



RATER CHECKLIST: FRAMING

SUCCESS WITH AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SystemVision

- One of the following techniques has been used to reduce thermal bridging:
 - Continuous rigid insulation
 - SIPs
 - ICFs
 - Advanced framing techniques (including all below):
 - Corners insulated \geq R-6
 - Header assemblies above windows and doors \geq R-6 in Climate Zones 1-4, \geq R-8 in Climate Zones 5-8
 - Framing limited at windows and doors to that which is structurally necessary
 - Continuous insulation behind exterior/interior wall intersections using ladder blocking or a single partition stud
 - In general, exterior wall framing limited to that which is structurally necessary
- Attics in CZ 1-4 have a radiant barrier if more than 10 linear feet of duct work will be installed in the attic.
- All penetrations in the building shell (tub, p-trap, other plumbing, electrical, HVAC, etc.) are sealed with caulk or foam (not with rock wool or insulation).
- Windows and doors have backer-rod, caulk or foam between the frame and the rough opening.
- A gasket (sill seal) or sealant has been applied to air seal the bottom plate to subfloor connection.
- Chases are properly sealed, top and bottom.
- All windows are installed and meet the minimum standards: U-value $<.35$, SHGC $<.30$, same dimensions and locations as indicated on the house plan.
- Raised heel trusses are installed to allow full insulation value over the top plate of the exterior wall.
- Attic access blocking (10 in. build-up) and raised attic platforms are installed to allow and protect full attic insulation R-value.
- Insulation and rigid backing behind tubs, showers, stairs and fireplaces along exterior walls.
- Backing, top and bottom plates for all exposed walls (including knee walls).
- 70 CFM or greater fans in bath, 100 CFM or greater fan in kitchen, all exhausting outside the home.
- Bath exhaust ducts are R-6 flex, insulated rigid metal or insulated flexible rigid metal.
- Recessed lighting fixtures are airtight and Insulation Contact (IC) rated.
- From the water heater, the first 3 ft. of hot and cold pipes are insulated \geq R-4.
- Preliminary check of HVAC:
 - Proper sealing with duct bucket mastic and fiberglass mesh of all joints in the air distribution system including unit, collar connections, boots, duct inner liner connections and supply boot and sub-floor connections.
 - No toe-kicks have been installed.
 - Evidence of proper whole-house fresh-air ventilation system.
- Preliminary check for evidence of pressure balancing methods.
- Slabs built in Climate Zones 4 and 5 are insulated to R-10 and a depth of 2 ft.
- Crawl spaces are being properly closed (See the Quick Reference Guide).
 - Grading
 - Drainage
 - Ground poly
 - Air sealing
 - Mechanical drying system