



EZ PERMIT STANDARD
EXTERIOR WALL COVERINGS

For Applications of Exterior Wall Coverings

Revised 7/26 (IRC-21 / IBC-21)

EZ Permit Standard: Exterior Wall Coverings

Obtain permits for the application of exterior wall sidings without submitting plans by meeting the Conditions and Design Limitations below. Any deviations from this permit standard will result in permit revocation.

Conditions

- Installation must fully comply with the requirements of the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2021 International Building Code (IBC). Buildings under the scope of the 2021 IRC shall include detached one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses not more than 3 stories above grade in height with a separate means of egress and their accessory structures, all others shall be covered under the 2021 IBC.
- Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (EIFS) subject to special inspections **are not** applicable to the EZ permit process.
- EZ permit process **shall not** be applicable to buildings listed as historic as established by the Philadelphia Historical Commission without prior approval, contact the staff at preservation@phila.gov in the planning stages of your project.
- All façade alterations located in the following areas must be approved by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission:
 - Chestnut & Walnut St area (*btw Front St & the Schuylkill River*)
 - South Broad St area (*btw South Penn Sq & Washington Ave*)
 - East Market St area (*btw Front St & 5th St*) [Title 14-502(2)(b)(.15)(a)]
 - Society Hill area, Northeast [Title 14-502(2)(b)(.32)(.a)]
 - West Chestnut St Area [Title 14-502(2)(b)(.33)]
 - Ridge Ave Area (*btw Hermitage St & Monastery Ave*) [Title 14-503(6)(a)]
 - Germantown Ave Area (*Mount Airy Sub-Area*) [Title 14-503(3)(a)(.2)]
 - Historic District Designation [Title 14-504(4)(b)]
 - Queens Village Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(5)(a)]
 - Overbrook Farms Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(6)(a)]
 - Central Roxborough Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(7)(b)]
 - Ridge Park Roxborough Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(8)(a)]
 - Powelton Village Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(9)(a)]
 - Wissahickon Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(10)(b)]
 - Strawberry Mansion Village Conservation Overlay [Title 14-504(11)(b)]
- All alterations abutting the following areas must be approved by the Philadelphia Art Commission:
 - Parkway Buffer Area [Title 14-502(2)(b)(.19)]
 - Independence Hall Area [Title 14-502(2)(b)(.11)]

General Construction Requirements

- Conform with requirements of specific exterior wall covering applications to be used
- All proprietary applications to be installed in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions
- Contractor shall be familiar with manufacturer's installation instructions which shall be provided in field for inspectors
- Wall covering fasteners shall be with approved aluminum, stainless steel, zinc-coated, or other corrosion- resistive fasteners unless specified otherwise

Flashing

- Corrosion resistant, shingle fashioned application to extend to surface of exterior wall finish
- To be installed in the following locations:
 - Exterior Window/Door Openings
 - Wall/roof intersections
 - At exterior porch, deck, or stair attachments to a wall/floor assembly of wood-frame construction
 - Under and at the ends of all copings and sills
 - Built-in gutters
 - Continuously above all projecting wood trims
 - At chimney or other masonry construction intersections with frame/stucco walls, with protecting lips on both sides under stucco coping



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Water-Resistive Barrier

- Min. one (1) layer of No. 15 asphalt felt to comply with ASTM D226 Type 1, ASTM E2556 Type 1 or 2, ASTM E331 OR other approved water resistive barrier in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions
- To be applied over studs or sheathing
- Continuous to top of wall, and terminated at penetrations and building appendages
- Lapping: Min. 2-in horizontal lap of upper layer over lower layer; Min. 6-in lap at all joints
- Water-resistive vapor permeable barrier to be applied where specified by exterior wall covering application type

Applicable Exterior Wall Covering Application Types

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ○ Fiber Cement Siding | ○ Exterior Plaster & Stucco | ○ Anchored Stone & Masonry Veneer |
| ○ Vinyl Siding | ○ Wood Shakes & Shingles | ○ Wood, Hardwood, Wood Structural |
| ○ Wood Veneer | ○ Adhered Masonry Veneer | Panel Siding |

Fiber Cement Siding

- Shall comply with requirements of ASTM C1186, Type A, Min. Grade II or ISO 8336 Category A minimum Class 2
- Panel Min. Nominal Thickness: 5/16-in

Fiber Cement Panel Siding

- Panel installation to have long dimension parallel or perpendicular to framing
- Vertical/Horizontal joints shall occur over framing members
- Joints to be sealed with caulk, covered with battens or flashing, or be vertical or horizontal shiplap

Fastening

- 6d common corrosion-resistant nails
- Direct to studs: 4d common corrosion-resistant nails
- Max. Spacing: 6-in O.C. on edges; 12-in O.C. at intermediate studs
- Shall conform with approved manufacturer's installation instructions

Fiber Cement Lap Siding

- Maximum width: 12-in
- Minimum Lap: 1-1/4 in

Joints

- End joints of lap siding to conform with one of the following:
 - Located over a strip of flashing
 - To be sealed with caulk
 - H-section joint cover to be installed
- Seal and cover shall not be required for tongue and groove end joints

Fastening

- 6d common corrosion resistant nails
- Direct to studs: 6d common or 11 ga roofing nail
- Max Spacing:
 - Face nailing: one 6d common nail through overlapping planks at each stud
 - Concealed nailing: one 11-gauge 1-1/2 in long galv. roofing nail through top edge of each plank at each stud
- Shall be installed in accordance with approved manufacturer's installation instructions



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Vinyl Siding

- Shall be certified and labeled as conforming to the requirements of ASTM D3679
- Siding Min. Nominal Thickness: 0.035-in
- Vinyl siding, soffit, and accessories to be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- Soffit panels to be individually fastened to a supporting component (i.e. nailing strip, fascia, or subfascia component) or as specified by manufacturer's instructions

Foam Plastic Sheathing:

- For vinyl siding installed over foam plastic sheathing, the foam plastic sheathing shall be applied directly over wood structural panels, fiberboard, or gypsum sheathing capable of independently resisting design wind pressures, OR
- Installation of vinyl siding over foam plastic sheathing shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions based on the product specification's approved wind load design pressure rating

Fastening

- Fasteners must penetrate building framing, but cannot be nailed directly to studs, unless specified otherwise by the manufacturer's installation instructions
- Fastener: 0.120-in nail (shank) with 0.313-in head OR 16 Ga staple with 3/8-in to 1/2-in crown
 - All fasteners to be corrosion-resistant
- Min. Fastening Depth: 1.25-in penetration into wood framing OR as per manufacturer's installation instructions for siding with an approved design wind pressure rating
- Max. Spacing: 16-in O.C. Horizontal Siding (12-in O.C. Vertical Siding) OR as per manufacturer's instructions

Wood Veneers

(Only applicable to buildings under the scope of the **2021 IBC**, except Type V construction)

- Nominal thickness of wood veneers = 1-in min
 - 0.438" for exterior hardboard siding
 - 0.375" for exterior type wood structural panels or particle boards
- Wood veneer height shall be limited to 40'-0"
 - Fire-retardant-treated wood veneer shall be limited to an application height of 60'-0"
- Veneer attached to or furred from a non-combustible backing that is fire-resistance rated as required by the 2021 International Building Code
- Open or spaced wood veneers, without concealed spaces, shall not project more than 24-in from the building wall

Wood, Hardboard, and Wood Structural Panel Siding

(Only applicable to buildings under the scope of the **2021 IRC**)

Vertical Wood Siding

- Siding shall be nailed to horizontal nailing strips or blocking set not more than 24-in O.C.

Panel Siding

- 3/8-in wood structural panel siding shall not be applied directly to studs spaced more than 16-in O.C.
- 7/16-in wood structural panel siding or thinner shall not be applied directly to studs spaced more than 24-in O.C.
- Stud spacing is 24-in maximum for structural panel siding 7/16-in or thinner
- Vertical joints to be shiplapped OR covered with batten
 - To occur over framing members
- Horizontal joints shall be lapped 1-in min., shiplapped, OR flashed with Z-flashing
 - To occur over solid-blocking, wood or wood structural panel sheathing



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Horizontal Wood Siding

- To be installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations
- Lapped siding to be installed with 1-inch min lapping, OR 1/2-inch min lapping if rabbeted
- Siding Ends to be provided with one of the following:
 - Batten covered joints
 - Ends Caulked
 - Sealed and installed over strip of flashing

Fastening

Hardboard Siding

- Minimum Siding Thickness: 7/16-inch

Hardboard Panel Siding

- Min. 0.120-in nail (shank), 0.225-in head diameter
- Min. 1½-in penetration into wood framing
- Spacing: 6-in on panel edges, 12-in at intermediate supports

Hardboard Lap Siding

- 0.099-in nail (shank), 0.240-in head diameter
- Min. 1½-in penetration into wood framing
- Spacing: same as stud spacing, 2 per bearing

Wood Structural Panel and Lap Siding

- Direct to Studs OR Into Wood/WSP Sheathing: 0.099-in nails, Min. 2-in length
- Fiberboard/Gypsum Sheathing to Studs: 0.113-in nails, Min. 2½-in length
- Panel Siding Spacing: 6-in on panel edges and 12-in at intermediate supports
- Lap Siding Spacing: 8-in O.C. along bottom edge

Wood Shakes & Shingles

(Only applicable to buildings under the scope of **2021 IRC**)

- To conform with CSSB Grading Rules for Wood Shakes and Shingles
- Single or Double Course application permitted, and to be placed over:
 - ½-in wood-based sheathing OR furring strips covering ½-in non-wood sheathing
- Bottom courses shall be doubled
- Water-resistive vapor permeable barrier required over all sheathing
 - Lapping: 2-in (Horizontal); 6-in (Vertical)
- Max. exposure of shake/shingle to conform with Table R703.6.1, below:

TABLE R703.6.1 MAXIMUM WEATHER EXPOSURE FOR WOOD SHAKES AND SHINGLES ON EXTERIOR WALLS^{a,b,c} (Dimensions are in inches)

LENGTH	EXPOSURE FOR SINGLE COURSE	EXPOSURE FOR DOUBLE COURSE
Shingles ^a		
16	7	12 ^b
18	8	14 ^c
24	10 ^{1/2}	16 ^d
Shakes ^a		
18	8	14
24	10 ^{1/2}	18

a. Dimensions given are for No. 1 grade

b. A maximum 9-inch exposure is permitted for No. 2 grade

c. A maximum 10-inch exposure is permitted for No. 2 grade

d. A maximum 14-inch exposure is permitted for No. 2 grade



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Horizontal Furring Strips

- 1-in x 3-in strips OR 1-in x 4-in strips
- Fasteners: 7d or 8d box nails
- Max Fastener Spacing: As specified by "Max. Weather Exposure" dimensions from Table R703.6.1

Adjacent Wood Shake/Shingle Spacing & Gap Tolerances

- Max. Adj. Gap Tolerance: 1/8-in to 1/4-in (Shingles); 3/8-in to 1/2-in (Shakes)
- Min. Offset Spacing for Joints of Adj. Courses: 1 1/2-in

Fasteners for Shakes & Shingles

- **Box Nail Fasteners**
 - Each shake/shingle to be held in place by two (2) stainless steel Type 304, 316, or hot dipped zinc coated galvanized corrosion resistant box nails
 - Min. Penetration into sheathing or furring strip: 1/2-in (Shall not be overdriven)
- **Staple Fasteners**
 - Min. 16 ga. stainless steel Type 304 or 316, 7/16-in minimum crown width, 3/4-in maximum
 - Attachment: Crown parallel with butt of shake/shingle
- **Fastener Location**
 - Single Course: 1-in above butt line, 3/4-in from the edge, concealed by course above
 - Double Course: Two (2) face-nailed fasteners on exposed shake/shingle, 2-in above butt line, 3/4-in from each edge

Exterior Plaster & Stucco

- Installation to be in conformance with ASTM C926 or ASTM C1063
- No work to be performed when ambient temperature is below 40°F Applications to be protected from freezing for a period not less than 24 hours after set has occurred.
- *Metal/wire lath backing*: Three (3) Coat Layer
- *Masonry, Concrete, Pressure-treated or Decay-Resistant Wood*: Two (2) Coat Layer
 - Each coat shall be kept in moist condition for at least 48 hours prior to application of the next coat. [Except *ASTM C 926 applications*]
 - Minimum curing times shall be maintained prior to application of next coat.

Plaster Coating System	Layer	Min. Curing Time Prior to Next Layer
Two Coats	First	7 days
Three Coats	First	48 hours
	Second	7 days

Cement Materials:

Installed in accordance with one of the following:

- Masonry cement conforming with ASTM C91 Type M, S or N
- Portland cement conforming with ASTM C150 Type I, II or III
- Blended hydraulic cement conforming to ASTM C595 Type IP, IS (<70), IL or IT (S<70)
- Hydraulic cement conforming to ASTM C1157 Type GU, HE, MS, HS, MH

Plastic (stucco) cement conforming to ASTM C1328

Weep Screed

- Corrosion Resistant Weep Screed OR Plastic Weep Screed
- Min. 0.019-in (No. 26 Galvanized Sheet Gage)
- *Min. Elevation Above Grade*: 4-in for Earth; 2-in for Paved Areas
- Min. vertical attachment flange of 3 1/2-in, at or below foundation plate line on exterior stud walls
 - Water Resistant Barrier to lap attachment flange
 - Exterior lath to cover and terminate on attachment flange



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Fastening (Lath)

- 11 Ga nails, 1½-in long, with 7/16-in head OR 16 Ga staples, 7/8-in long
- Max. Spacing: 6-in O.C. along framing member or 24-in O.C. between framing members

Water Resistive Barrier

Where a water-resistive barrier is installed over wood-based sheathing, the water-resistive barrier shall comply with one (1) of the following:

- Minimum two (2) layers of 10-minute Grade D Paper, OR have a water resistance equal to or greater than two (2) layers of a water-resistive barrier complying with ASTM E2556, Type I, installed in the following manner:
 - Individual layers to be installed independently such that each layer provides a separate continuous plane
 - Flashing to be installed and intended to drain to the water resistive barrier shall be directed between layers
- Sixty (60)-minute Grade D paper or have a water resistance equal to or greater than one layer of a water-resistive barrier complying with ASTM 2556, Type II, installed in the following manner:
 - Water Resistive Barrier shall be separated from the stucco by a layer of foam plastic insulating sheathing or other non-water-absorbing layer, or a designated drainage space

Drainage Layer Installation

A drainage layer shall be installed on the exterior side of the water resistive barrier layer as follows:

- A space or drainage material not less than 3/16-inch in depth OR drainage layer with a drainage efficiency of not less than 90 percent, as measured in accordance with ASTM E2273 or Annex A2 of ASTM E2925

Plaster Thickness and Proportions

- Finished thickness of plaster shall conform to dimensions of 2021 IRC Table R702.1(1)
- Cement plaster proportions, parts by volume shall conform to 2021 IRC Table R702.1(3)

TABLE R702.1(1) THICKNESS OF PLASTER

PLASTER BASE	FINISHED THICKNESS OF PLASTER FROM FACE OF LATH, MASONRY, CONCRETE (inches)	
	Gypsum Plaster	Cement Plaster
Expanded metal lath	5/8, minimum ^a	5/8, minimum ^a
Wire lath	5/8, minimum ^a	3/4, minimum (interior) ^b 7/8, minimum (exterior) ^b
Gypsum lath ^g	1/2, minimum	3/4, minimum (interior) ^b
Masonry walls ^c	1/2, minimum	1/2, minimum
Monolithic concrete walls ^{c, d}	5/8, maximum	7/8, maximum
Monolithic concrete ceilings ^{c, d}	3/8, maximum ^e	1/2, maximum
Gypsum veneer base ^{f, g}	1/16, minimum	3/4, minimum (interior) ^b
Gypsum sheathing	—	3/4, minimum (interior) ^b 7/8, minimum (exterior) ^b

- a) When measured from back plane of expanded metal lath, exclusive of ribs, or self-furring lath, plaster thickness shall be 3/4 inch minimum.
- b) When measured from face of support or backing.
- c) Because masonry and concrete surfaces may vary in plane, thickness of plaster need not be uniform.
- d) When applied over a liquid bonding agent, finish coat may be applied directly to concrete surface.
- e) Approved acoustical plaster may be applied directly to concrete or over base coat plaster, beyond the maximum plaster thickness shown.
- f) Attachment shall be in accordance with Table R702.3.5.
- g) Where gypsum board is used as a base for cement plaster, a water-resistive barrier complying with Section R703.2 shall be provided



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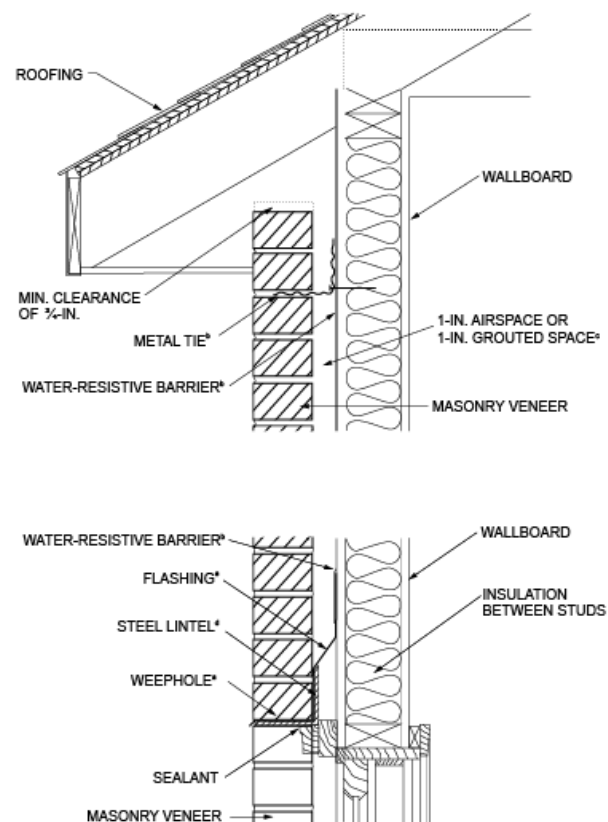
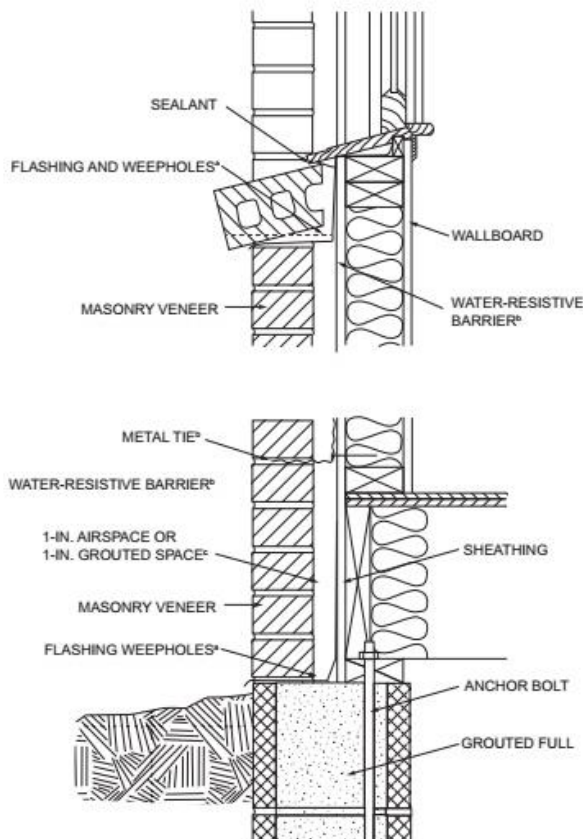
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Stone & Masonry Veneer

(Only applicable to buildings under the scope of the 2021 IRC)

Conditions & Design Limitations

- **Veneer Story Limitation:** Two (2) stories for Steel Framing; Three (3) stories for Wood Framing
- **Veneer Height Limitation:** Max. 30-ft above non-combustible foundation
- **Maximum Nominal Veneer Thickness:** 5-in
- **Maximum Weight of Veneer:** 50 psf
- **Min. Steel Angle Support:** L 6 x 4 x 5/16 angle with long leg placed vertically, and anchored to double 2x4 wood studs or double 350S162 cold formed steel studs at a maximum 16-in O.C.
- **Steel Angle Anchorage:** At every double stud spacing; Min. two (2)-7/16-in diameter by 4-in lag screw (wood construction) OR two (2)-7/16-in bolts with washers (cold-formed steel construction)
- **Min. Clearance of Steel Angle to Underlying Construction:** 1/16-in
- **Min. Steel Angle Bearing:** 2/3 of width of masonry veneer thickness
- **Max. Height of Masonry Veneer Above the Steel Angle Support:** 12'-8"
- **Flashing and weep holes to be located in masonry veneer in accordance with Figures below:**



TYPICAL MASONRY VENEER WALL DETAILS



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Maximum Air Space

- **Nominal 1-in between sheathing and veneer**
 - Wood stud backing with corrugated sheet metal, 22 ga X 7/8-in wide minimum tie, 8d common nail minimum tie fastener
- **Minimum nominal 1-in between sheathing and veneer & Maximum 4-5/8-in between backing and veneer**
 - Wood stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire, W1.7 minimum tie, 8d common nail tie fastener
 - Cold-formed steel stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire, W1.7 minimum tie, No. 10 screw tie fastener
- **Greater than 4-5/8-in between backing and veneer & Maximum 6-5/8-in between backing and veneer**
 - Wood stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire, W2.8 minimum tie, 8d common nail tie fastener
 - Cold-formed steel stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire, W2.8 minimum tie, No. 10 screw tie fastener
- Mortar or grout shall be alternately permitted to fill the air space with the application of required water resistive barrier over studs or sheathing.

Anchored Stone & Masonry Veneer

Lintels

Masonry veneer shall not support any vertical loads other than the dead load of the veneer above.

- **Steel Lintels:** Shop-coated with rust-inhibitive paint; Corrosion resistant; or Corrosion Resistance-Coated Steel
- **Min. Bearing Length:** 4-in
- **Max. Allowable Span:** As per Table R703.8.3.1

TABLE R703.8.3.1
ALLOWABLE SPANS FOR LINTELS SUPPORTING MASONRY VENEER^{a, b, c, d}

SIZE OF STEEL ANGLE ^{a, c, d} (inches)	NO STORY ABOVE	ONE STORY ABOVE	TWO STORIES ABOVE	NO. OF ½" OR EQUIVALENT REINFORCING BARS IN REINFORCED LINTEL ^{b, d}
3 × 3 × ¼	6'-0"	4'-6"	3'-0"	1
4 × 3 × ¼	8'-0"	6'-0"	4'-6"	1
5 × 3 ½ × 5/16	10'-0"	8'-0"	6'-0"	2
6 × 3 ½ × 5/16	14'-0"	9'-6"	7'-0"	2
2-6 × 3 ½ × 5/16	20'-0"	12'-0"	9'-6"	4

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- a. Long leg of the angle shall be placed in a vertical position.
- b. Depth of reinforced lintels shall not be less than 8 inches and all cells of hollow masonry lintels shall be grouted solid. Reinforcing bars shall extend not less than 8 inches into the support.
- c. Steel members indicated are adequate typical examples; other steel members meeting structural design requirements shall be permitted to be used.
- d. Either steel angle or reinforced lintel shall span opening.

Veneer Wall Ties

- **Material:** Corrosion-resistant metal ties
- **Min. extension into veneer:** 1½-in (Min. 5/8-in mortar or grout cover to outside face)
- **Strand Wire:** Min. No. 9 US Gage (hook embedded in mortar joint)
- **Sheet Metal:** Min. No. 22 US Gage x 7/8-in corrugated
- **Tie Fastener Sizing:** 8d common nail for wood stud backing OR No. 10 screw for cold-formed steel stud backing with adjustable metal strand wire (extending through the steel framing for a minimum of three exposed threads)
- **Tie spacing:** 32-in O.C. max. horizontally; 24-in O.C. max. vertically (Maximum area of support: 2.67 sq. ft.)
 - Additional wall ties to be provided for wall openings greater than 16-in in either direction:
 - Placed within 12-in of wall opening
 - Spacing: 36-in O.C. max



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Flashing

Approved corrosion-resistive flashing to be installed at exterior wall envelope in such a manner to prevent entry of water into wall cavity or penetration of water to the building structural framing components.

• ***Installation locations:***

- Beneath first (1st) course of masonry above finished ground level above foundation wall or slab
- At other points of support (structural floors, shelf angles, and lintels)

Weepholes

- ***Diameter:*** 3/16-in
- ***Installation Location:*** Immediately above flashing
- ***Spacing:*** 33-in O.C. outside wythe of masonry wall

Adhered Masonry Veneer

- To be installed in accordance with Section R703.7.1, Article 3.3C of TMS 602 or the manufacturer's installation instructions
- Shall comply with Section R703.7.3 and with requirements of TMS 402, Section 12.1 & 12.3

Flashing

- Corrosion-resistant screed or flashing
- Min. 0.019-inch or 26-gage galvanized or plastic
- Vertical Flange: 3.5-inches, installed to extend a min. 1-inch below the foundation plate line on exterior stud walls

Clearance (on Exterior Stud Walls)

- Minimum of 4-inches above the earth
- Minimum of 2-inches above paved areas
- Minimum of ½-inch above exterior walking surfaces supported by the same foundation that supports the exterior wall

Water Resistive Barrier

Where a water-resistive barrier is installed over wood-based sheathing, the water-resistive barrier shall comply with one (1) of the following:

- Minimum two (2) layers of 10-minute Grade D Paper, OR have a water resistance equal to or greater than two (2) layers of a water-resistive barrier complying with ASTM E2556, Type I, installed in the following manner:
 - Individual layers to be installed independently such that each layer provides a separate continuous plane
 - Flashing to be installed and intended to drain to the water resistive barrier shall be directed between layers
- Sixty (60)-minute Grade D paper or have a water resistance equal to or greater than one layer of a water-resistive barrier complying with ASTM 2556, Type II, installed in the following manner:
 - Water Resistive Barrier shall be separated from the stucco by a layer of foam plastic insulating sheathing or other non-water-absorbing layer, or a designated drainage space.
- The water resistive barrier shall lap over the exterior of the attachment flange of the screed or flashing

Drainage Layer Installation

A drainage layer shall be installed on the exterior side of the water resistive barrier layer as follows:

- A space or drainage material not less than 3/16-in in depth OR drainage layer with a drainage efficiency of not less than 90 percent, as measured in accordance with ASTM E2273 or Annex A2 of ASTM E2925