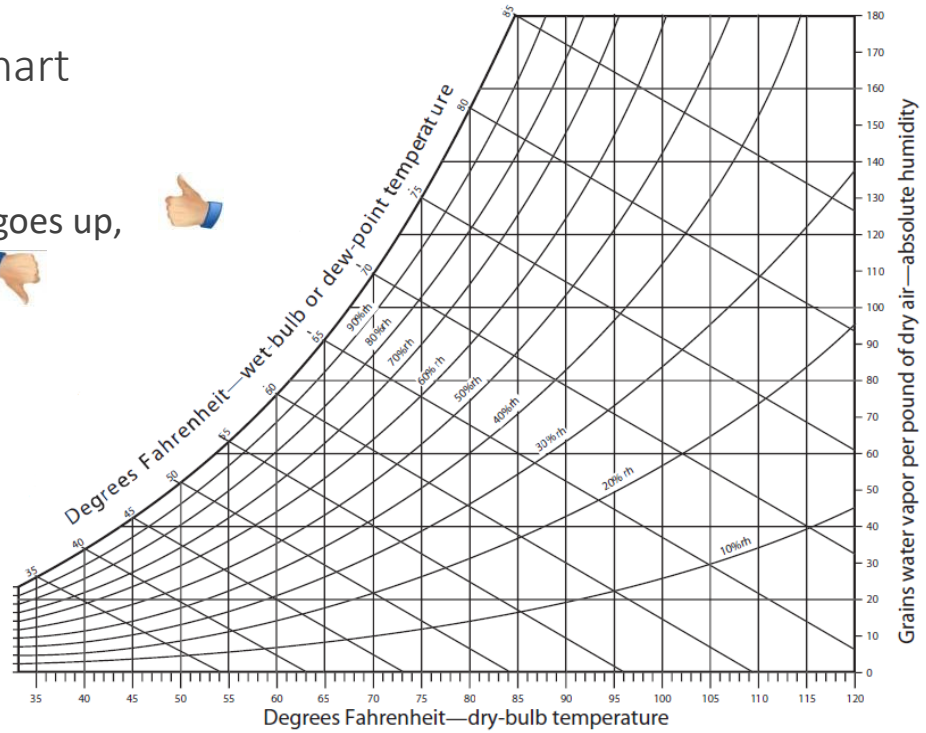


- Warm air can hold more moisture than cold air



Psychrometric Chart

- As temperature goes up, 
- RH goes down 



Room Temperature Example

Find 75°F and 50% Relative Humidity.

Record the grains: 63

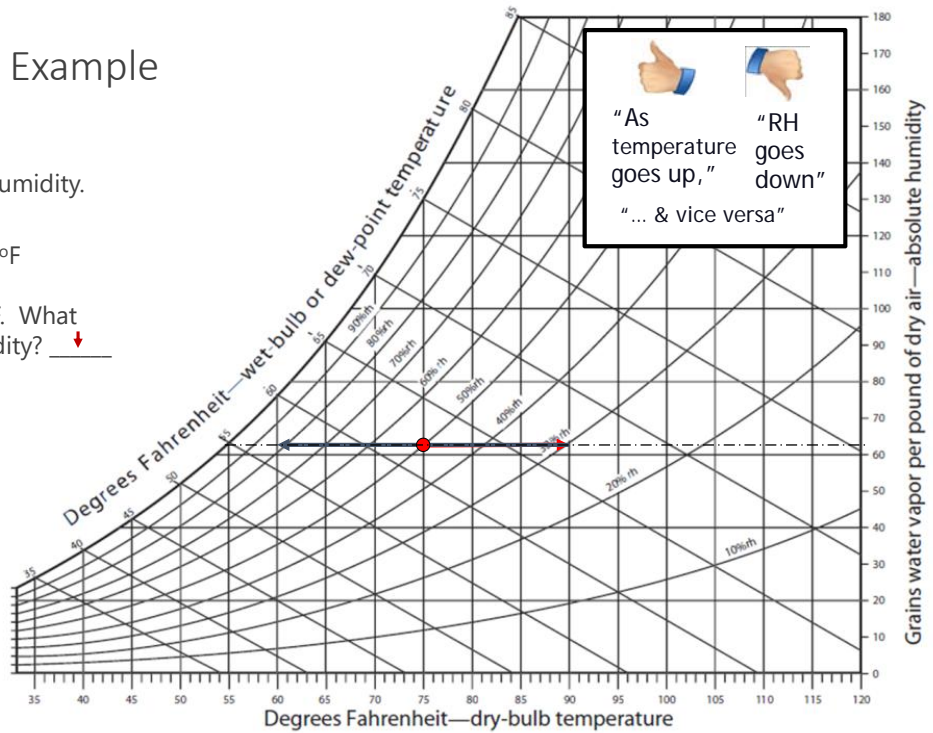
What is the Dew Point? 55 °F

This air is then heated to 90°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↓

What is the RH? 30 %

This air is now cooled to 60°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↑?

What is the relative humidity? 85 %



Example Problem – Winter

Find 40°F and 90% Relative Humidity.

Record the grains: 30

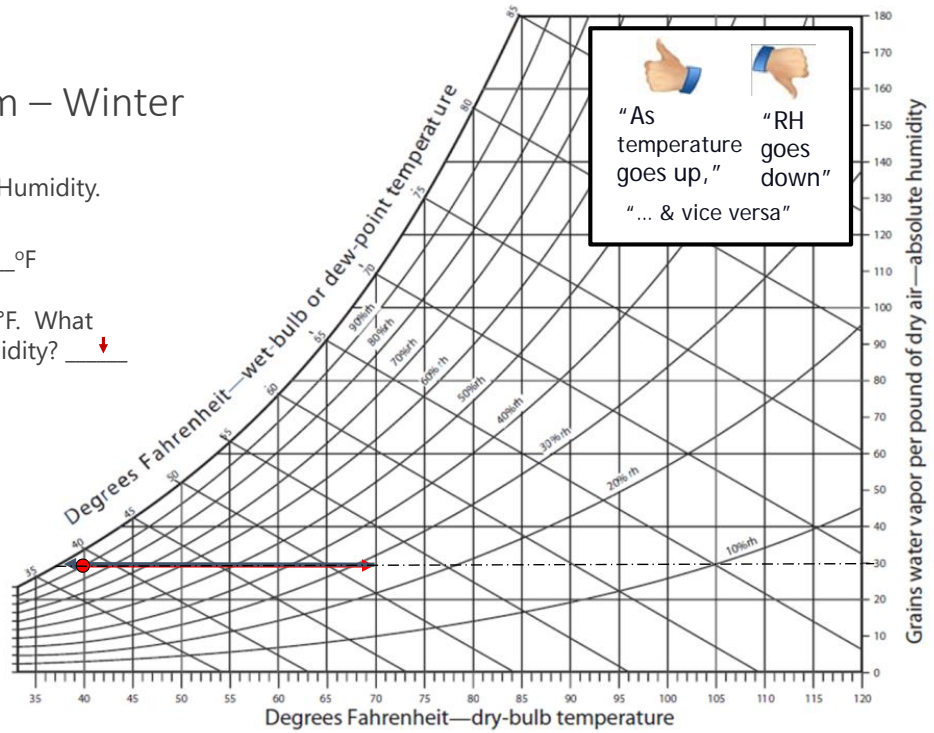
What is the Dew Point? 38 °F

This air is then heated to 70°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↓

What is the RH? 28 %

This air is now cooled to 38°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↑?

What is the relative humidity? 99 %



Summer Temperature Example

Find 80°F and 80% Relative Humidity.

Record the grains: 123

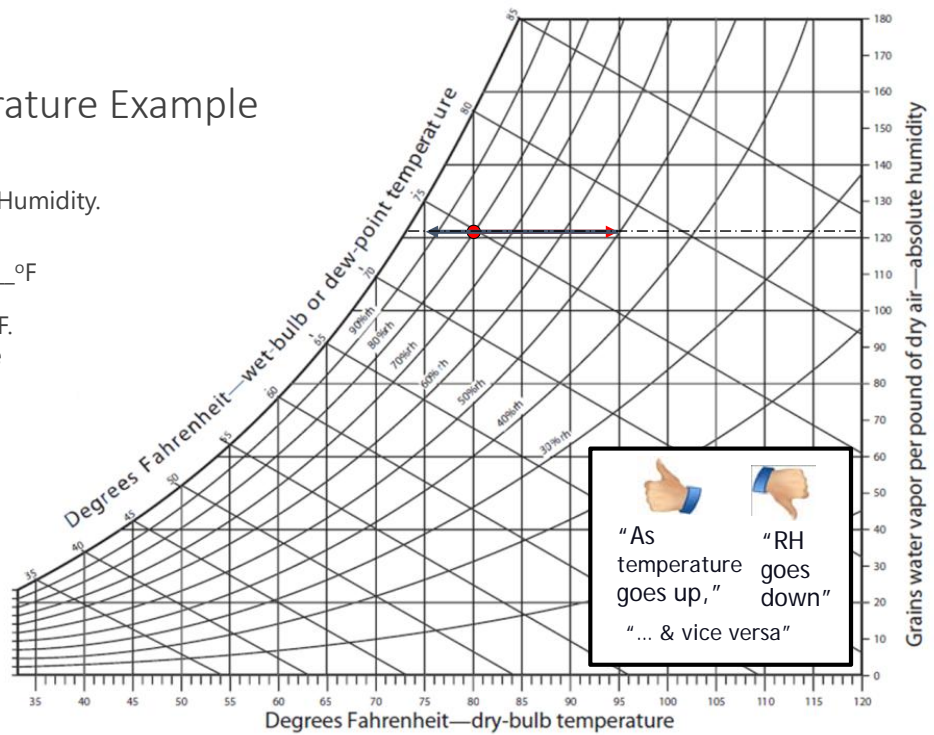
What is the Dew Point? 73 °F

This air is then heated to 95°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↓

What is the RH? 50 %

This air is now cooled to 75°F. What happens to the relative humidity? ↑

What is the relative humidity? 95 %



Questions 6 - Psychrometrics




"As temperature goes up,"

"RH goes down"

"... & vice versa"

"Cold air is very dry air"

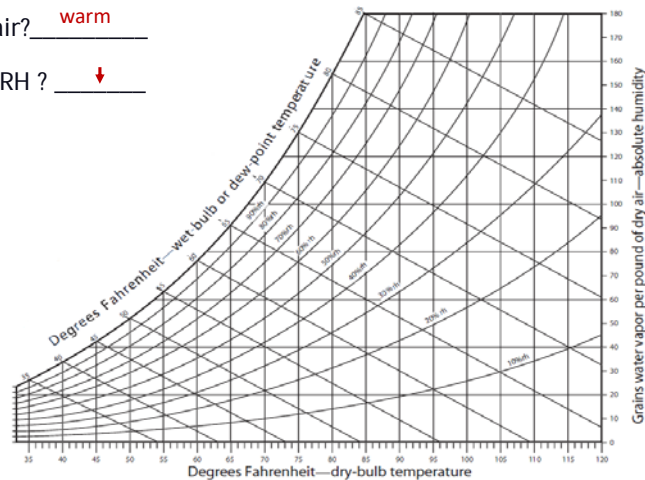
Which can hold more moisture, warm air or cold air? warm

If a cubic foot air is heated, what happens to the RH? ↓

If a cubic foot of air is cooled, what happens to the relative humidity? ↑

Misting 75F water vapor into 75F air will cause the RH to ↑?

Adding a desiccant to a humid closet will cause the RH to ↓?



122

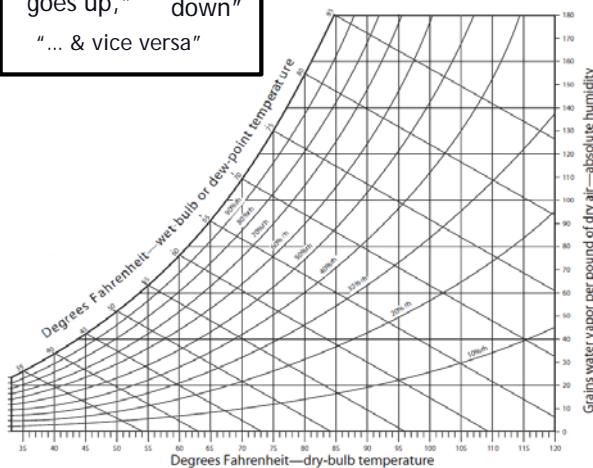
Questions 6 – Psychrometrics, cont.




"As temperature goes up,"

"RH goes down"

"... & vice versa"



If a cubic foot of air held exactly 1/3 of the water vapor that it theoretically could hold, the relative humidity would be? 33 %

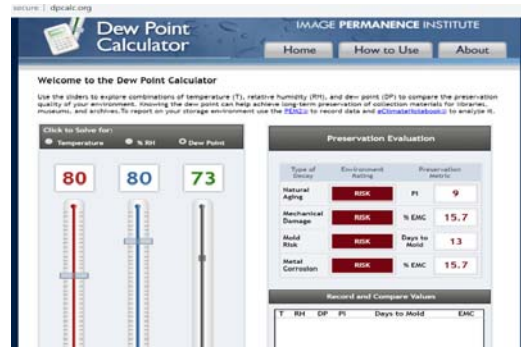
Because a person's body cools via sweat evaporation, humid air generally feels less comfortable in the summer.

Air that is too dry (cold) in the winter is uncomfortable and can lead to chapped lips, nosebleeds, and static electricity.

Mold generally starts to grow at 70 % RH



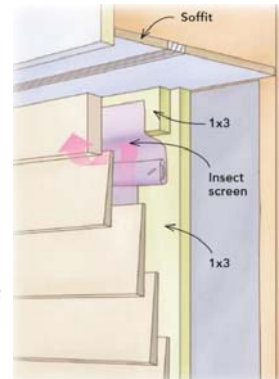
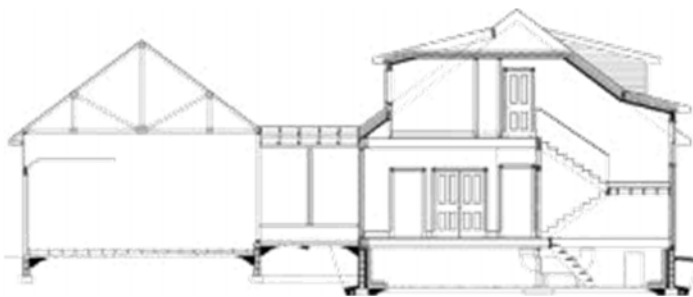
123



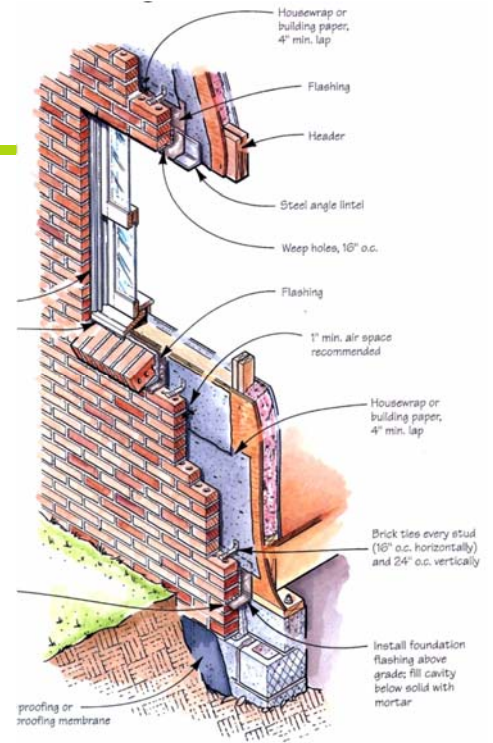
www.dpcalc.org

Practical applications

Moisture transport
Drainage Planes and Cladding



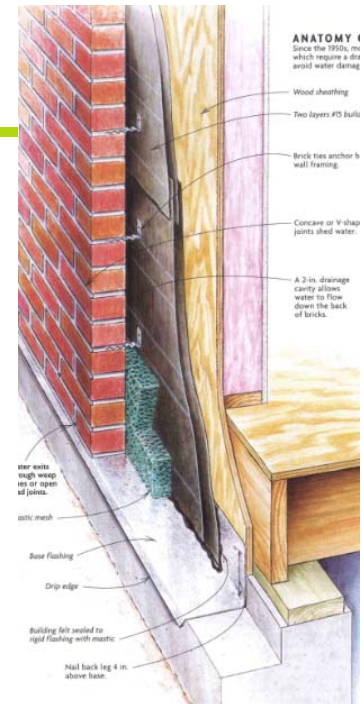
Cladding – Brick Veneer



- Water shedding surface
- Gap / air space



Brick Veneer



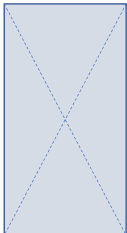
- Weeps are critical



Rain Screen / Drainage Pane



Housewrap: Details are Critical



Windows (incorrectly) have flange over housewrap

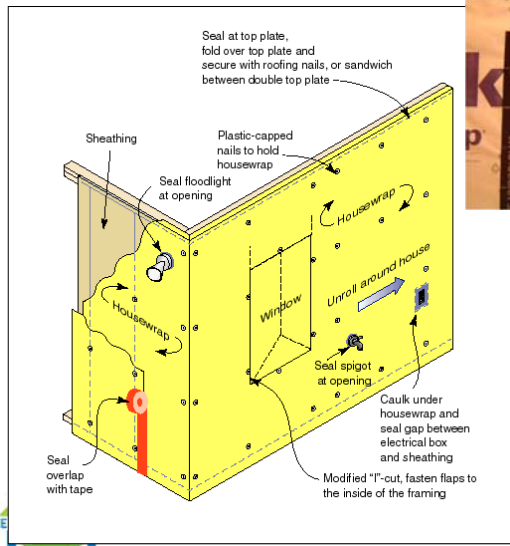


See WRB factsheet for more details



"The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten" -Benjamin Franklin

Housewrap as a Weather Barrier



Technology Fact Sheet

WEATHER-RESISTIVE BARRIERS

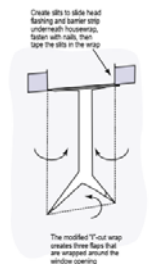
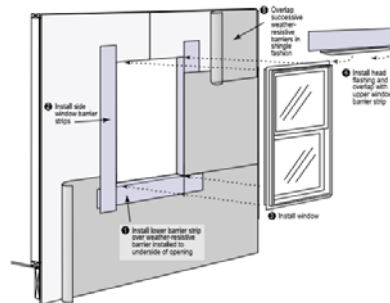
How to select and install housewrap and other types of weather-resistive barriers

INTRODUCTION

Weather-resistive barriers are a part of exterior

WHEN AND HOW TO USE WEATHER-RESISTIVE BARRIERS

FLASHING WINDOW OPENINGS



130

Managing Bulk Moisture – flashing



Siding too close to roof
No kick-out flashing



Flashing must be integrated with wall and roof drainage plane surfaces

131

No Weather Barrier

- Rotted siding
 - Air leakage
 - Wicking



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Alternative WR Barriers

- WRB pre-attached to sheathing



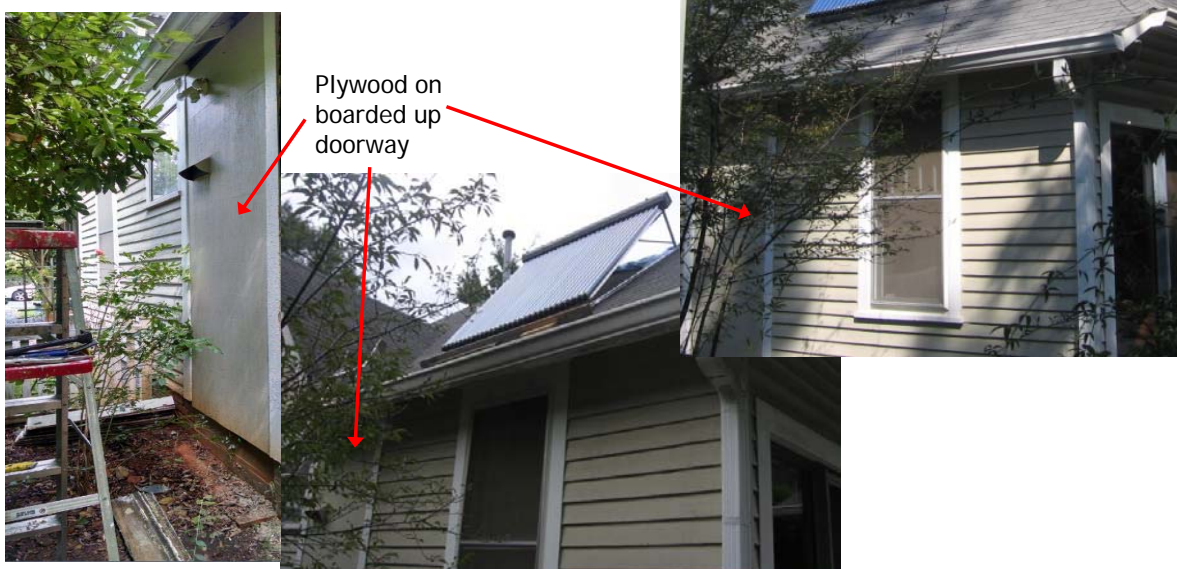
133



Fluid-Applied Weather Resistive Barrier



Retrofit: Lap Siding nailed directly to studs



Siding Drainage Plane Retrofit



Siding Drainage Plane Retrofit

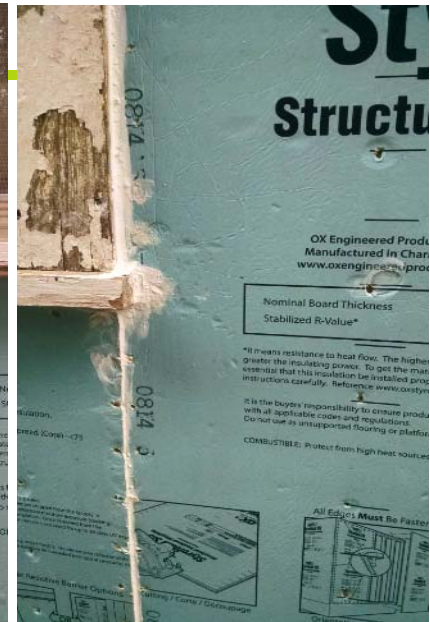


Install Structural Insulated Sheathing (SIS)



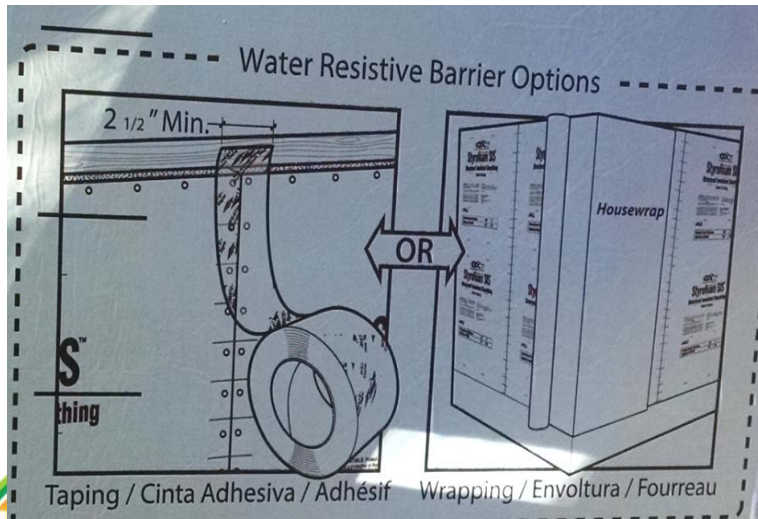
139

Set Nails in SIS



140

Seal Seams of SIS



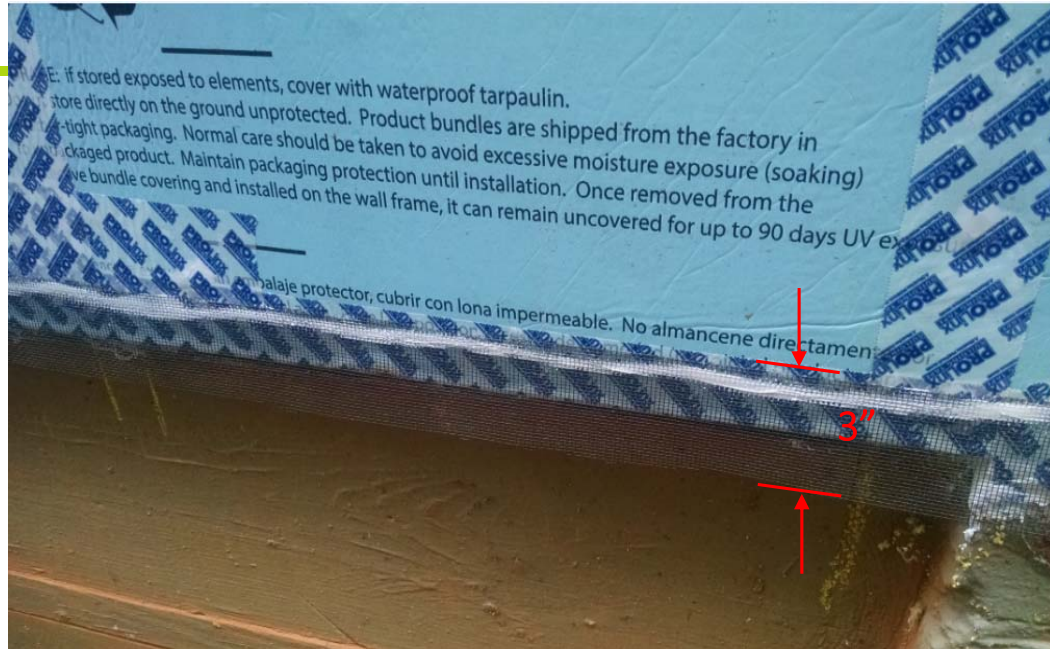
141

Prep for Furring Strips



142

3" Insect Screen Before Furring



143

3/16" PT Furring Strips (with lower end primed)

Aligns with Wall Studs and Covers Top Half of Insect Screen



144

Bottom of Screen Folded Up & Stapled



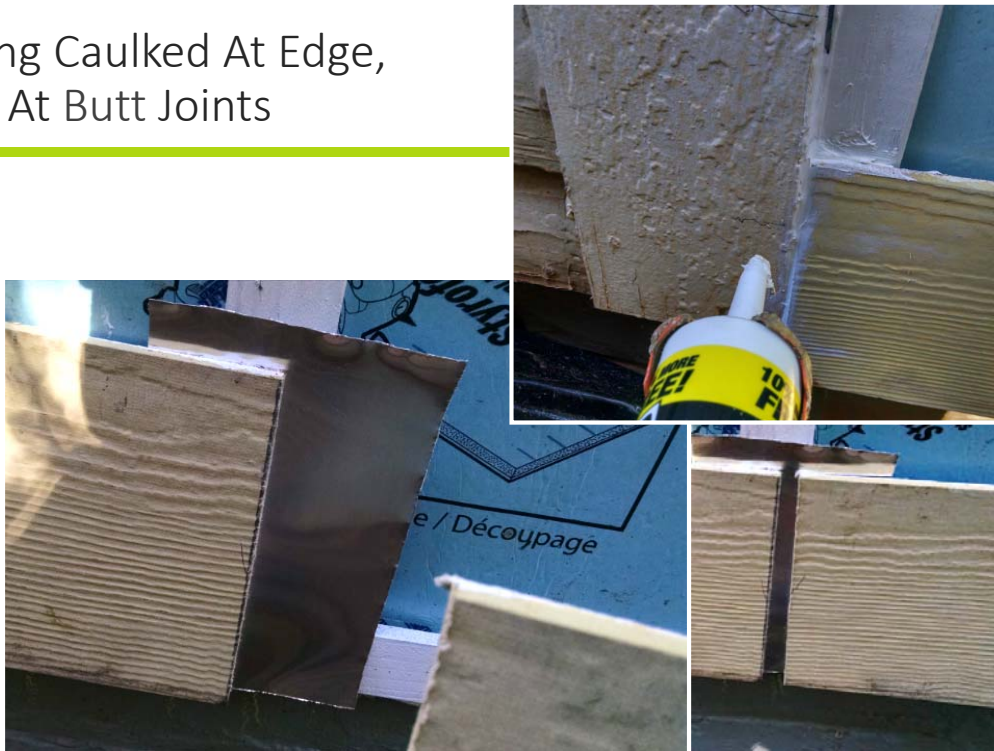
145

Ready for Siding ...



146

Siding Caulked At Edge, Not At Butt Joints



147

Floating Butt Joint With Flashing



148

3/16" Gap Between Siding & WRB



149

Siding Installation



150

Siding Drainage Plane Retrofit



151

Siding Drainage Plane Retrofit



152

Kitchen hood exhaust penetration



155

Siding Drainage Plane Retrofit



156

Constructing a system



158

Siding Drainage Plane – New Construction



Question 7 Moisture (Setup)

On the following slide, 4 different moisture scenarios are described. Define the likely method of transport.

Answer choices:

- **Bulk** (liquid flow)
- **Capillarity** (liquid wicking)
- **Air Movement** (infiltration humidity)
- **Diffusion** (molecular movement)



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Question 7: Moisture Scenarios

1. A homeowner notes that their house is on a hillside and digs a shallow swale to divert flow around their foundation.
2. After taking a shower, a homeowner runs an exhaust fan for 30 minutes to remove the moisture.
3. A homeowner notes that the bottom 6" of the drywall in the garage has some mold growing on it (even though the plumbing line leak that flooded the garage last month was vacuumed up fairly quickly).
4. A homeowner notes that plastic installed over their crawlspace ground frequently has water droplets underneath it.

Answer choices:

- **Bulk** (liquid flow)
- **Capillarity** (liquid wicking)
- **Air Movement** (humidity)
- **Diffusion** (molecular movement)



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Questions?



- [June 4: It All Begins with Building Science](#)
- [June 11: Cracking the Building Energy Code](#)
- [June 18: Demystifying Energy Modeling](#)
- [June 25: Healthy Homes Matter - Understanding IAQ & Ventilation](#)
- [July 2: An Industry That Puts It All Together: The World of HERS Raters](#)



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- aaron@eeba.org

Thank you!

mikeb@southface.org



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Third Thursdays! 11 a.m. ET

- **June 18th** - Combustion Safety
- **July 16th** - HVAC Load Calcs
- **Aug 20th** - High Performance Design

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