



Building America Best Practices Series: Volume 1

Builders and Buyers Handbook for Improving New Home Efficiency, Comfort, and Durability in the Hot and Humid Climate

Building America's system design recommendations and process improvements can help all builders interested in re-engineering their home designs to achieve high performance. This best practices handbook helps builders develop durable, comfortable homes that achieve 30% energy savings in space conditioning and water heating in hot and humid climates. The handbook contains chapters for every member of the builder's team—from managers to site planners to designers, site supervisors, the trades, and marketers. There is also a chapter to help homeowners select the best systems for their new home

SITE SUPERVISORS

Energy Efficiency Checklists

A successful energy-efficient building involves many details. It is worthwhile to maintain for each house a checklist of important features to keep track of what has been done. Although the best checklist is one you've made specific to the design(s) you are implementing, the following is a good baseline to work from and may be integrated with your existing checklists.

SPOT-CHECK INSPECTION CHECKLIST

These items should be checked if possible as they are installed because they may not be accessible at the pre-drywall inspection.

- Grading is sloped at 5% away from the house for at least 10 feet. Roof drainage is directed at least 3 feet beyond the building.
- A 6-mil polyethylene sheet is installed directly beneath the concrete slab, continuously wrapping the slab and the grade beam.
- Roof materials are installed to provide a continuous drainage plane over the entire surface of the roof. Wall/roof junctures should be appropriately flashed, including kick-out flashing at the bottom.
- HVAC system is appropriately sized and installed according to plans. No deviations should be made in the field.
- A mechanical ventilation system is installed as specified in the plans.
- Each bedroom has a separate HVAC return duct, a transfer grille, or a jump duct.

DryFlekt[™]

Kick-Out Diverters

Research Information

Tools to Help with Project Management - US Department of Energy

http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/building_america/hot_humid_best_practices.html