

INSULATION – ATTIC/ROOF DECK

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Direct Ceiling Contact

Install insulation so that it is in direct contact with roof or ceiling that is continuous and well-sealed to limit infiltration. The insulation may be placed above or below the roof deck, or above the ceiling drywall.

Code Reference: 2013 Title 24, Part 6 Standards §110.8(e)1

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Roof Membrane

Unless the attic insulation has a maximum water absorption of 0.3% by volume, it must be installed below the roof membrane that seals the roof from water penetration.

Code Reference: 2013 Title 24, Part 6 Standards §110.8(e)4

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Install Entirely Above the Roof Deck

Although not a code requirement, rigid insulation installed over a metal roof deck solves several issues associated with attic insulation. It alleviates thermal bridging, creates a very even R value across the entire roof, and covers the metal that otherwise acts as a conduit for heat gain or loss.

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Open Blown or Poured Loose Fill Insulation

Loose blown attic insulation should not be installed in attics with greater than a 3:12 sloped ceiling. Otherwise it will be hard to maintain an even full depth over the vaulted area.

Vent Baffles

Attic baffles are required in every vented bay. The baffles protect insulation from being blown away from the exterior wall, help maintain the effectiveness of the insulation at its edge, and maintain venting space under the roof deck.

Insulating Around Equipment

Maintain insulation thickness around equipment installed in the attic. Make sure full insulation depth is maintained above can lights and below ducts. Can lights must be air tight and insulation contact rated. Compressing insulation will reduced effective R value.

Notes:

INSULATION – WALLS/ FOUNDATION

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More Insulation Less Frame

Install wall components to allow for as much insulation coverage as possible while meeting structural requirements. Use two or three stud corners that allow insulation to reach these cavities.

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Metal Framing

Rigid insulation installed over metal studs alleviates thermal bridging of the studs. Cavity insulation between metal studs must be in direct contact with exterior sheathing or rigid insulation if present.

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Slab Insulation

Insulation should extend all the way to the top of the slab.

INSULATION – WALLS/ FOUNDATION

Notes:

INSULATION - FLOORS

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Heated Slab Floors

A rigid shield is installed at the exposed top edge of insulation to prevent insects from penetrating the wall structure above. Any exposed insulation is protected from moisture, UV, and other damage with a solid covering.

Code Reference: 2013 Title 24, Part 6 Standards §110.8(g)2

Heated Slab Insulation

Perimeter insulation installed on the exterior of the foundation extends 16" down from the level of the top of the slab; greater if the frost line is deeper. However it may stop at the footing if this is reached first. If the slab is below grade, insulation shall extend from the top of the foundation wall to the bottom of the foundation wall, footing or frost line; whichever is greater. When a heated slab is insulated between the slab and outside wall, the vertical insulation extends from the top of the slab down to the horizontal insulation. The horizontal insulation extends 4' inward from the outside edge of the vertical insulation.

Code Reference: 2013 Title 24, Part 6 Standards §110.8-A

INSULATION – FLOORS



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Mass Floors

Install continuous rigid insulation under a mass floor so that none of the floor is visible through the insulation..

Steel Joist Floor

When insulating a steel joist floor, insulation should be in direct, continuous contact with the floor above. This is most easily achieved with spray on foam insulation. If insulation is not installed for permanent contact, it will lose effectiveness.

Wood Framed Floor

For full benefits of thermal insulation installed below wood framed floors, the insulation should be in direct contact with the under side of the floor deck. Cantilevers also require that the insulation be blocked in the joist bays above the exterior wall.

Notes:
