



Suggestions for Passing the Blower Door Test

Framing

- Sill Plate Gasket
 - Use best gasket available and have framer silicone caulk along plate/foundation wall.
- Headers
 - Use LVL's as headers (less shrinkage) with foam panel between LVL's or at the interior and caulk all seams.
- Treat all knee walls as exterior walls (sheathing on back.)
- Both interior walls at the garage should be designed with 2x6 studs at 24" oc. Minimum number of electrical boxes that meets code on these and all exterior walls.
- Framing at corners should be designed to allow insulation to code.

Mechanical

- All return ducts should be metal (no stud cavities used for return.)
- Bring ductwork into conditioned space.
- HVAC supply & return register boots that penetrate building thermal envelope shall be sealed to subfloor, wall covering or ceiling penetrated by the boot.

Insulation

- Caulk all seams on multiple studs at the exterior walls.
- Spray 2" closed cell foam on all exterior walls, floor joists and at unconditioned areas (attic, garage, ventilated crawl space) and cover with fiber glass to code.
- Attic hatch and attic steps should be gasketed & insulated to R-value of attic. (R-49.)
- All Gaps in exterior sheathing should be foamed.
- Wrap house wrap at porch beams that penetrate exterior wall so that it completely surrounds the penetration (and add gasket.)
- Caulk at bottom plate where plate meets decking and at top between double top plates.
- Rim joists insulated.

Drywall

- Seal drywall around entire perimeter at unconditioned walls/ceilings.

Miscellaneous

- Replace caned high hats with surface LED mounted fixtures.
- Fireplace dampers should be closed for the test.