

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PARGE GUARD



Q: Do woven house wraps need an additional layer of WRB?

A: Yes, preferably tar paper to potentially keep your warranty in play

Q: Is tar paper an effective water resistant barrier?

A: Yes, tar paper wicks moisture to the front of the paper into the drainage area. In addition, tar paper should be overlapped a minimum of 4 inches at every seam and taped at vertical seams.

Q: Why is it better to use tar paper than a woven plastic house wrap?

A: When moisture gets behind a woven plastic house wrap, it can trap the water longer than tar paper. Many woven plastic wraps are 8-9 ft tall less joints to let liquid escape. They are designed to be water shedding and a very high perm rate. Once moisture is behind them, this makes it hard to travel back through the wrap, which can keep moisture next to the wood longer than other WRB like tar paper.

Q: Can I prevent water from getting behind my exterior walls?

A: WATER ALWAYS GETS IN. Your structure is protected as long as there is WRB protection that works and a cavity for it to leave.

Q: How can air conditioning cause moisture behind exterior walls?

A: When we air condition our houses in the summer we drive down the humidity inside the house. When the humidity is higher outside the natural effect is to try and equalize the humidity everywhere, so the humidity tries to drive through the exterior walls. The moisture from humidity can be stopped at the WRB as long as there is a clear path for water to escape out the bottom.

Q: Do Sip Walls coverings that are a WRB still need to be drained?

A: Yes

Q: What is the white fuzzy covering that appears on some masonry in the early spring?

A: Efflorescence is actually a sign that there is excessive or trapped moisture behind the masonry. The calcium hydroxide { salt Lime } in the mortar is pulled to the surface by the sun causing this reaction. With a true clear drainage path the chances of accumulated water is greatly reduced thus minimizing the chances of efflorescence.

Q: Why is it important to use good WRB's, drainage, weep screeds, flashing and backer rods?

A: These are common practice with a good practicing builder. Laws about the use of these products are designed to protect the owners investment. Any professional working on or building a home or business should be aware of and follow the law to protect the owner's investment.

Q: Is Parge Guard considered a WRB?

A: Ridged rainscreens like our moisture midigator, are now also considered to be a WRB as well, requiring only one layer of 60 min paper between MM and OSB.

Q: What is the benefit of using Parge Guard over other, less expensive drainage mat options?

A: With other drainage mat options, when installed to ASTM 1063, the walls are soft and spongy. This leaves inadequate space between the WRB (drainage mat) to successfully encapsulate the lath in mortar and provide a rigid wall to increase deflection and help keep adhered material in place in order to prevent a breaking bond. Parge Guard's caps make contact with the WRB and are hollow on the backside with a flat area of plastic connecting all our cups. We provide places for the dimples on our attached lath to hold the lath off of the outside of the rainscreen, giving the mason a chance to correctly fill the cavity and cups with mortar. This provides a predictable encapsulation of the lath in mortar. In addition, filling the cups with mortar means that when the mortar dries, we have a rigid wall for sticking stone, and warranty on the lath is protected by encapsulation of the mortar.

Q: Does Parge Guard meet the most recent International Building Codes?

A: There might be 2 or 3 systems that meet the new code on the surface, but Parge Guard is the only product who uses tried, proven, and tested building practices. Parge Guard surpasses both options under IBC Section 2510.6 as well. We have simplified, corrected, and had the foresight for new codes as well as labor shortages and lack of training.

Q: How long does the rainscreen last?

A: Parge Guard sees no UV and should last forever, but even if the plastic disappeared the mortar would still be in the formed shape of the outside of the plastic WRB.

Q: Do ants, bees or other bugs build nests behind the WRB?

A: They can but good practices of homeowners is to treat their house and yards for insects twice a year. Insects move in anywhere they can.

Q: Does the rainscreen affect or change my R Value of my insulation since there is a gap now?

A: The R value of houses is between the OSB and the drywall on the inside of the house. The rainscreen helps protect the WRB and the OSB keeping your wood and insulation dry, and keeping your dead air space in shape (the outside of the OSB, to the room side of the drywall is dead air or insulation cavity, it needs to remain dry to be effective).

Q: Is this Rainscreen principle new technology?

A: Actually, this was discovered as brick and full thickness stone was laid on houses for the last few 100 years. It started out as finger room and a place to keep the brick straight and plumb with weeps at the bottom, even before Tar paper was invented it was very effective.



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