CITY OF AUSTIN
Development SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Residential Plan Review
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Residential Inspection Checklist – Insulation

The intended use of this checklist is for the preparation of an inspection. This is only a general list and is not intended to address all circumstances. Please refer to the latest adopted International Residential Code (IRC), International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and the City of Austin Land Development Code (LDC) for code sections listed below.

- IRC: https://codes.iccsafe.org/public/collections/I-Codes
- LDC: https://library.municode.com/tx/austin/codes/land_development_code?nodeId=THCOAUTE_CH25-12TECO_ART11RECO

Please verify the following before calling for the Insulation Inspection:

Permits and Plans

☐ Prior to scheduling the insulation inspection, the contractor or person doing the work has reviewed the approved plans and can assure that the construction being inspected is consistent and ready for inspection.
☐ Job address is posted in a visible location per IRC section R319.1.
☐ Permit and approved city stamped plans are on site and accessible to inspector.
☐ Previous required inspections have passed per section R109.4
☐ Spray foam letter, if applicable, is on site

General

☐ The newly constructed area is dried in (roofing is complete and air barriers are installed). [R701.2]
☐ Insulation is installed at roof (unless blown-in insulation is being used in the attic), walls, and floors at the thickness indicated per the local amendments to the Energy Code.
☐ Any insulation with facings, air barriers, or breathable papers, installed within floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies, walls, crawl spaces, under-stair voids, or attics, is required to have a minimum flame spread rating of less than 25 and a smoke density not to exceed 450. [R302.10.1]
☐ Foam plastic shall have a flame spread index of not more than 75 and shall have a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 [R316.3]
☐ Unless otherwise allowed in section R316.5, foam plastic shall be separated from the interior of a building by an approved thermal barrier of not less than 1/2” gypsum wallboard, 23/32” wood structural panel or other code allowed material… [R316.4]
☐ For foam plastic, an ignition barrier of 1-1/2” thick mineral wool fiber insulation, ¼” thick wood structural panel, 3/8” particleboard, 1/4” hardboard, 3/8” gypsum board, corrosion-resistant steel having a base metal thickness of 0.016”, 1-1/2” thick cellulose insulation or 1/4” fiber-cement panel unless the foam plastic has been tested in accordance with Section R316.6. [R316.5.3 item 3]
☐ All recessed light fixtures are IC (insulation contact) rated or enclosed within a sealed assembly.
☐ No vapor retarder is installed on the conditioned side of the wall due to Austin’s climate

Access Hatches and Doors

☐ Access doors from conditioned spaces to unconditioned spaces are weather-stripped and insulated to a level equal to the insulation at surrounding surfaces [IECC R402.2.4].
☐ Where loose-fill insulation is installed, wood framing or equivalent retainer is installed around the perimeter of the attic access to the height of surrounding insulation to prevent insulation from spilling and to maintain the R-value at the access. [IECC R402.2.4].

Attic Insulation

☐ For air permeable insulations in vented attics, baffles are installed adjacent to soffit and eave vents. [IECC R402.2.3]
☐ For blown or sprayed fiberglass or cellulose insulations, thickness markers shall be affixed to the trusses or joists showing the initial installed thickness every 300 square feet with numbers not less than 1” in height and visible from the attic access. [IECC R303.1.1.1]

Wall and Ceiling Insulation

☐ Insulation meets the currently adopted IECC or performance documentation is submitted substantiating the discrepancy.