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Building Science

Adventures In Building Science

www.buildingscience.com

What is a Building?

A Building is an Environmental Separator

- Control heat flow
- Control airflow
- Control water vapor flow
- Control rain
- Control ground water
- Control light and solar radiation
- Control noise and vibrations
- Control contaminants, environmental hazards and odors
- Control insects, rodents and vermin
- Control fire
- Provide strength and rigidity
- Be durable
- Be aesthetically pleasing
- Be economical

Arrhenius Equation

For Every 10 Degree K Rise
Reaction Rate Doubles

$$k = Ae^{-E_a/(RT)}$$

Damage Functions

Water

Heat

Ultra-violet Radiation

2nd Law of Thermodynamics

In an isolated system, a process can occur only if it increases the total entropy of the system

Rudolf Clausius

Heat Flow Is From Warm To Cold

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold

Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Air Flow Is From A Higher Pressure to a
Lower Pressure

Gravity Acts Down

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Thermal Gradient – Thermal Diffusion
Concentration Gradient – Molecular Diffusion

Thermodynamic Potential



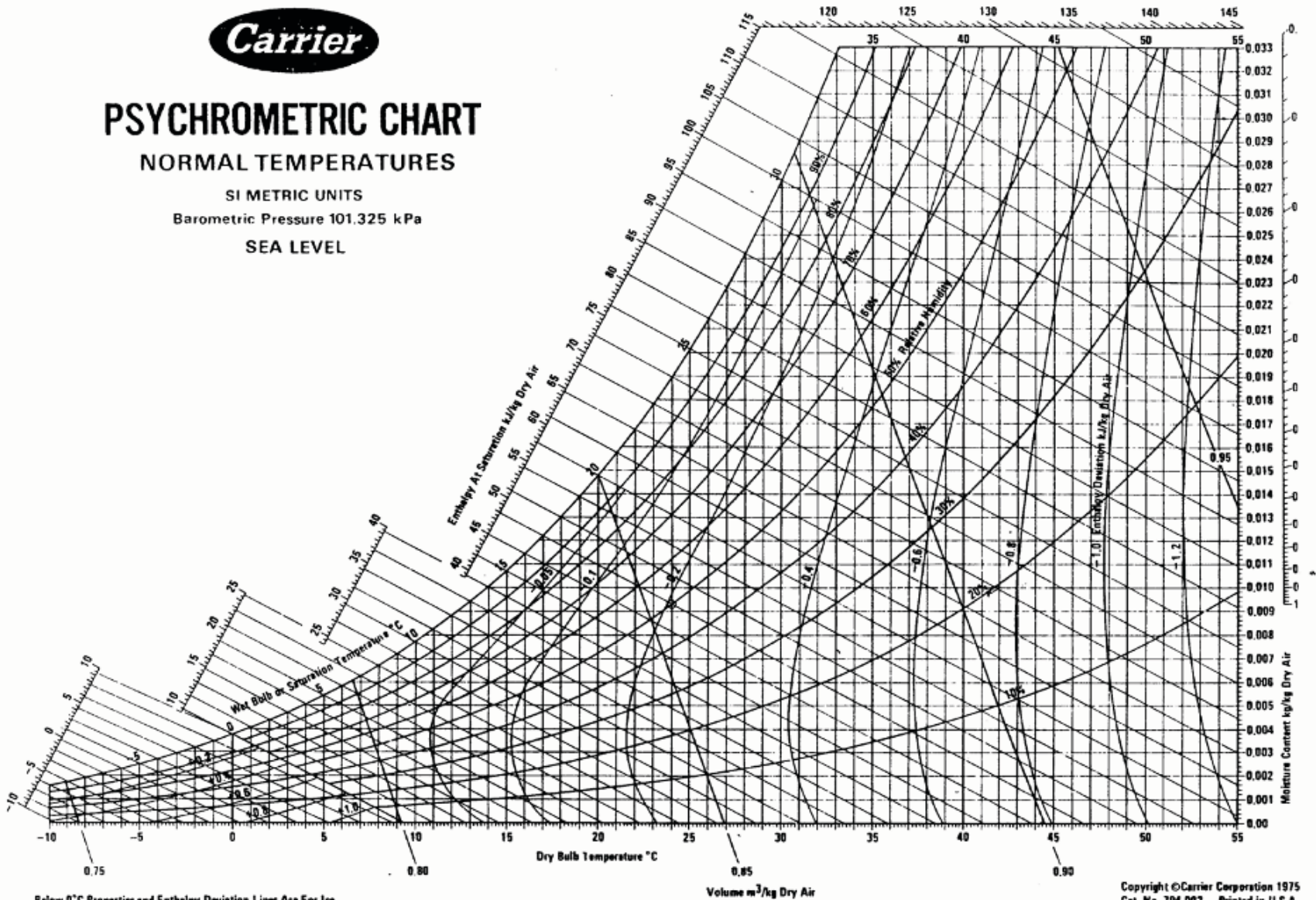
PSYCHROMETRIC CHART

NORMAL TEMPERATURES

SI METRIC UNITS

Barometric Pressure 101.325 kPa

SEA LEVEL



Below 0°C Properties and Enthalpy Deviation Lines Are For Ice

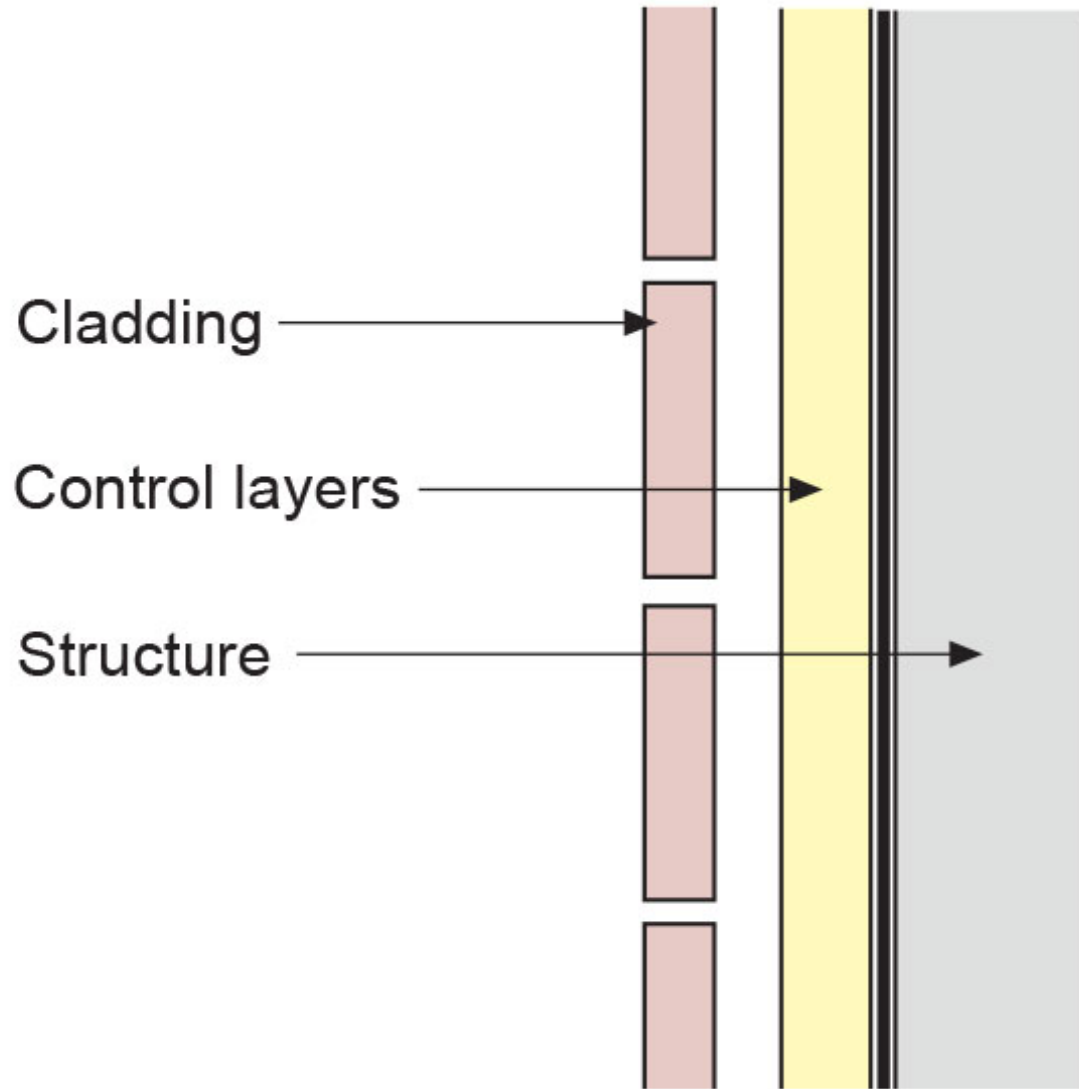
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Water Control Layer

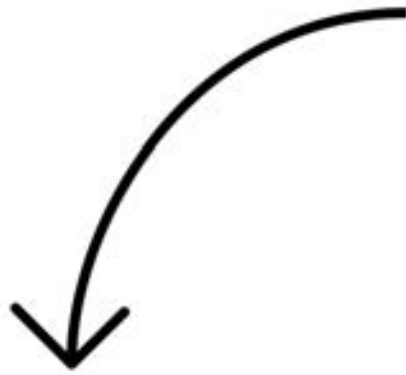
Air Control Layer

Vapor Control Layer

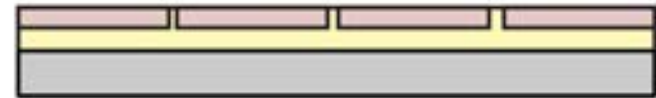
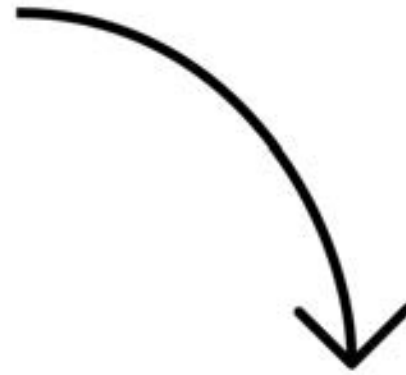
Thermal Control Layer



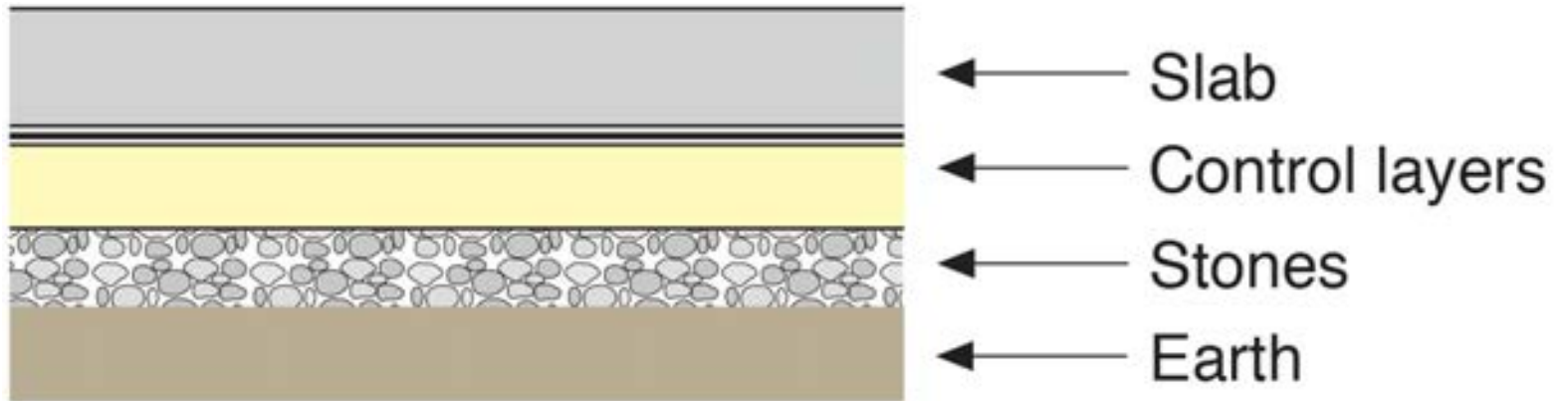
Wall



Slab

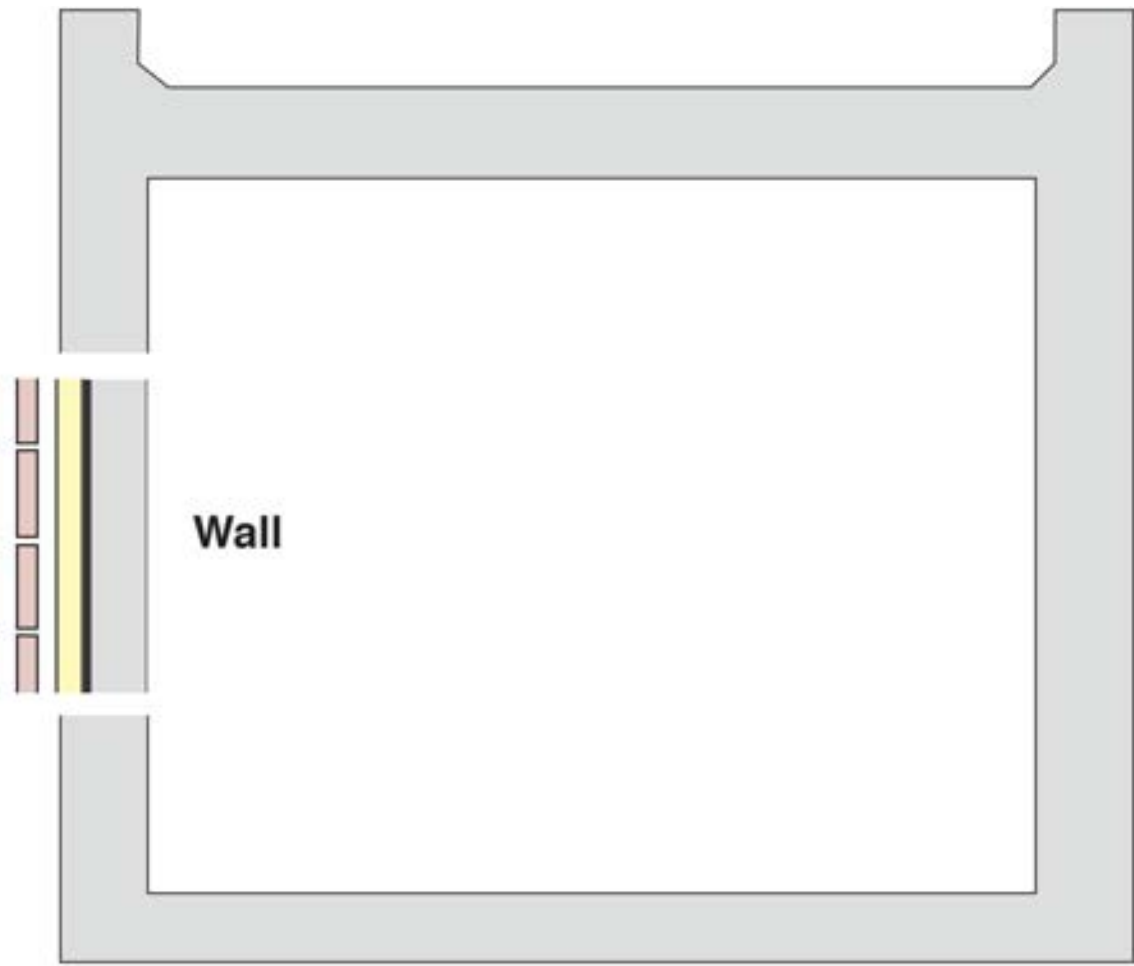


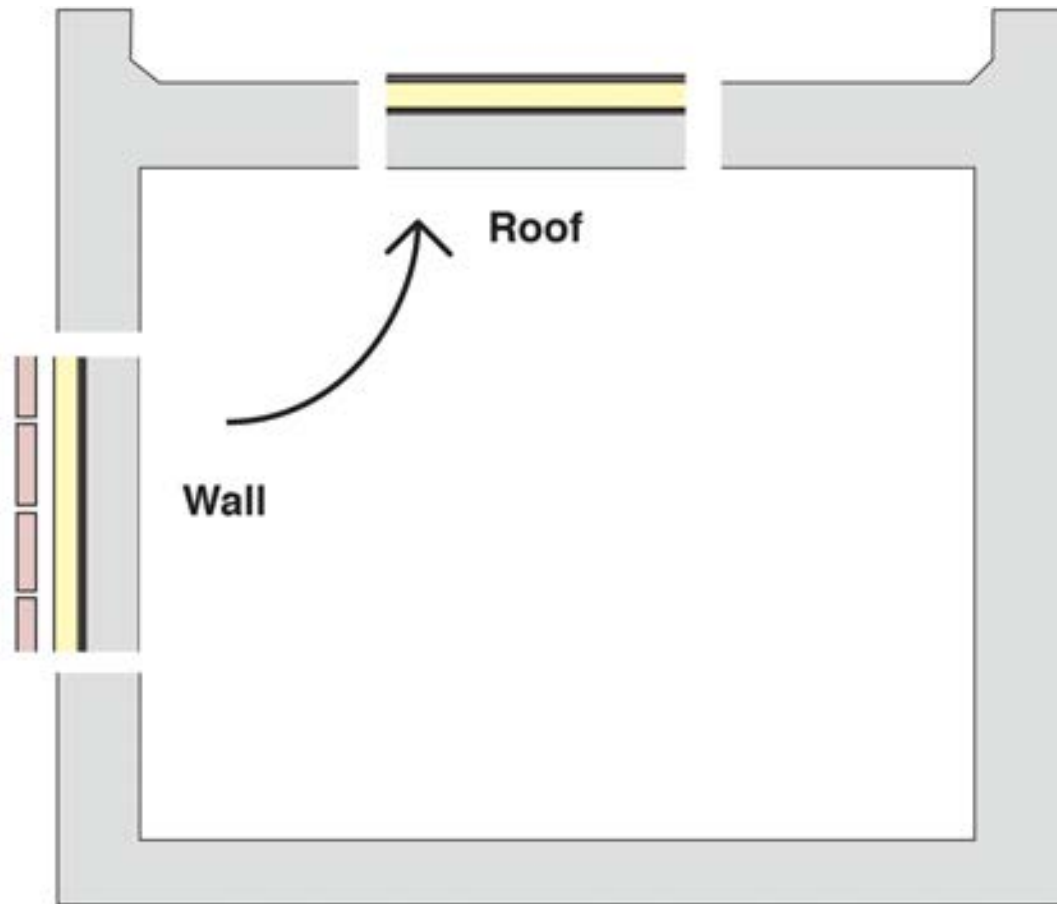
Roof

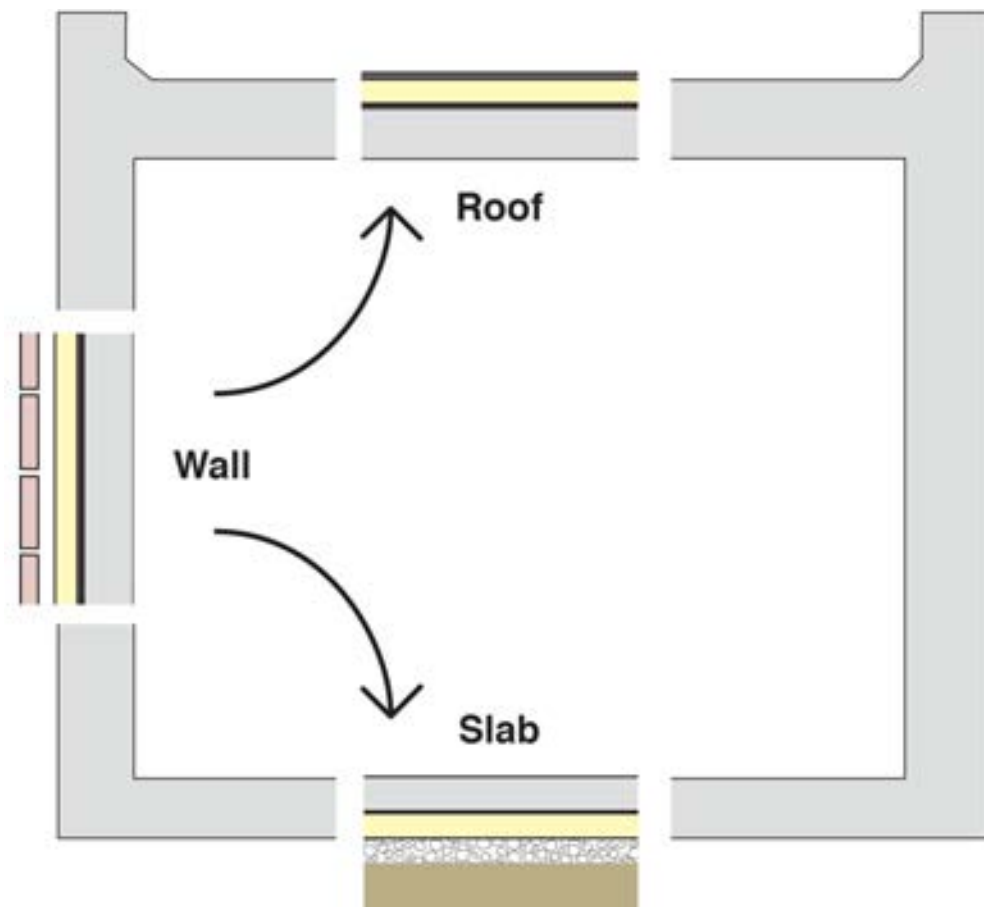


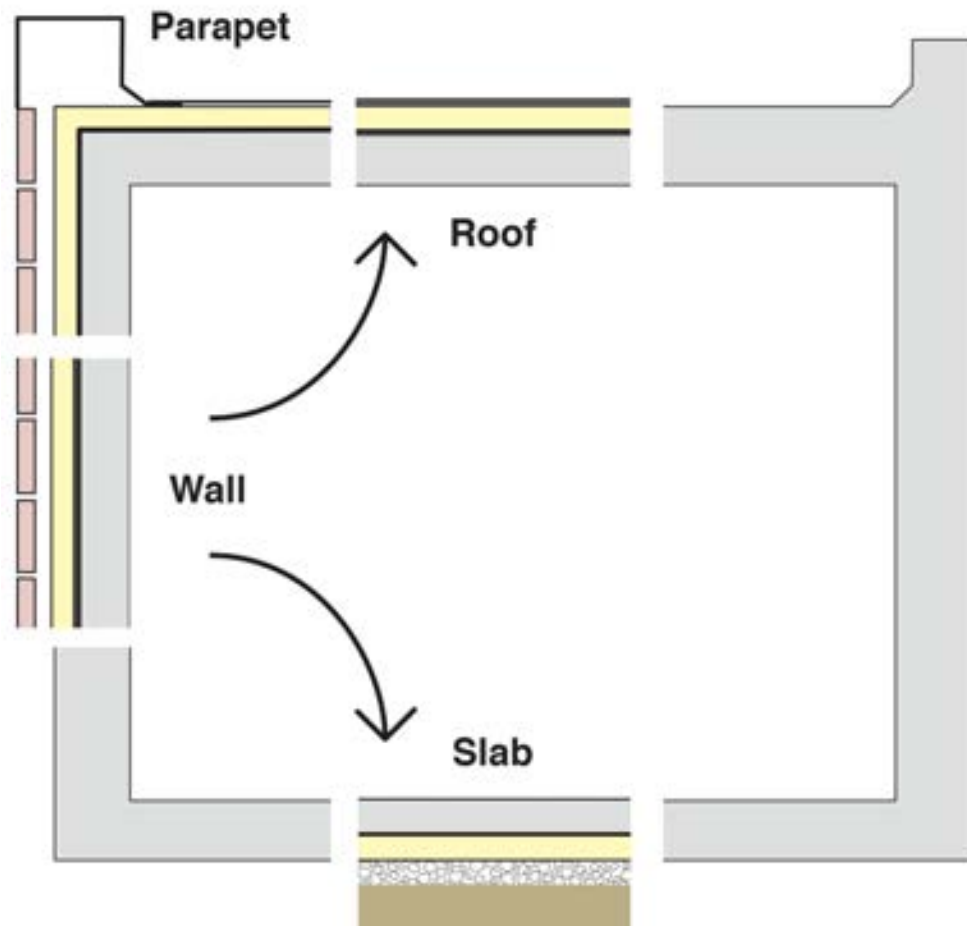


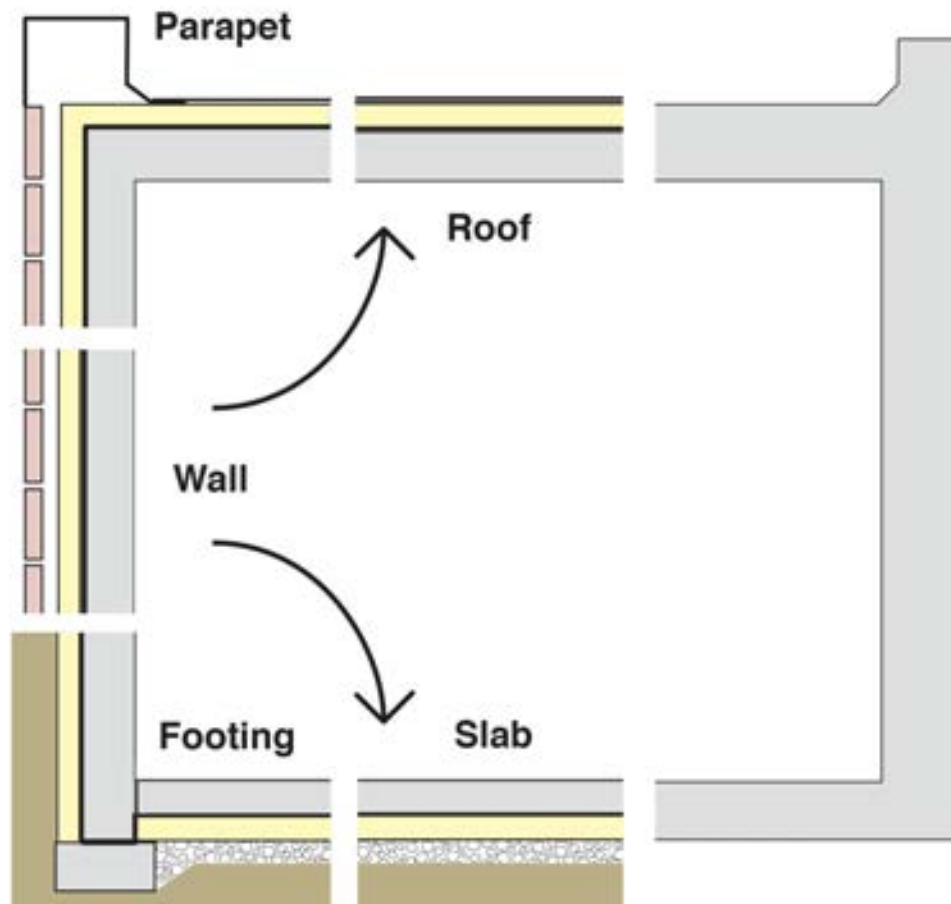


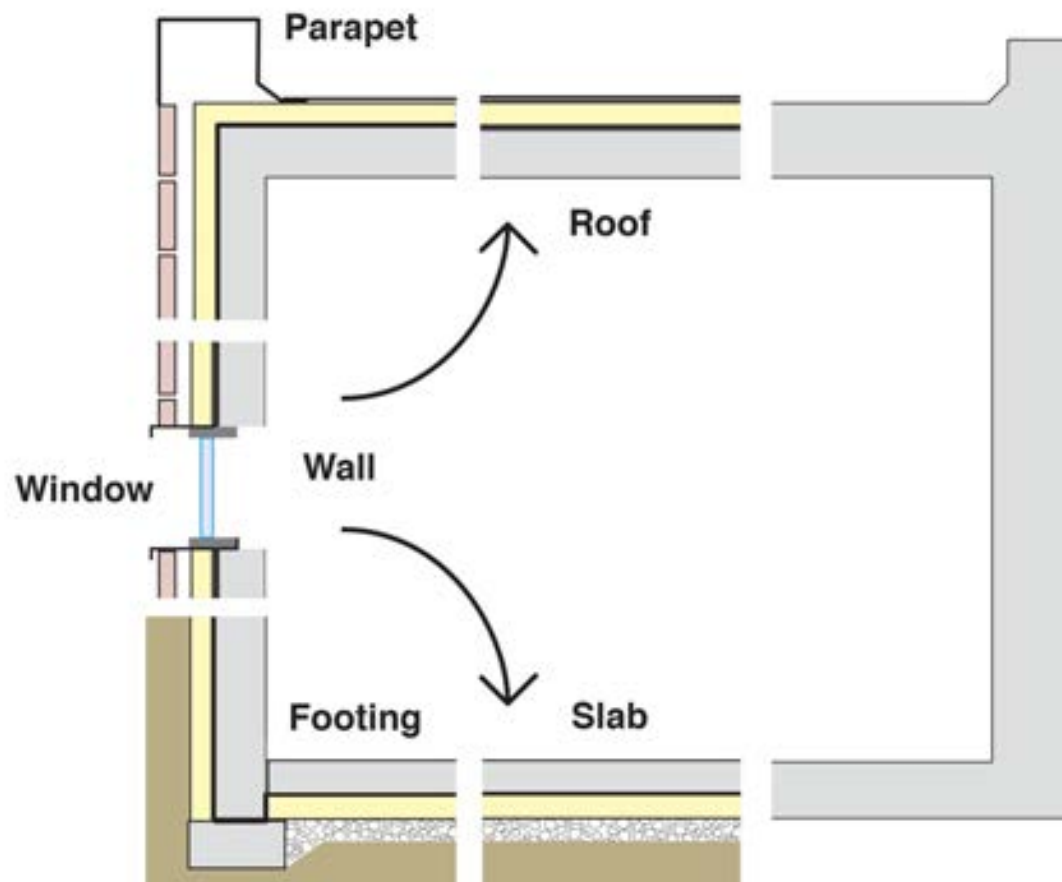


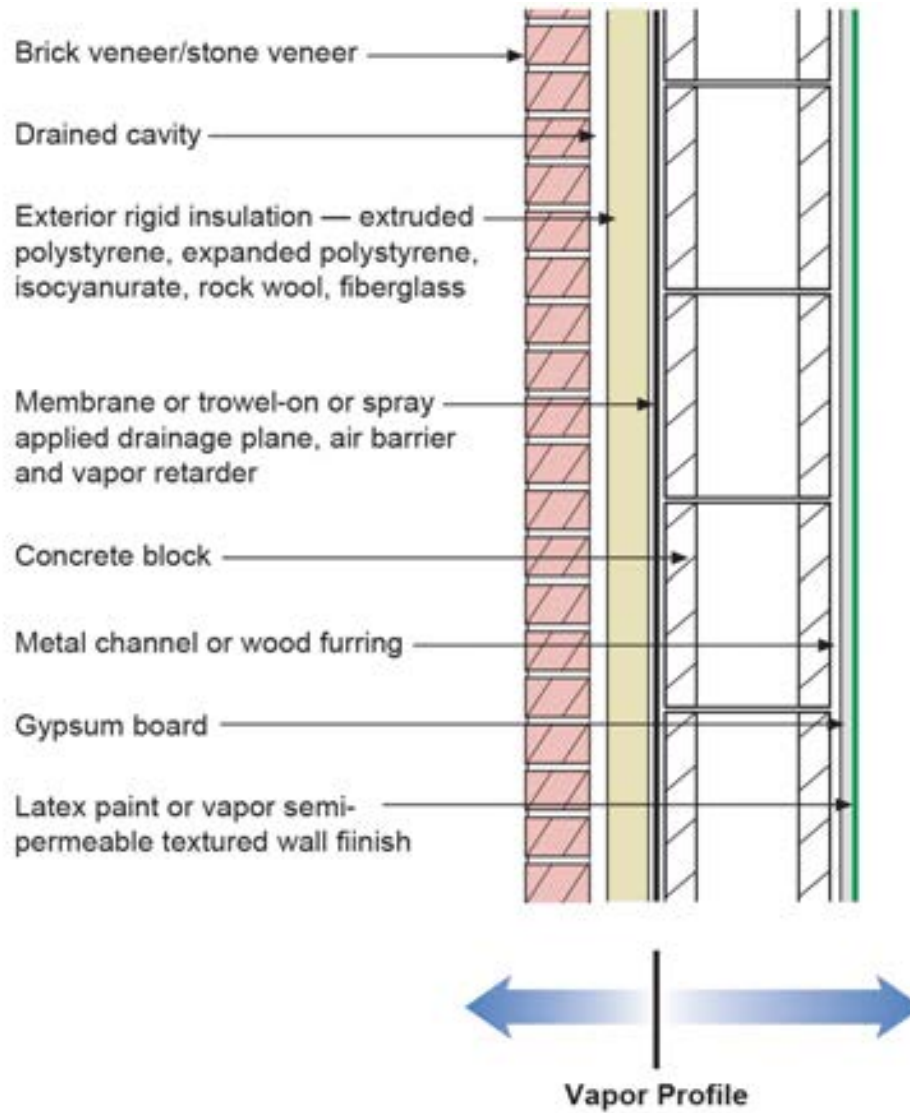


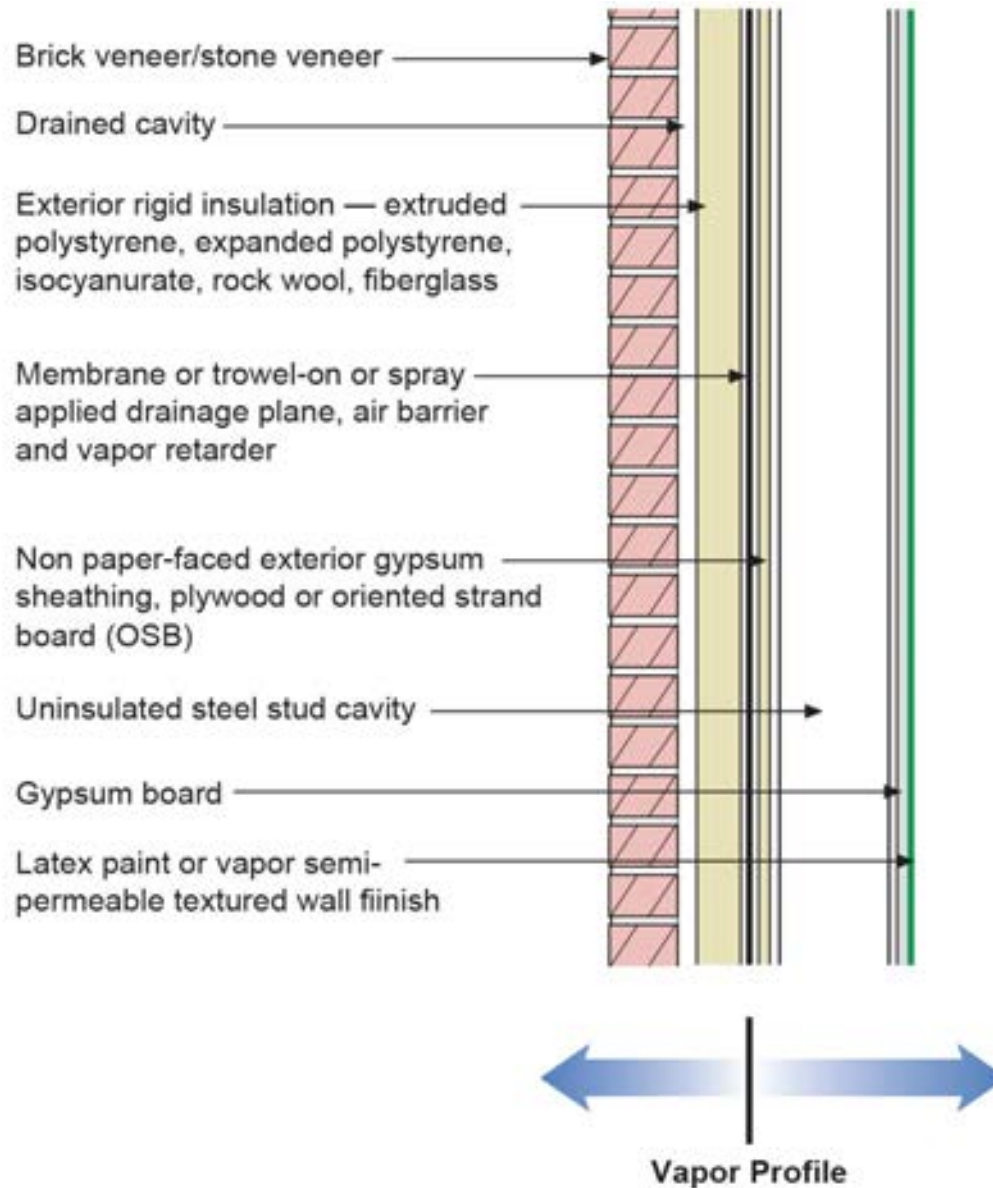


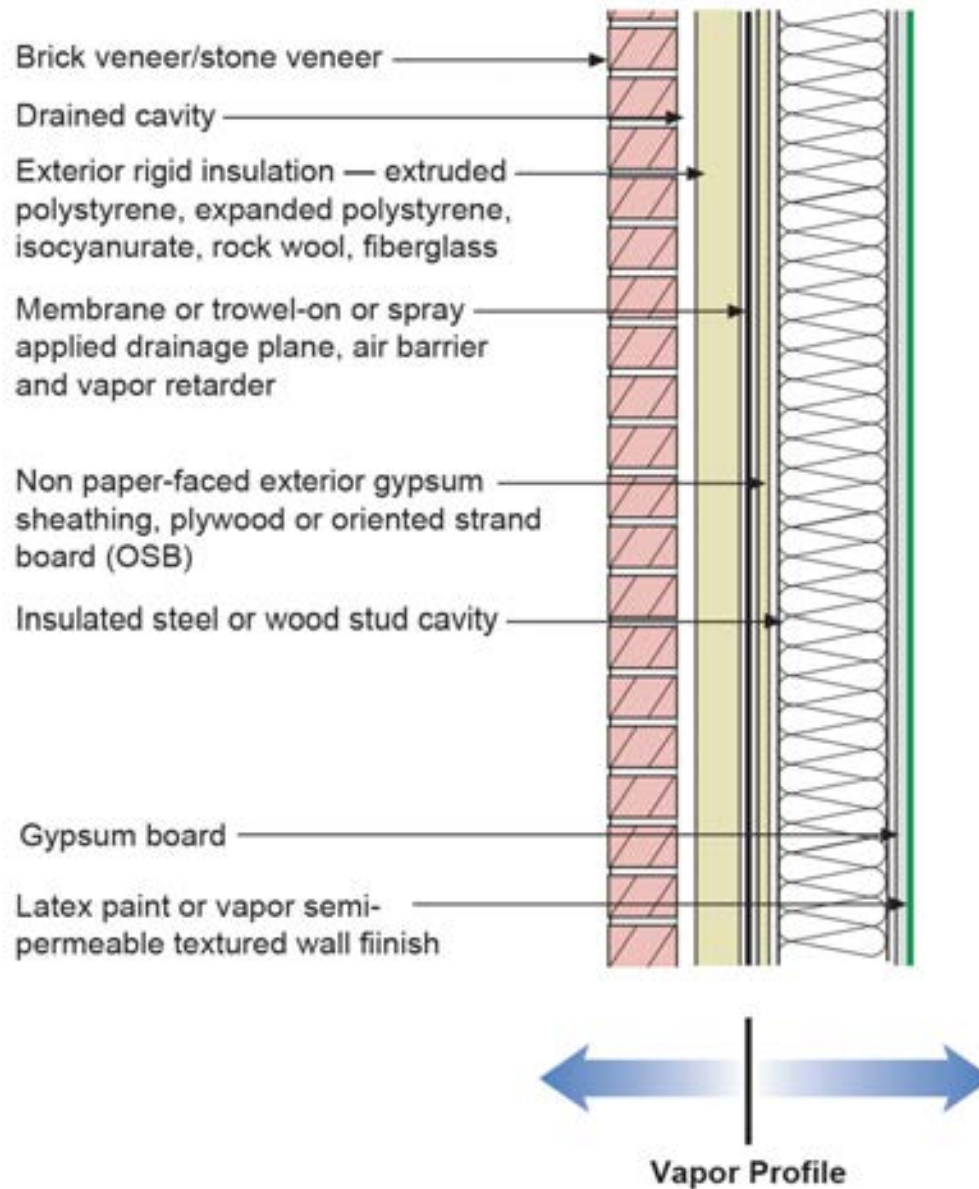












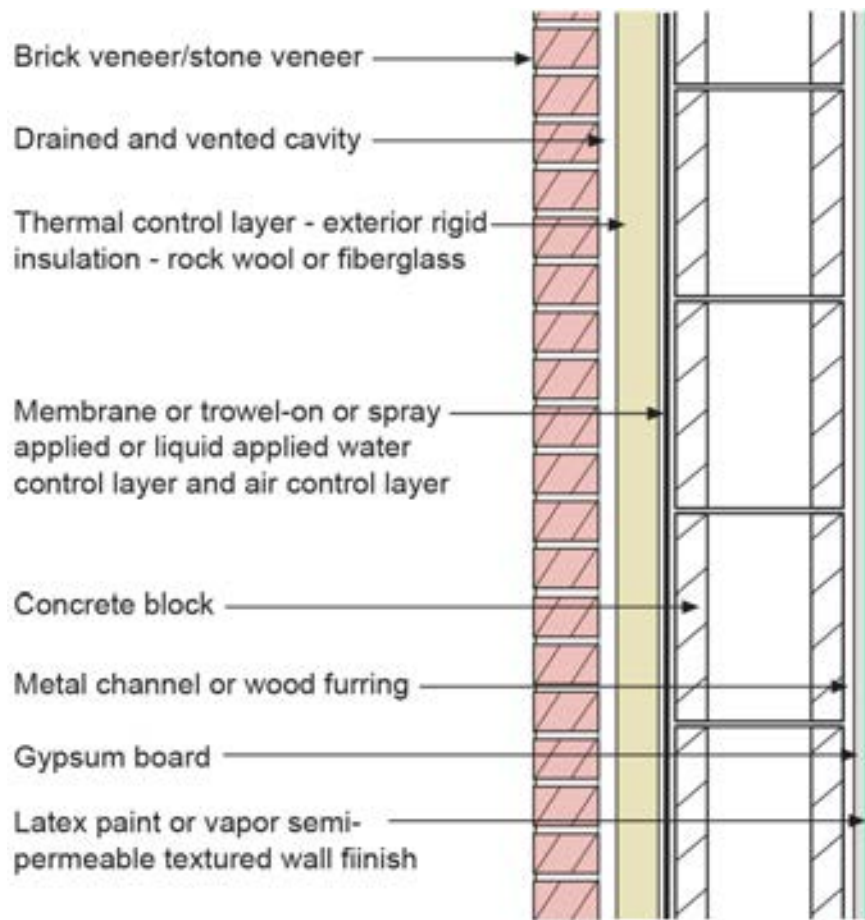


Figure 2a



Vapor Profile

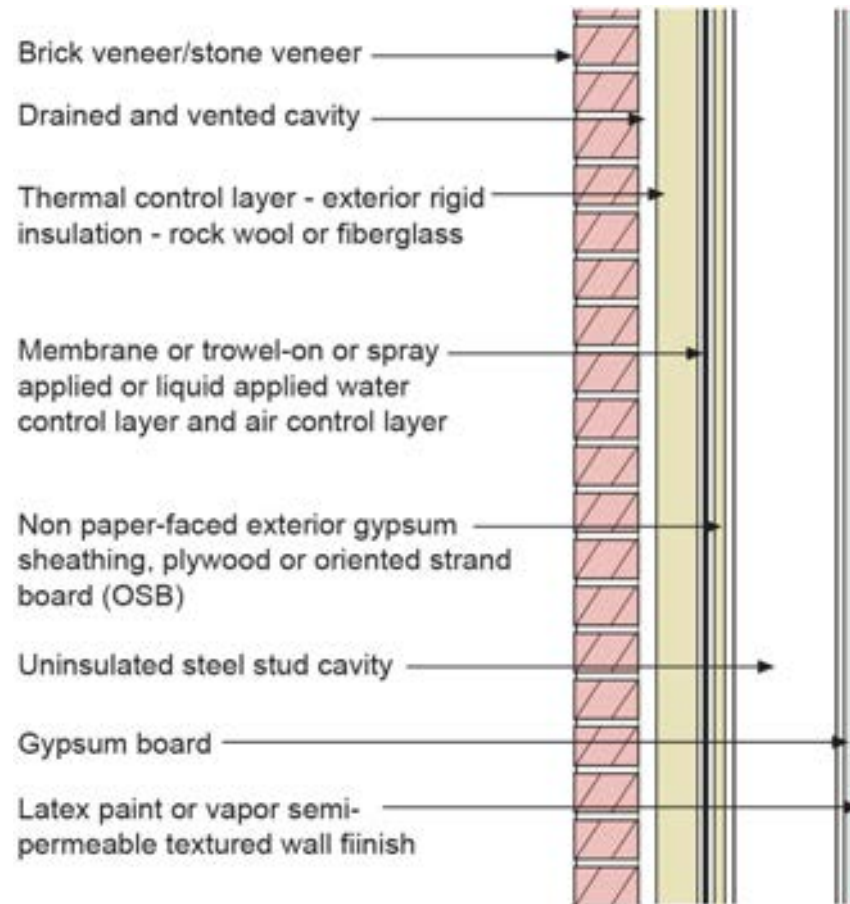


Figure 2b



Vapor Profile

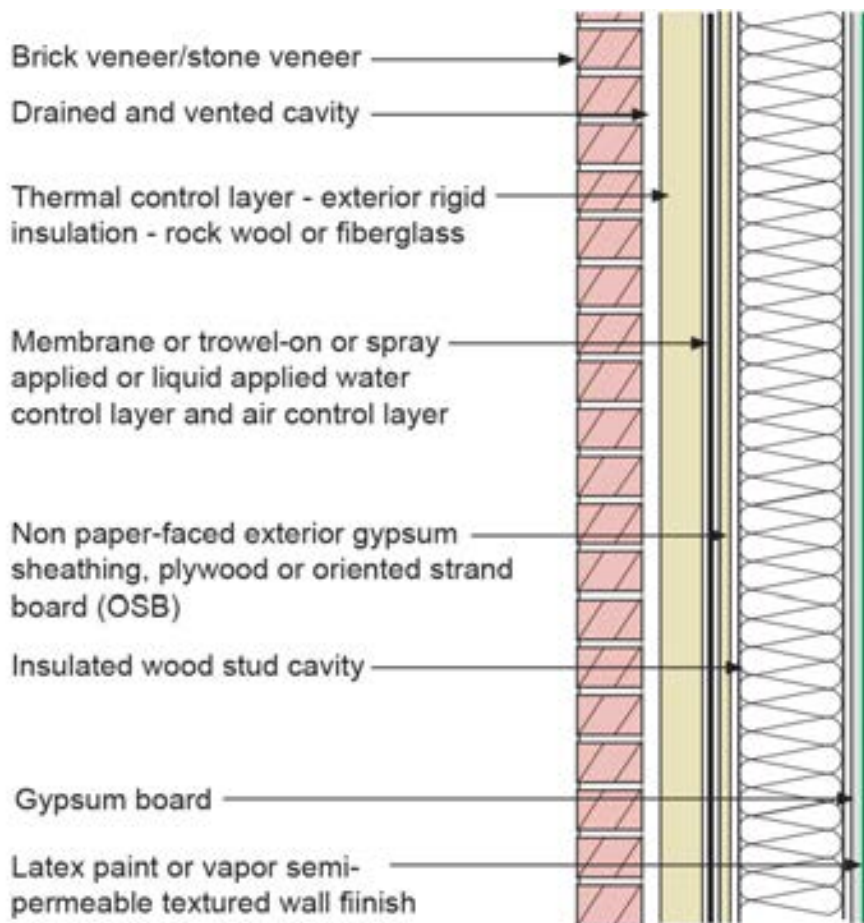
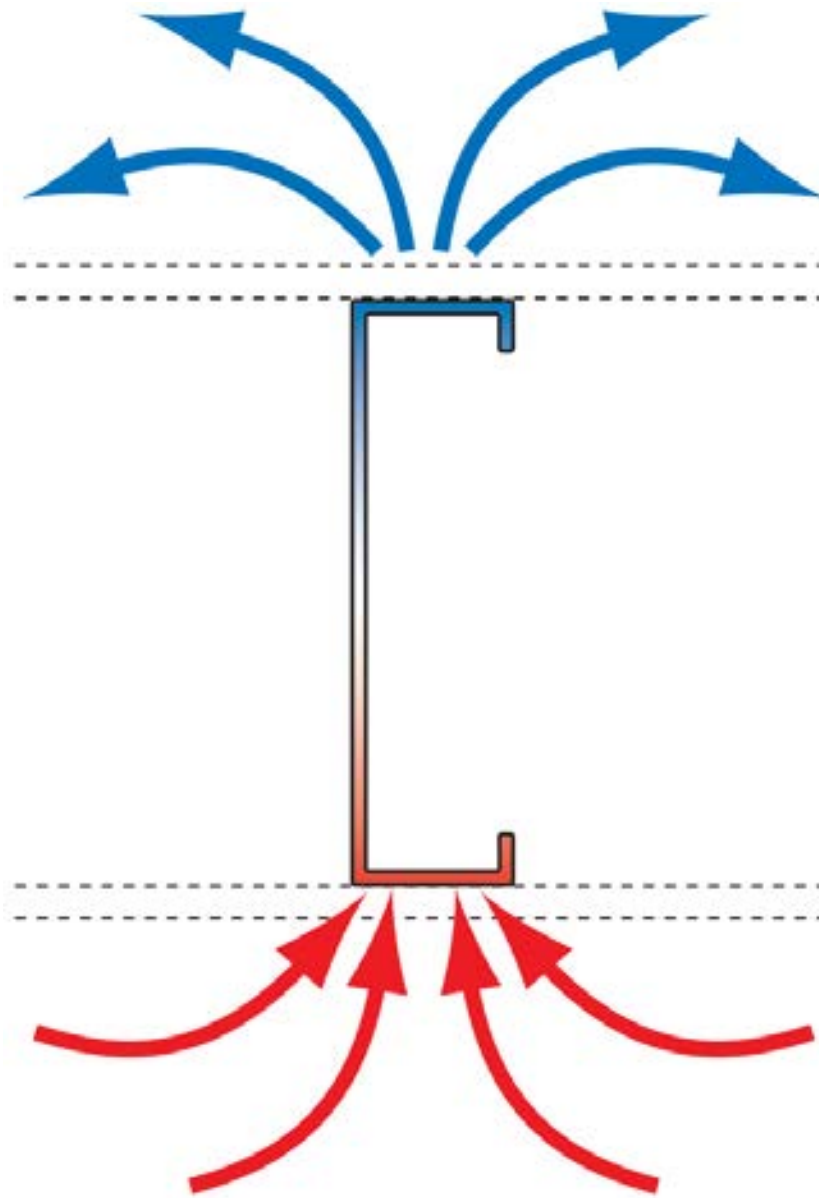


Figure 2c



Vapor Profile

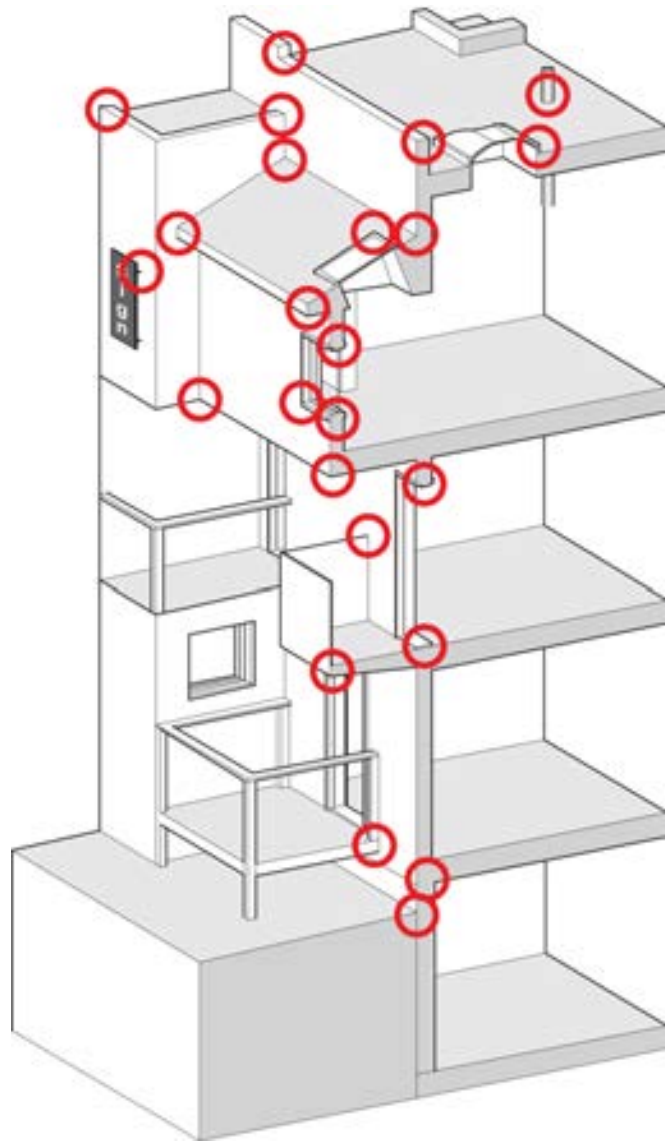




Commercial Enclosure: Simple Layers



- Structure
- Rain/Air/Vapor
- Insulation
- Finish













































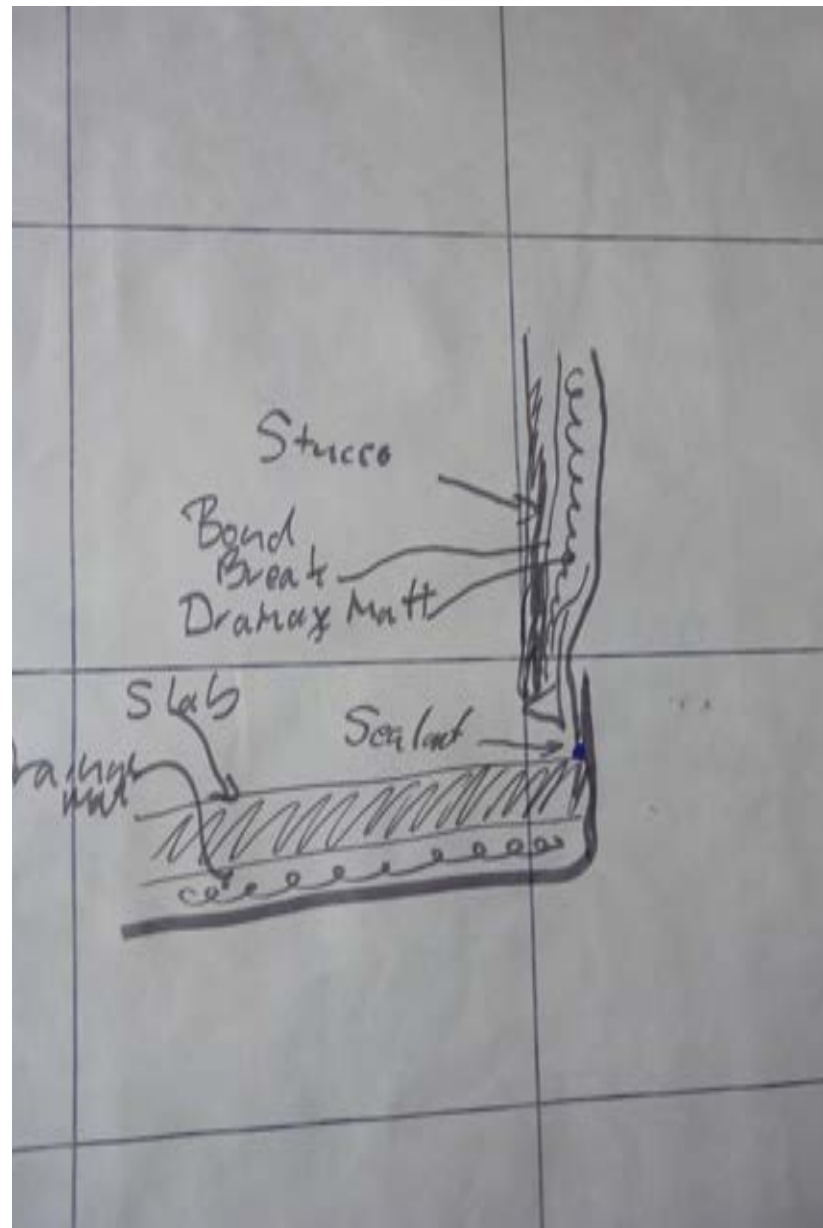






























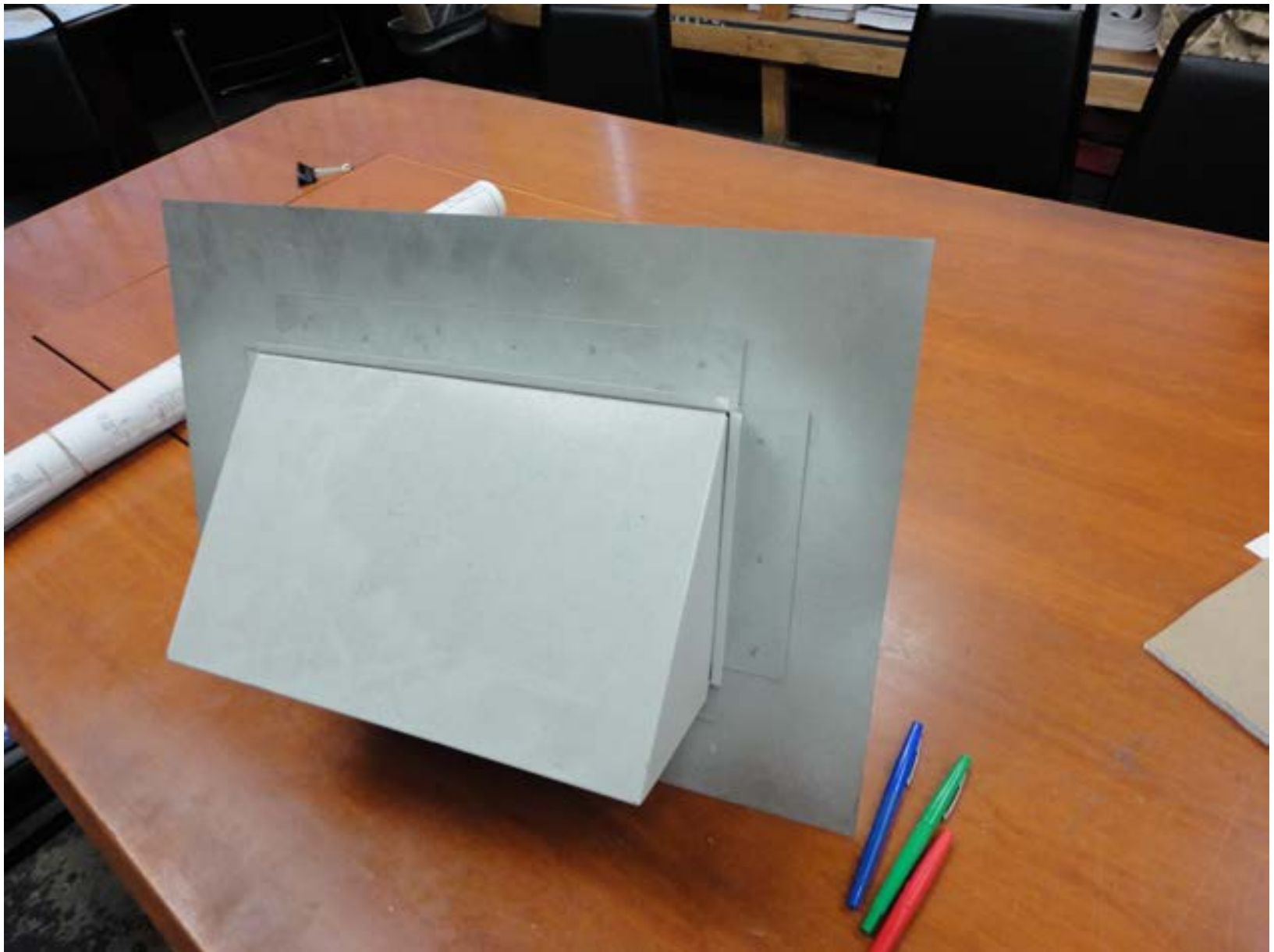




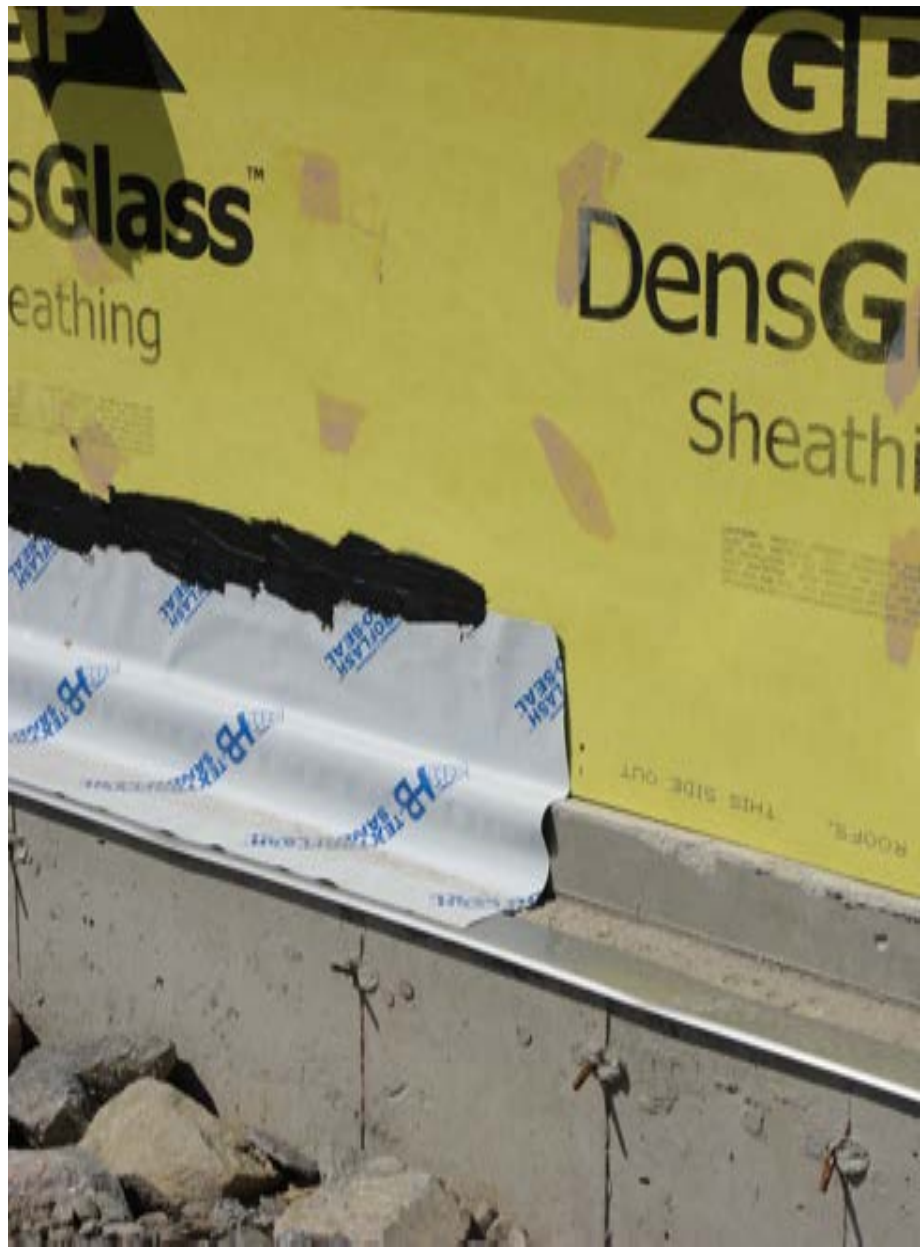




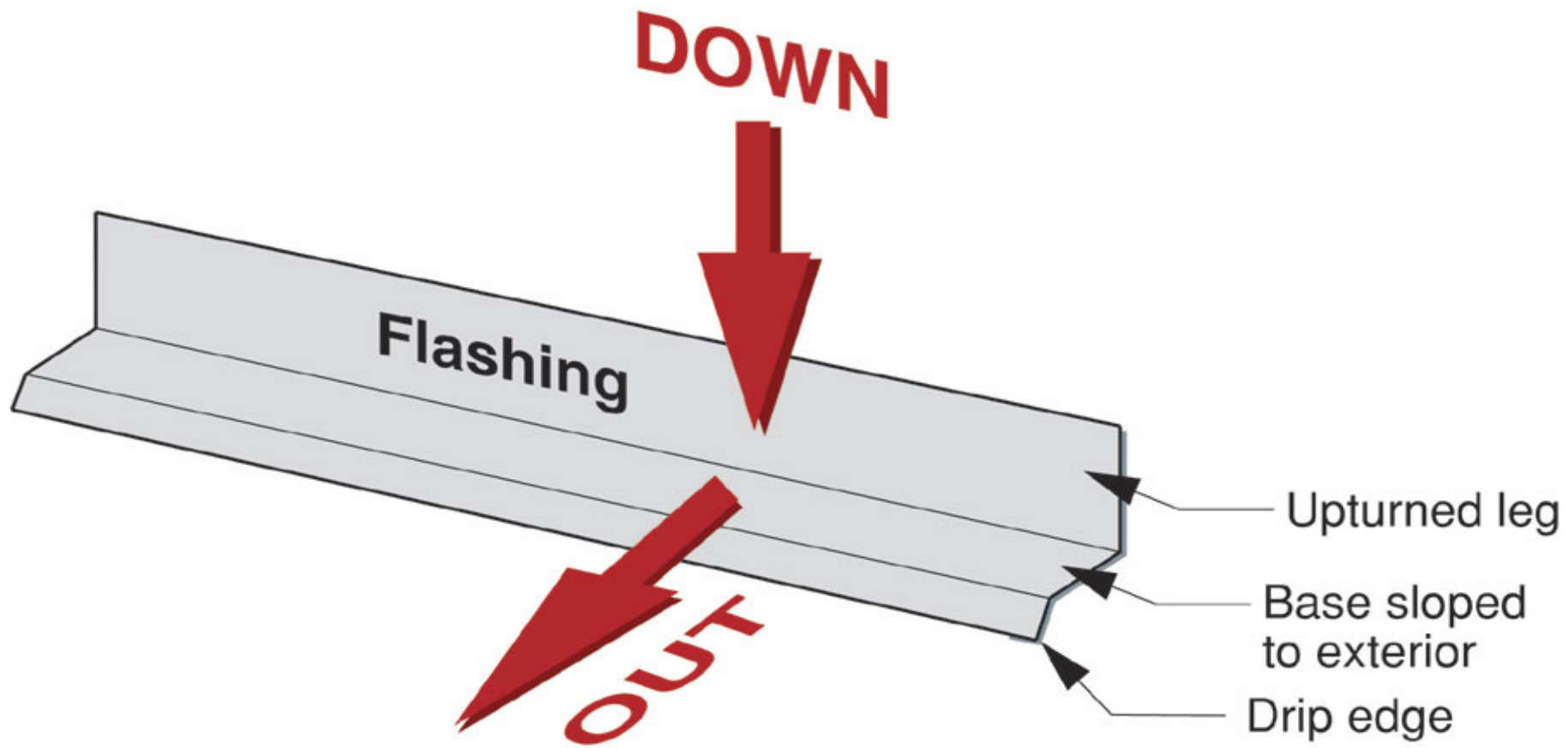


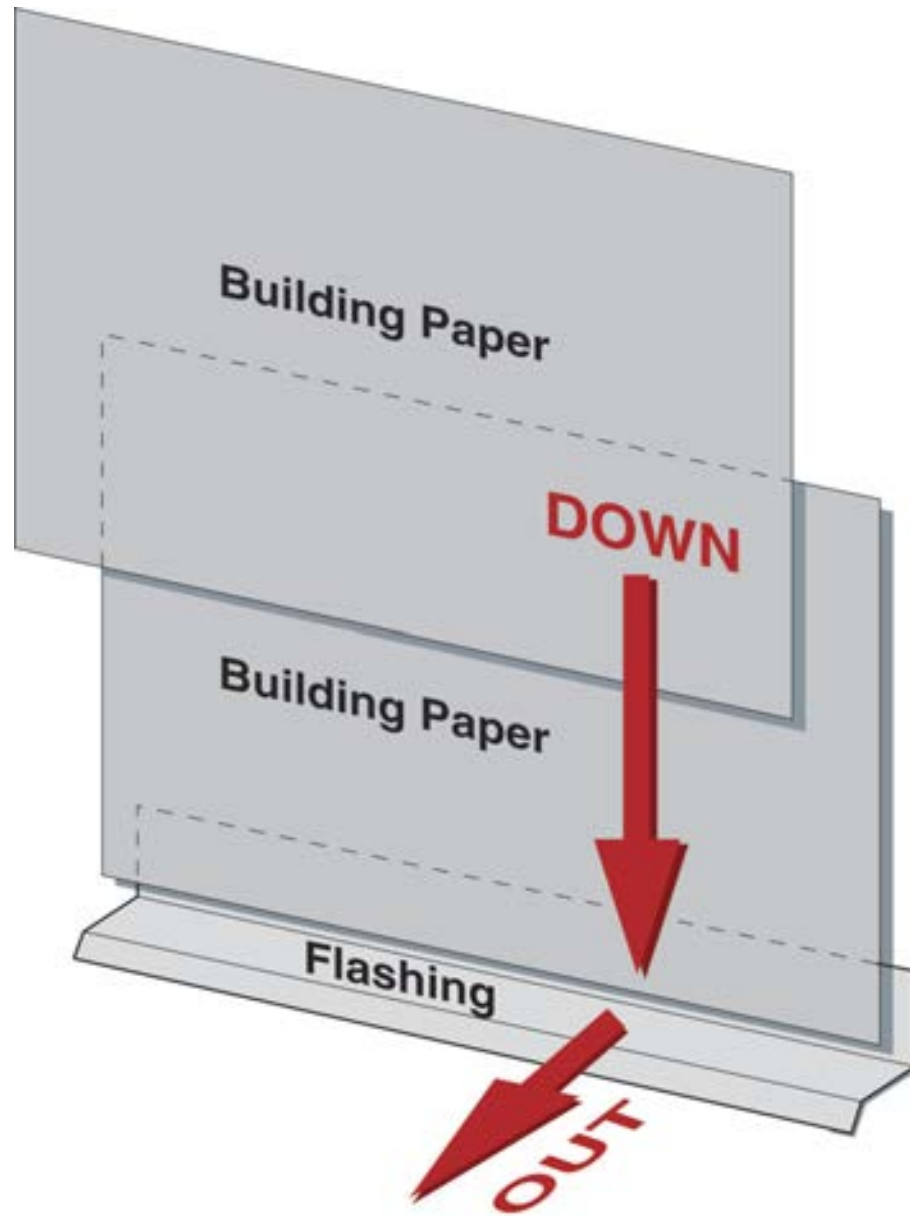


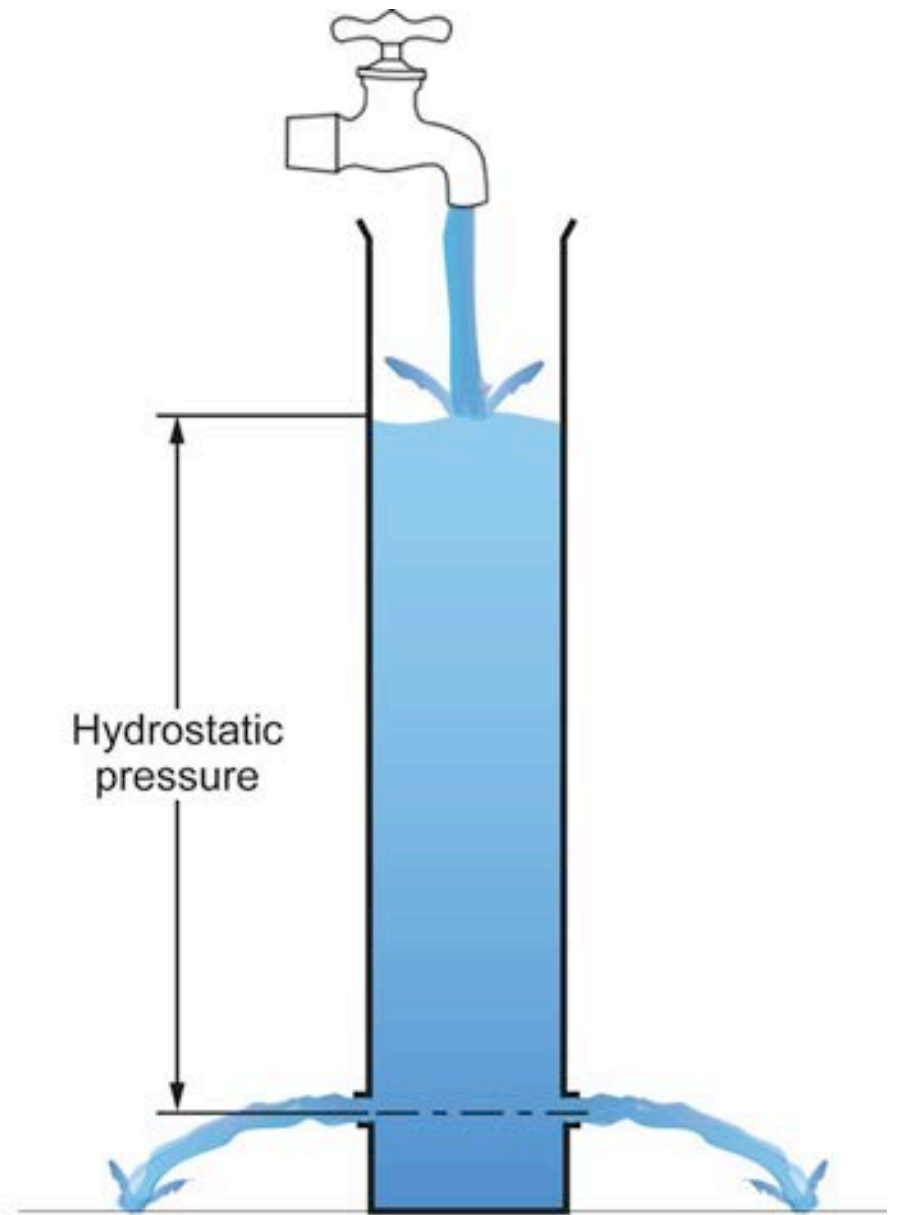
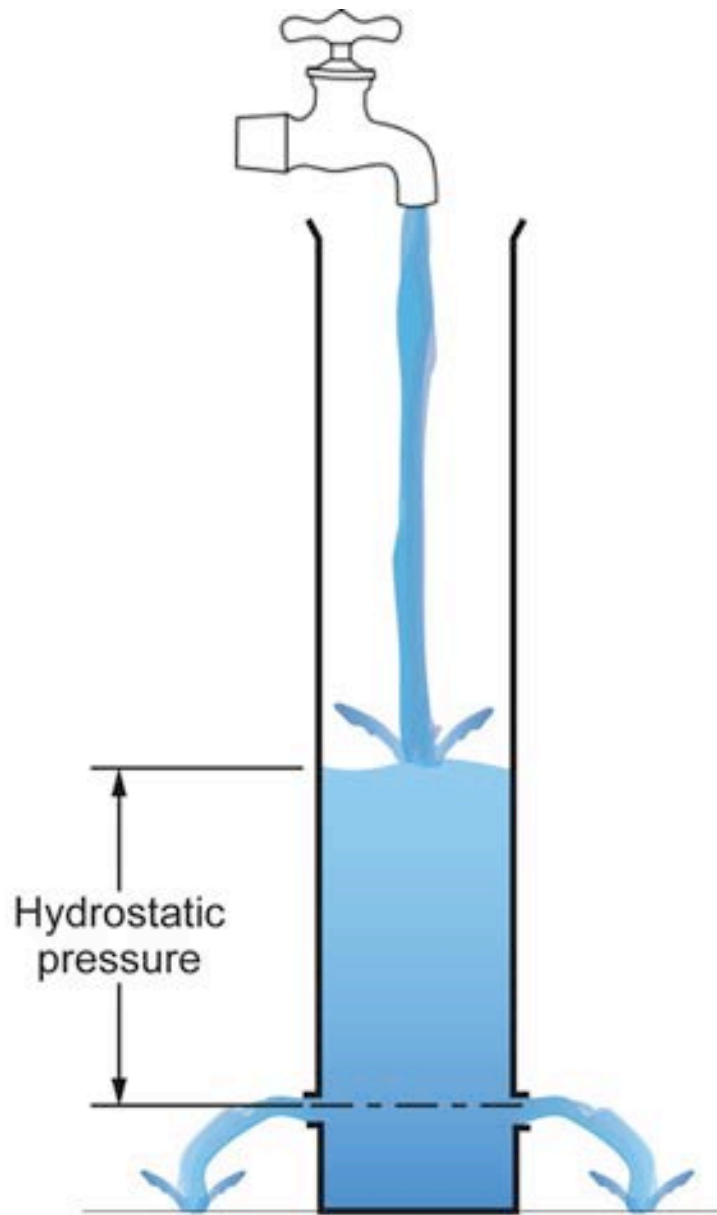




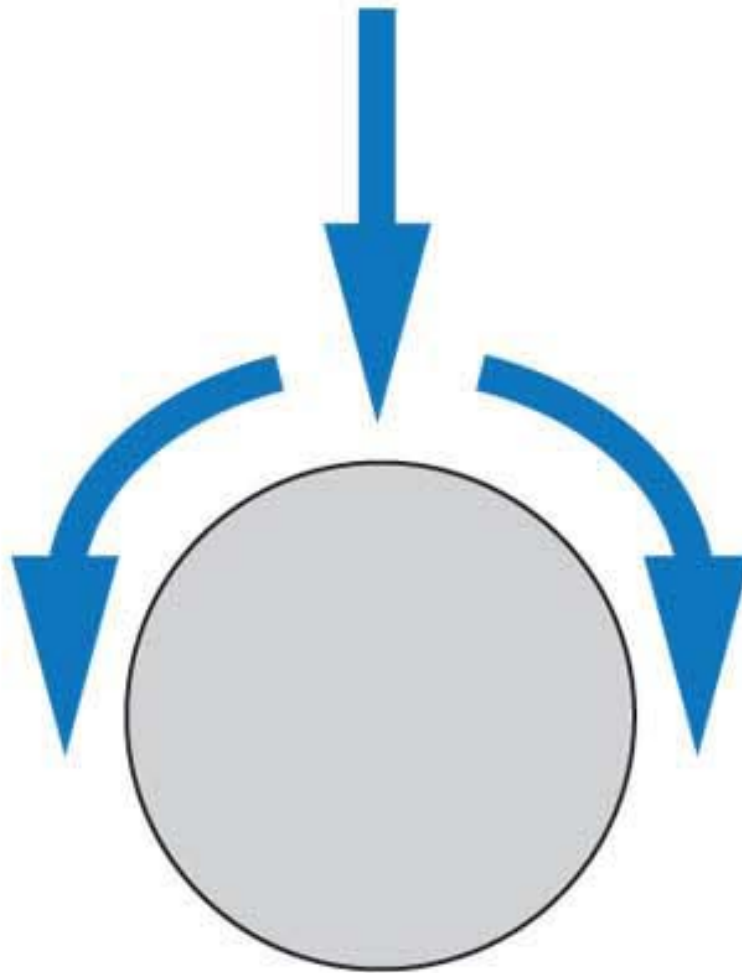


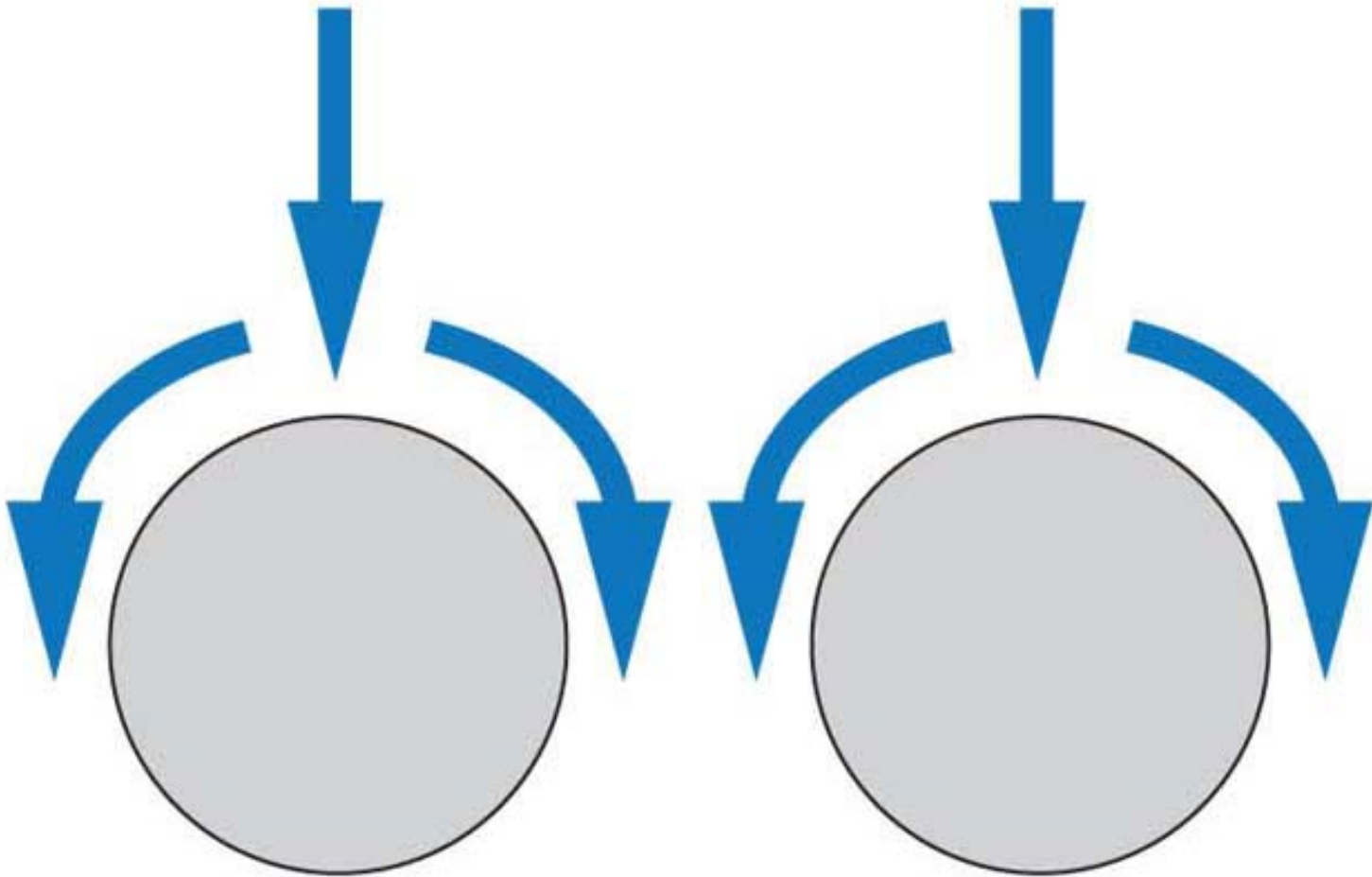


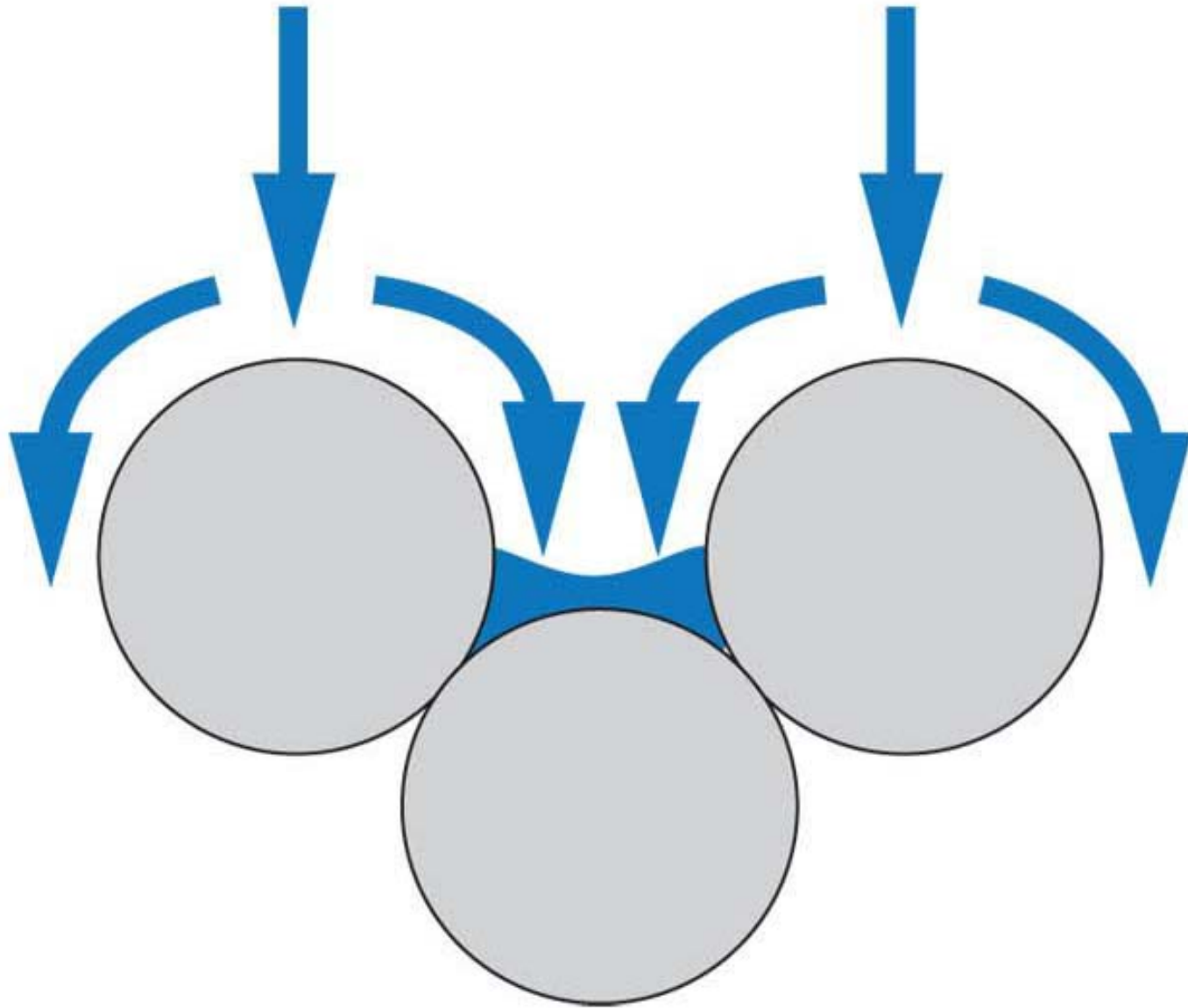


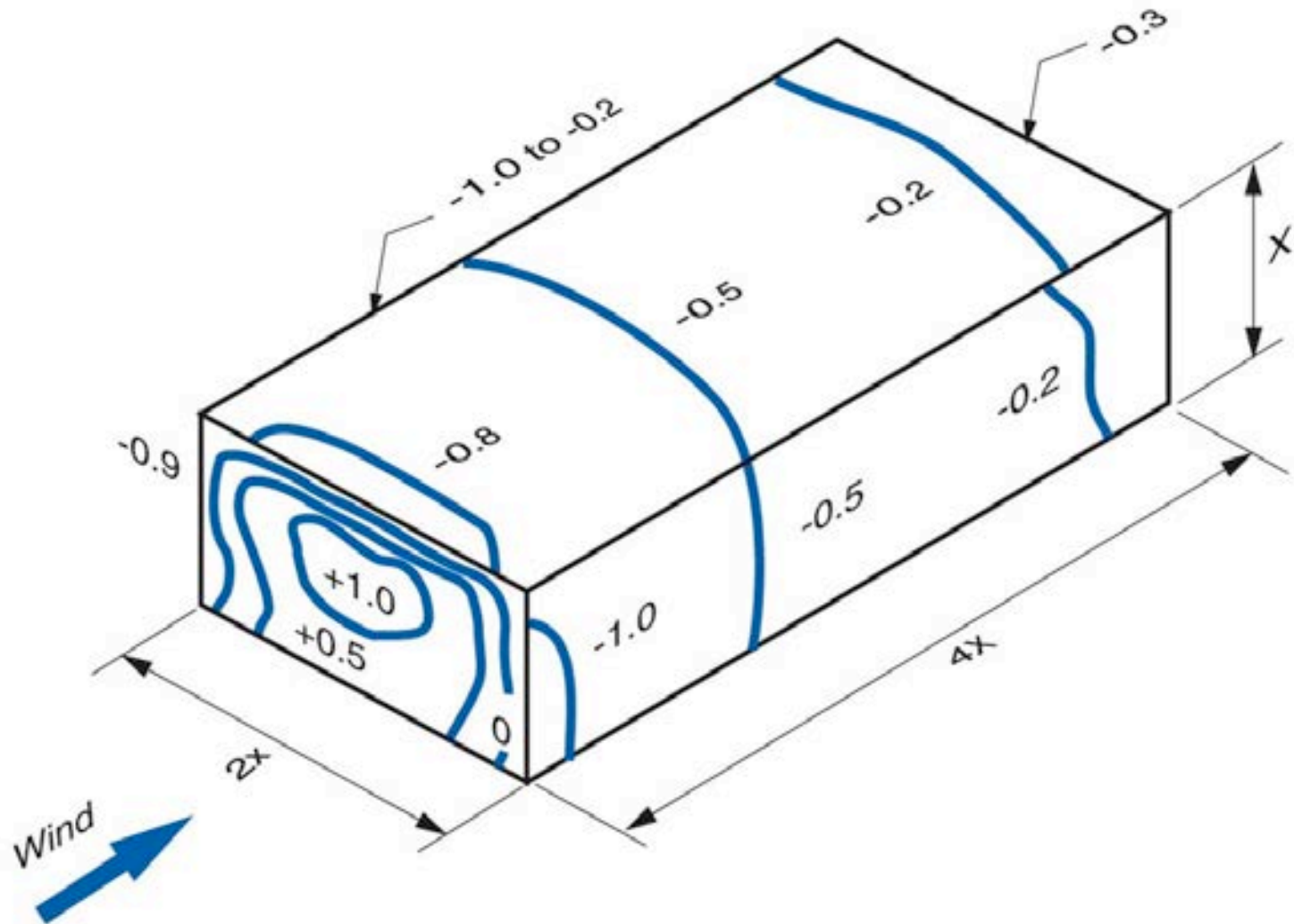






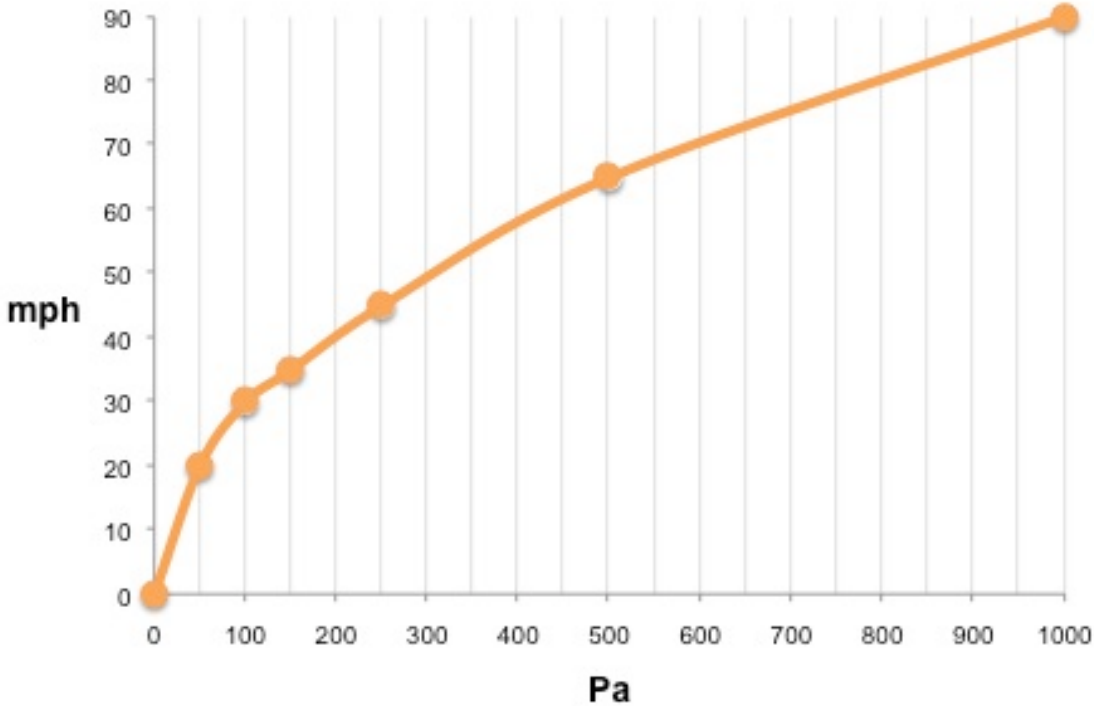






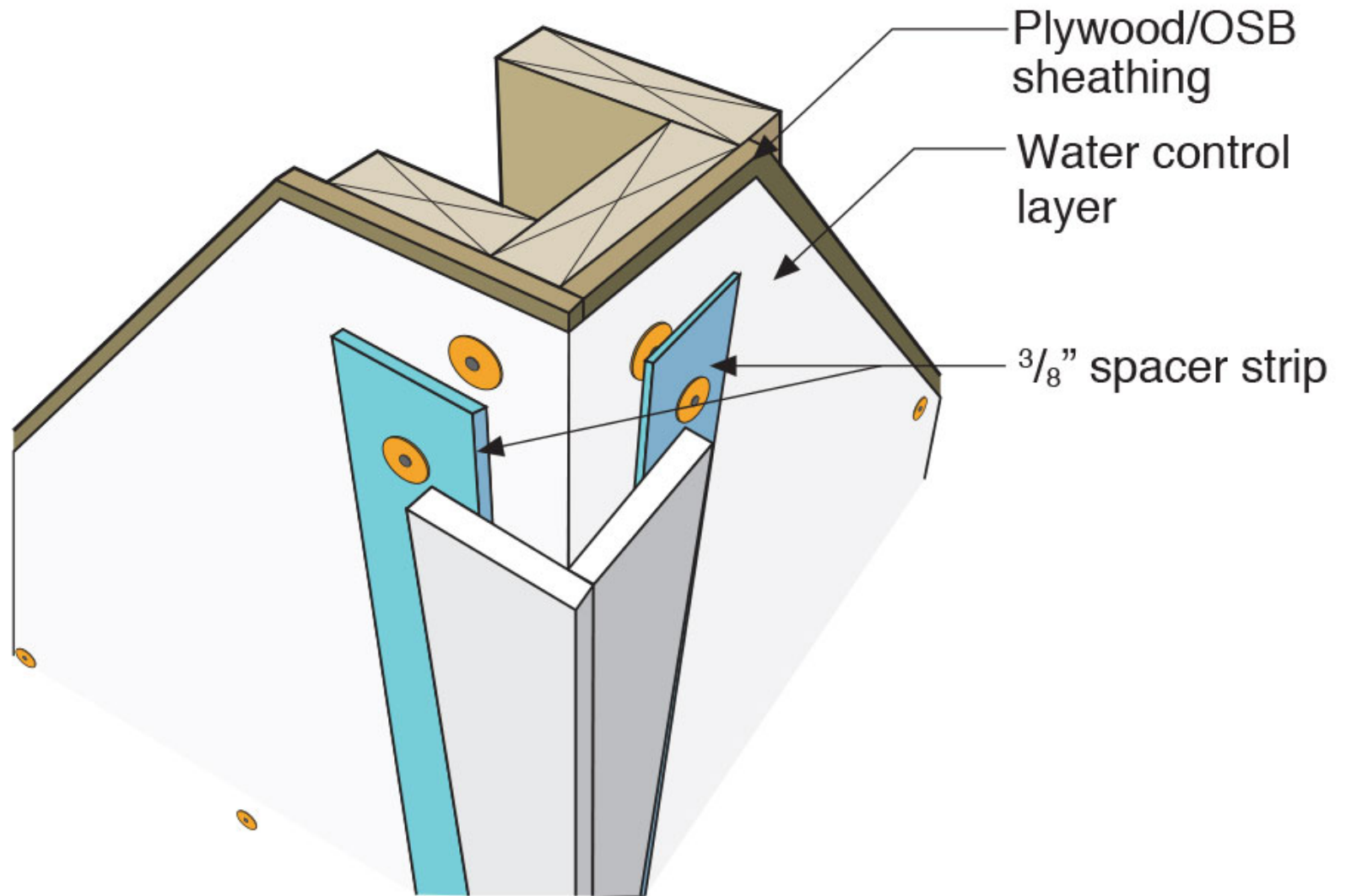
Pascals	mph
50	Pa = 20 mph
100	Pa = 30 mph
150	Pa = 35 mph
250	Pa = 45 mph
500	Pa = 65 mph
1,000	Pa = 90 mph

Wind Speed (mph) vs. Stagnation Pressure (Pa)

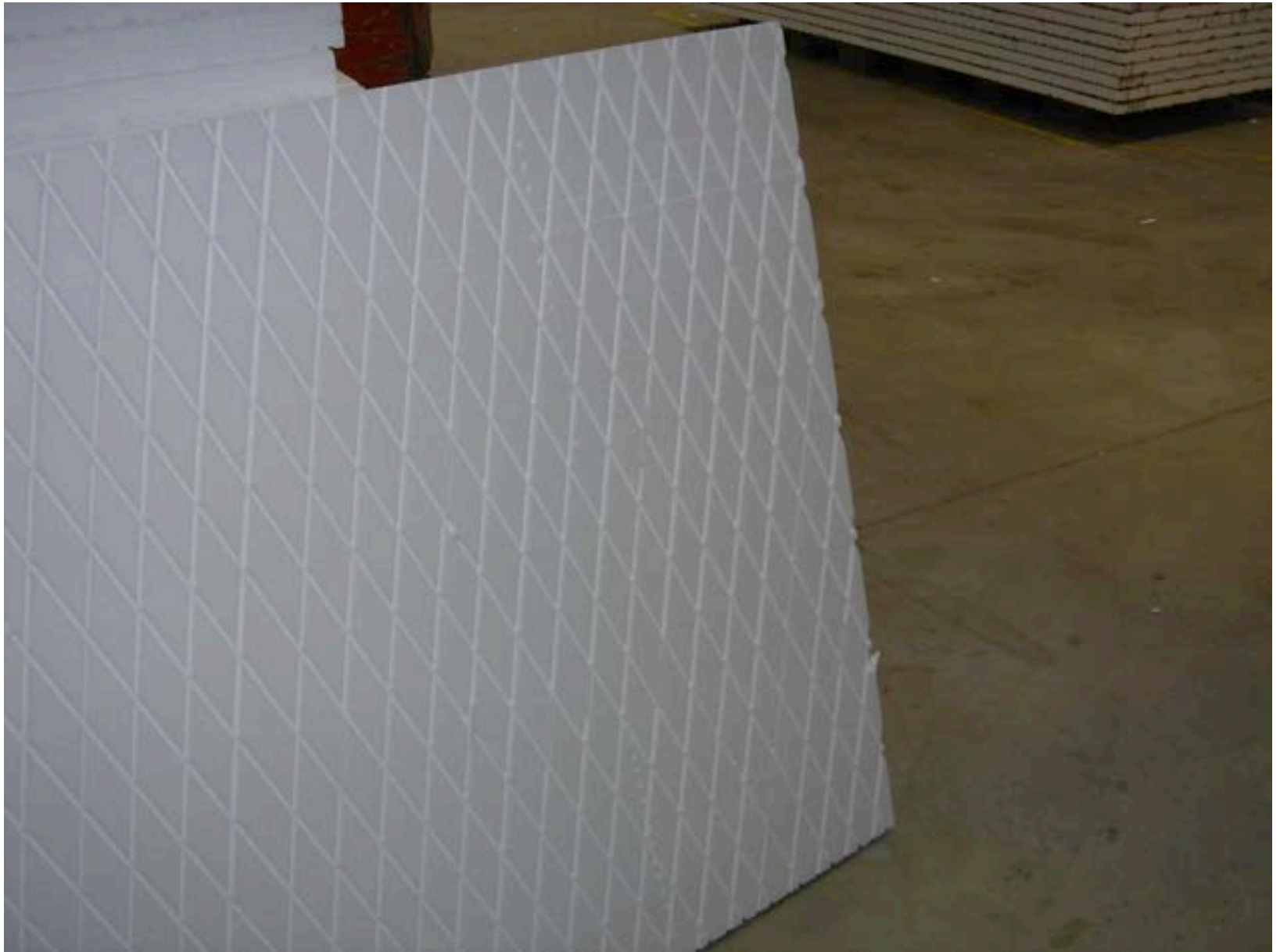




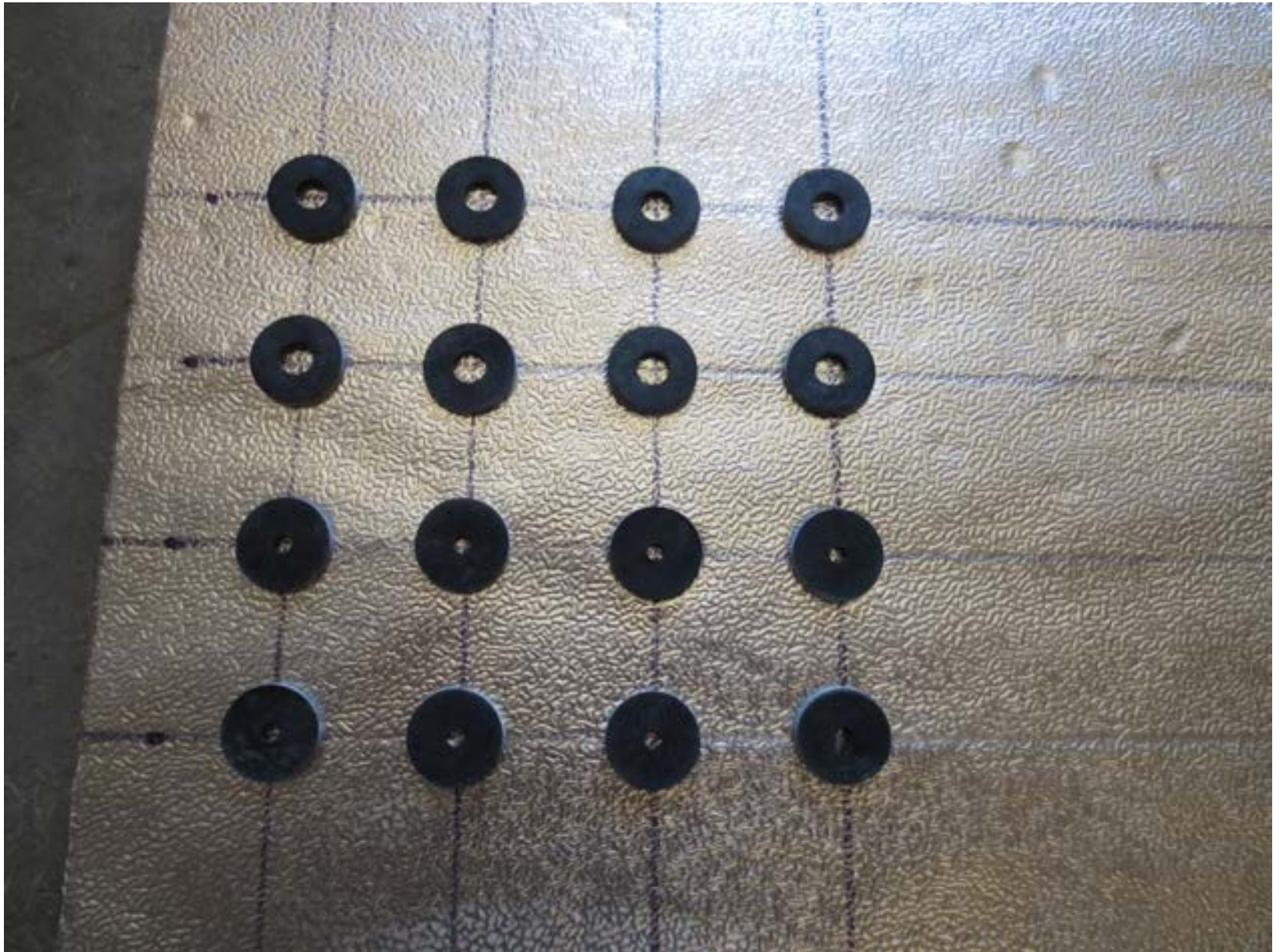




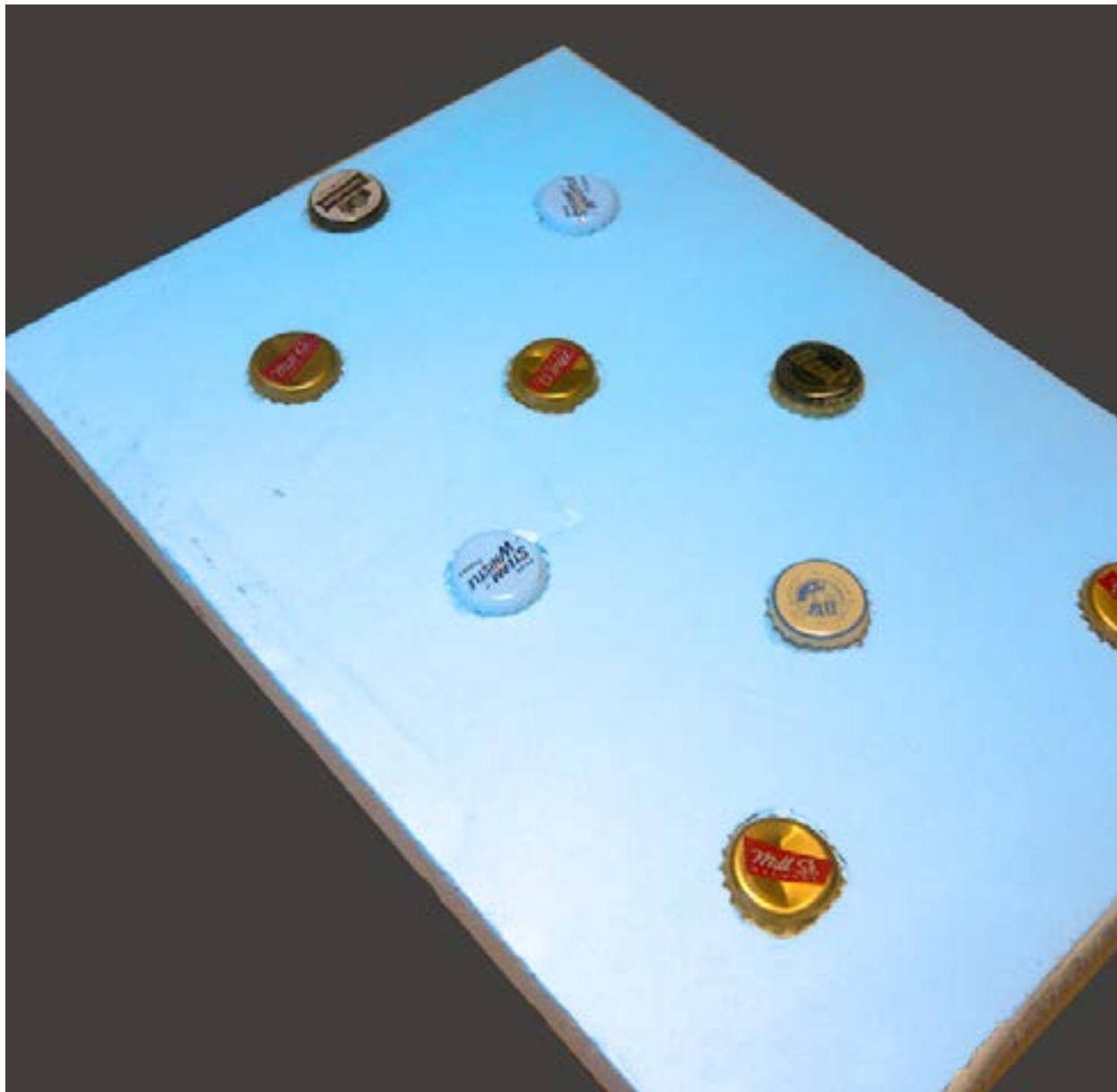


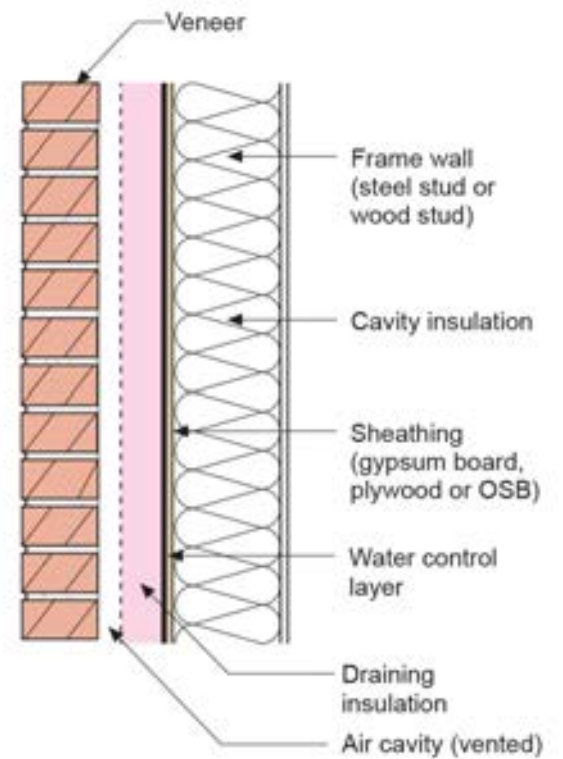
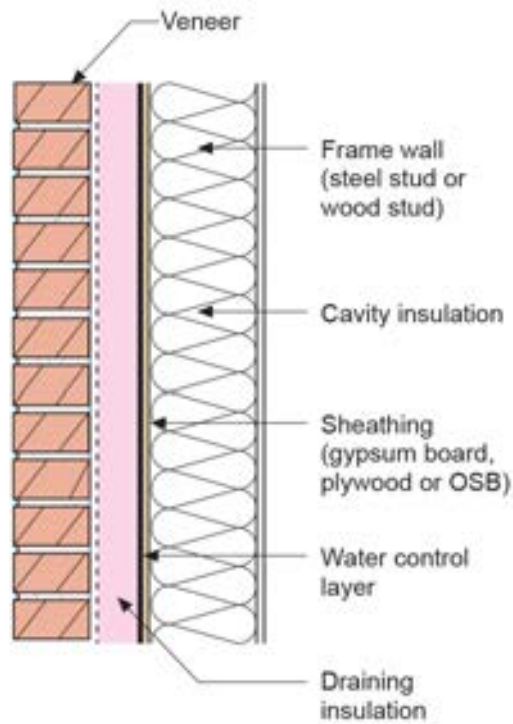
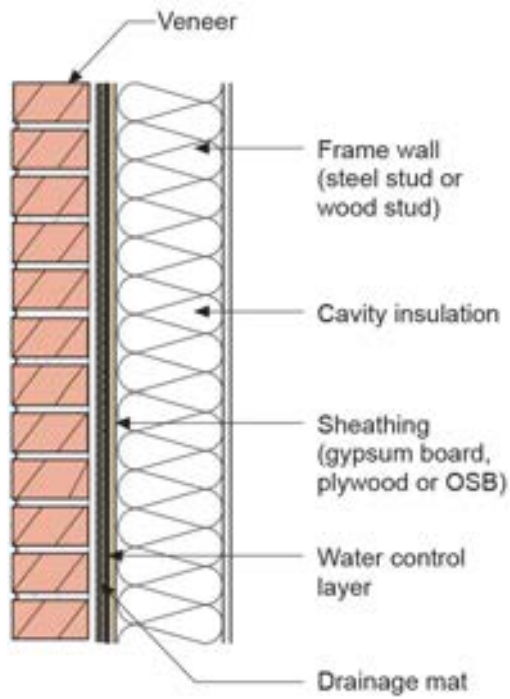


Rain Screen

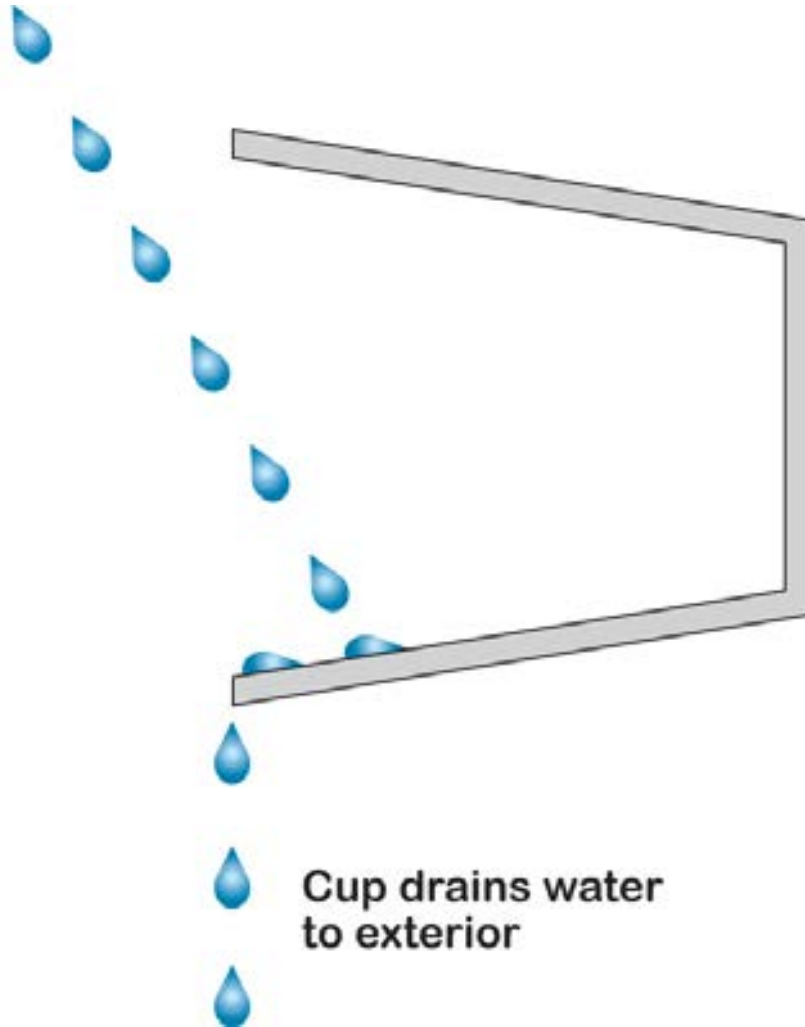


Beer Screen?





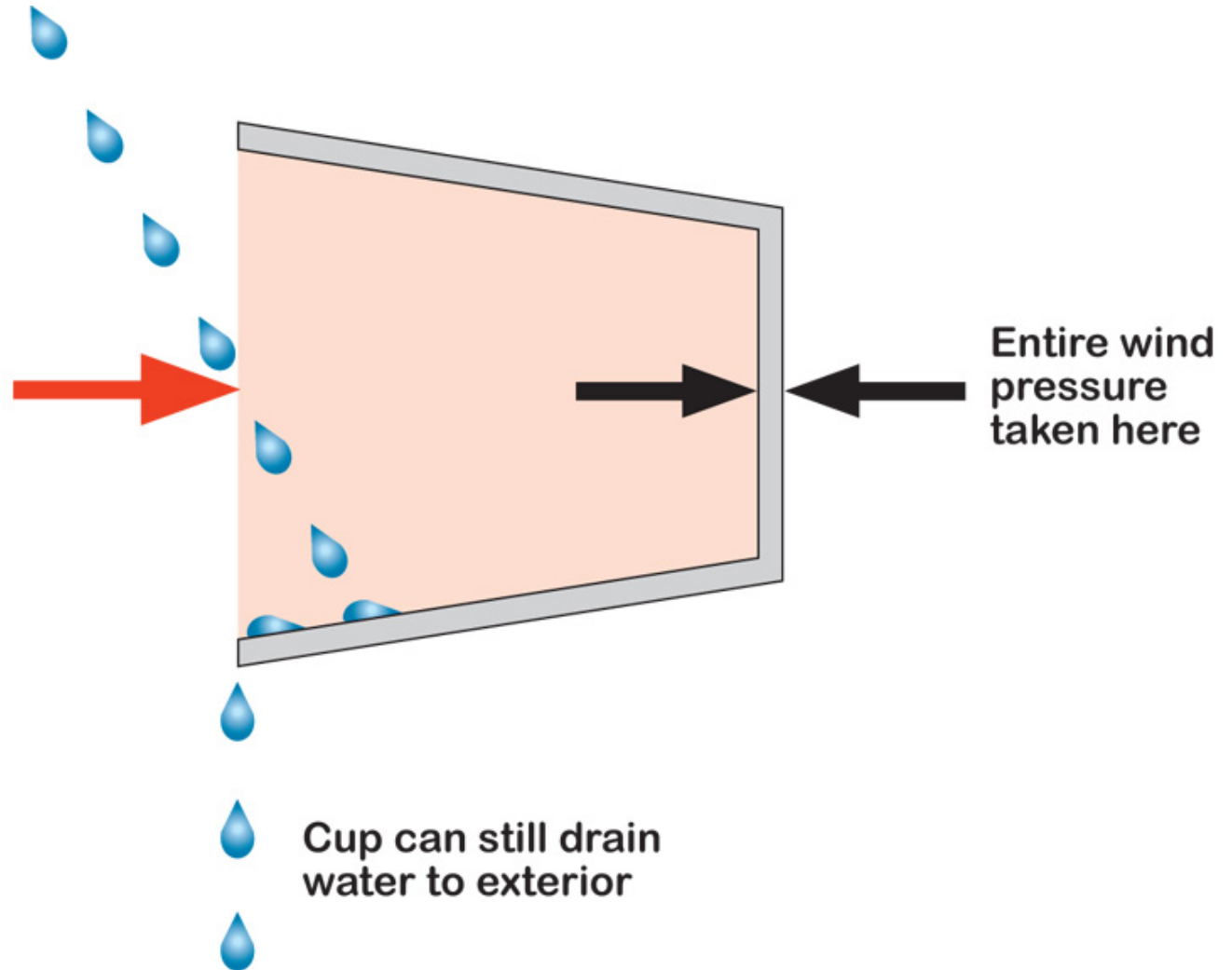
**Rain enters cup
due to momentum
("kinetic energy")**



**Cup drains water
to exterior**

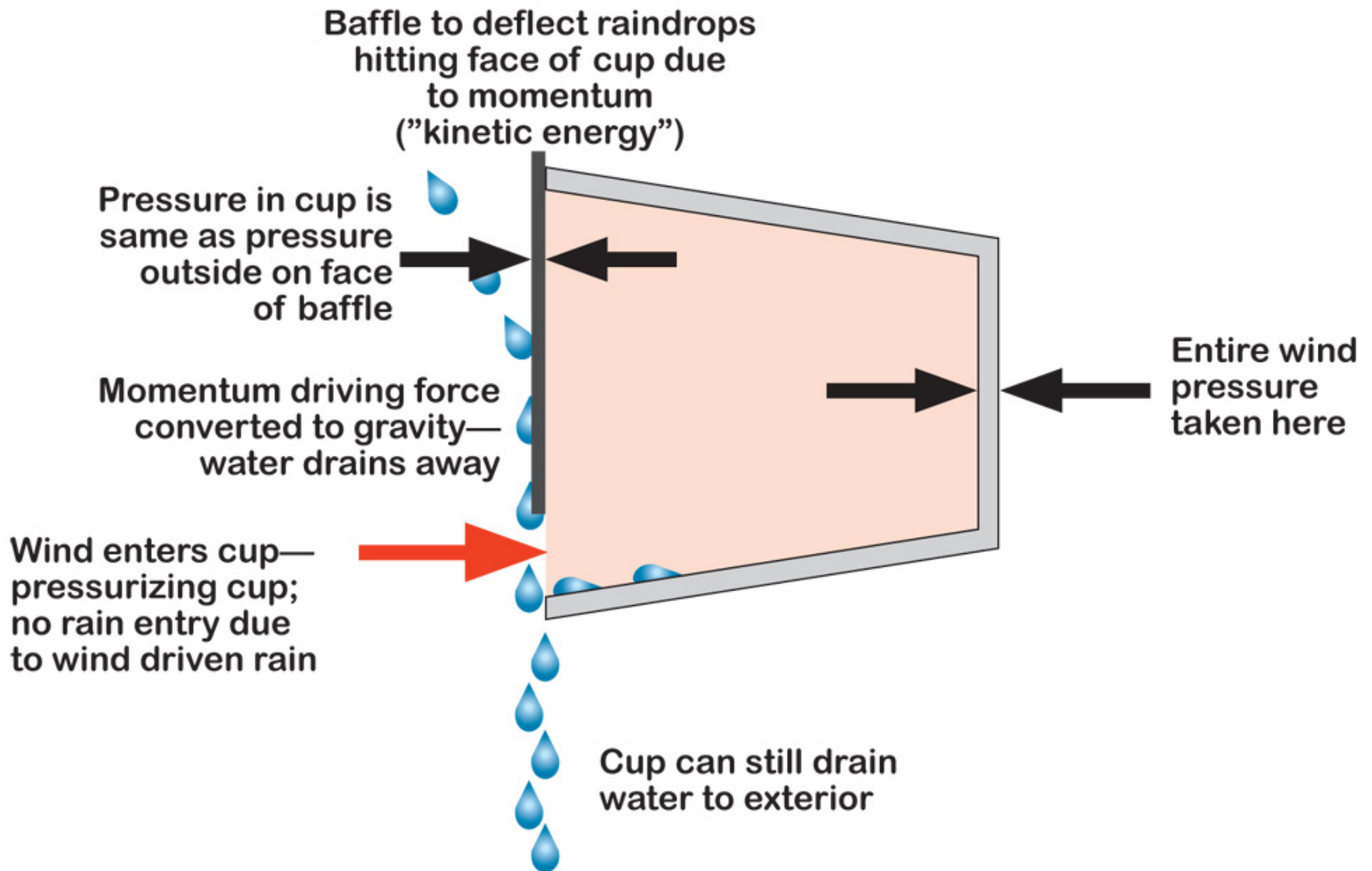
Rain enters cup due to momentum ("kinetic energy")

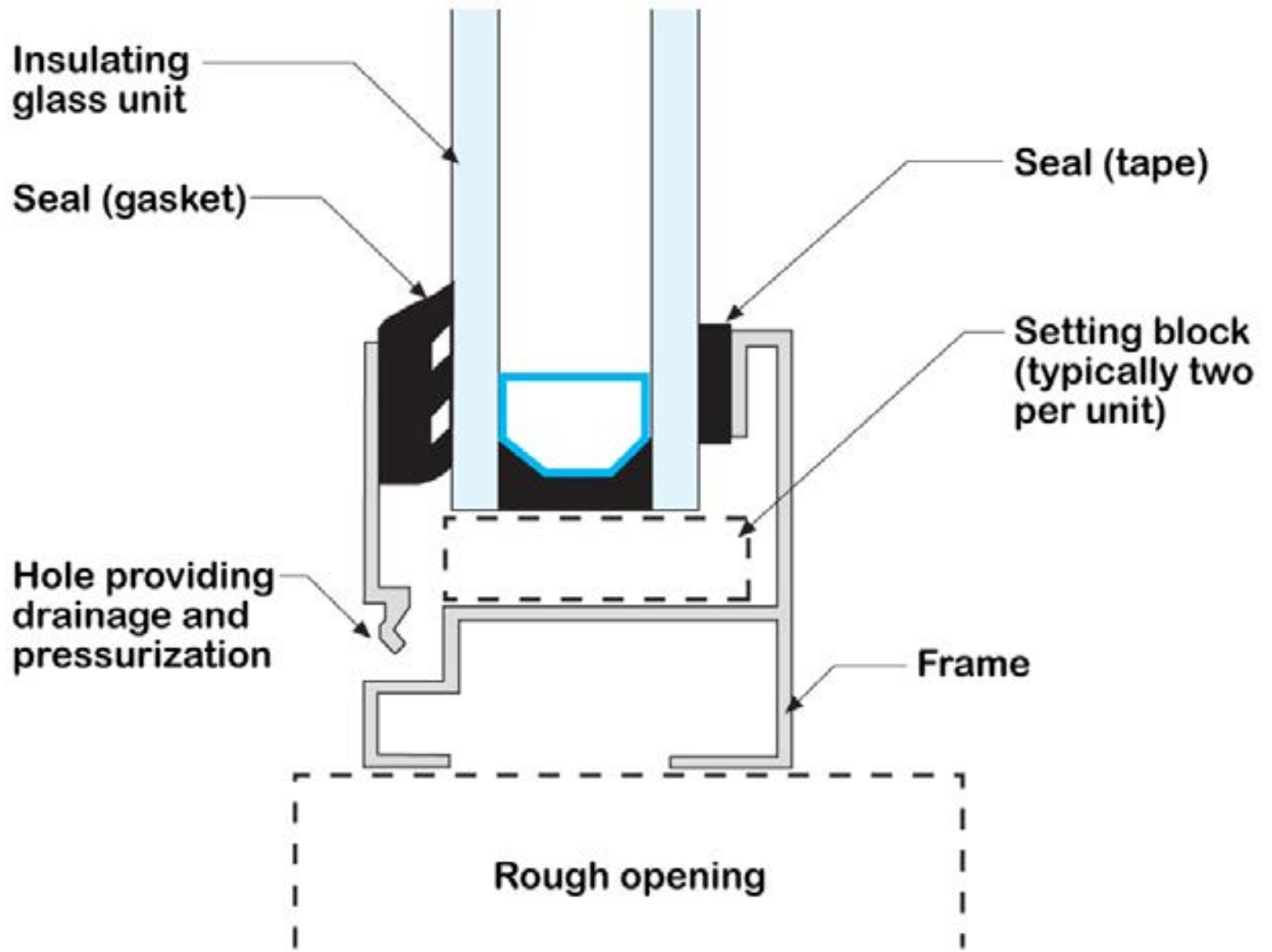
Wind enters cup—pressurizing cup; no rain entry due to wind driven rain

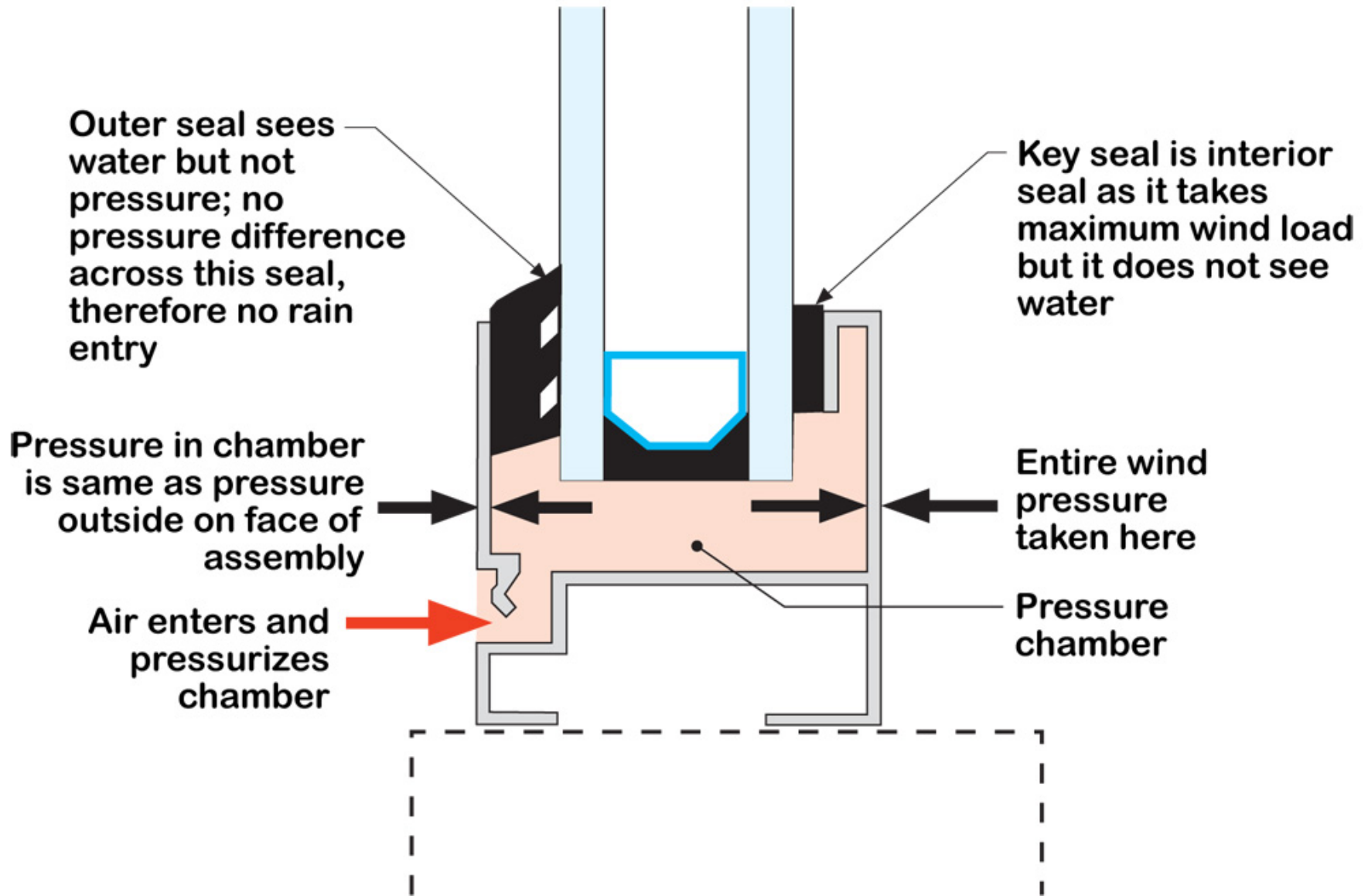


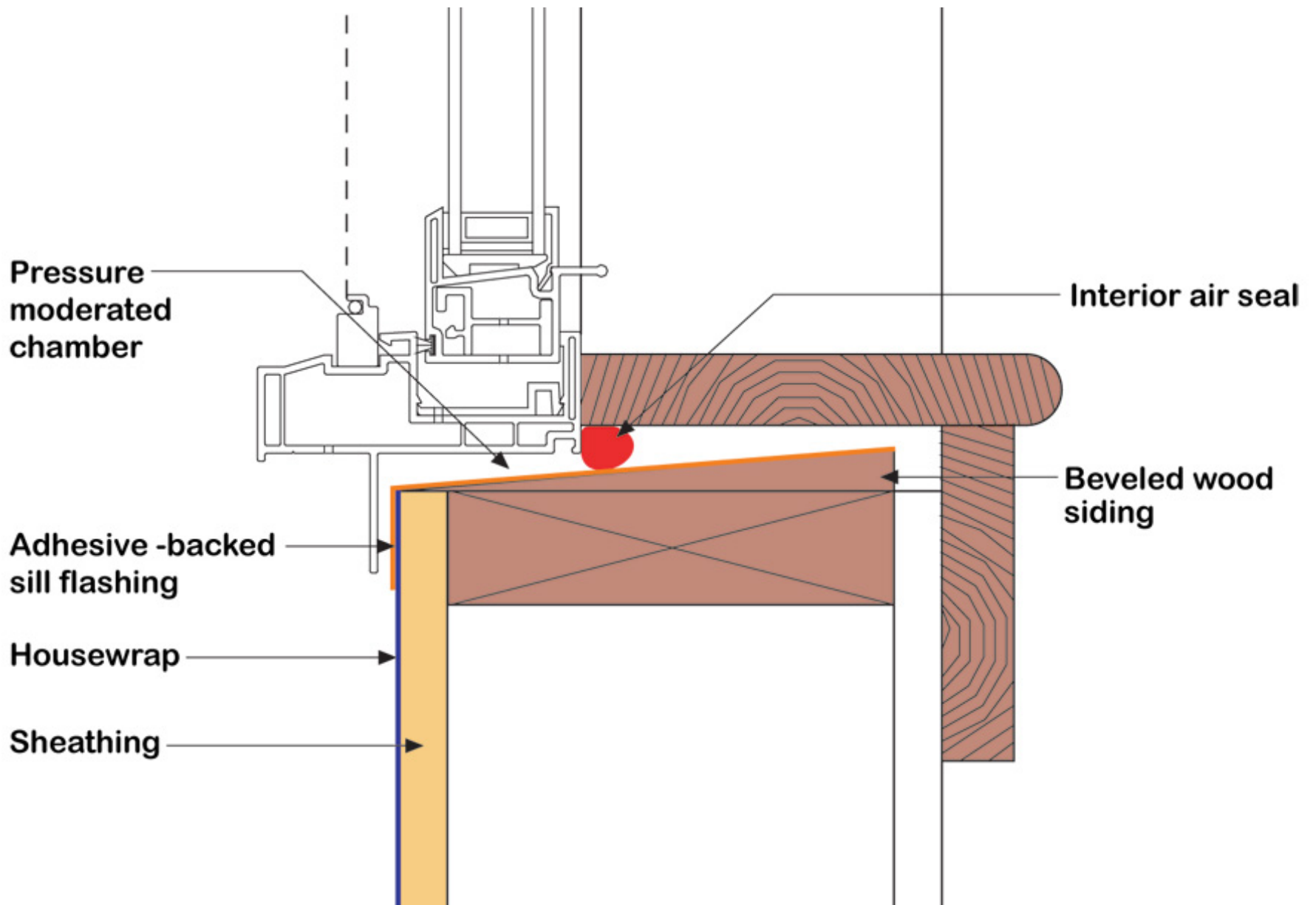
Entire wind pressure taken here

Cup can still drain water to exterior







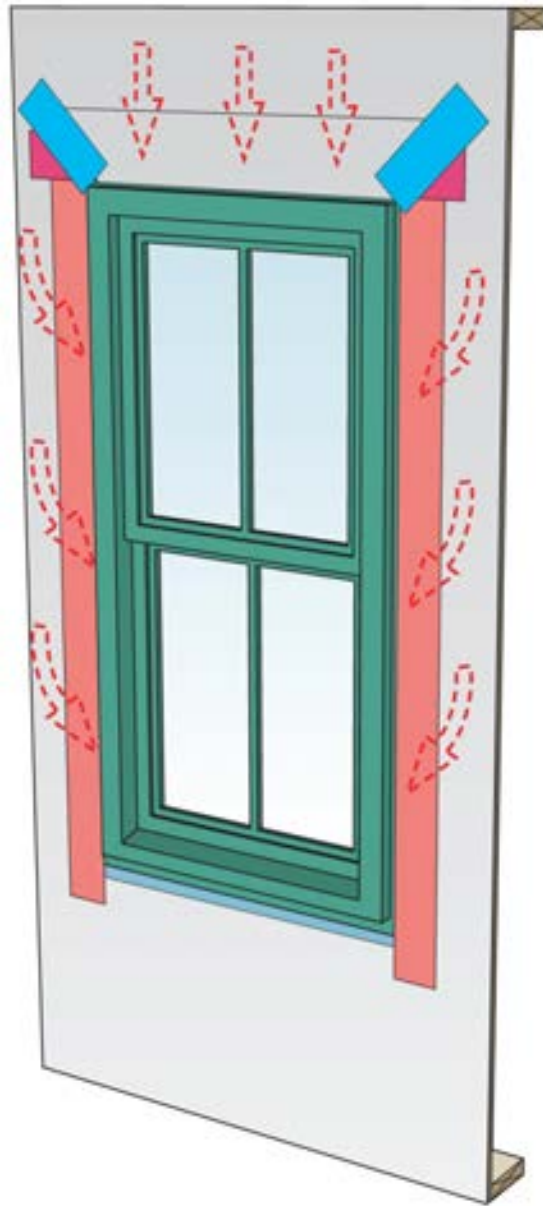


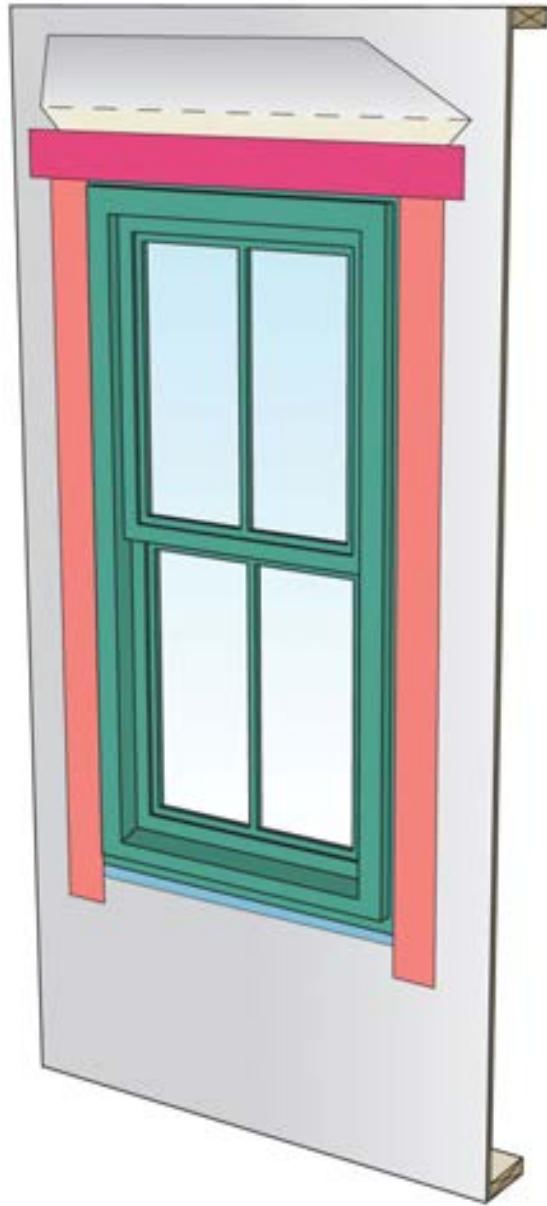




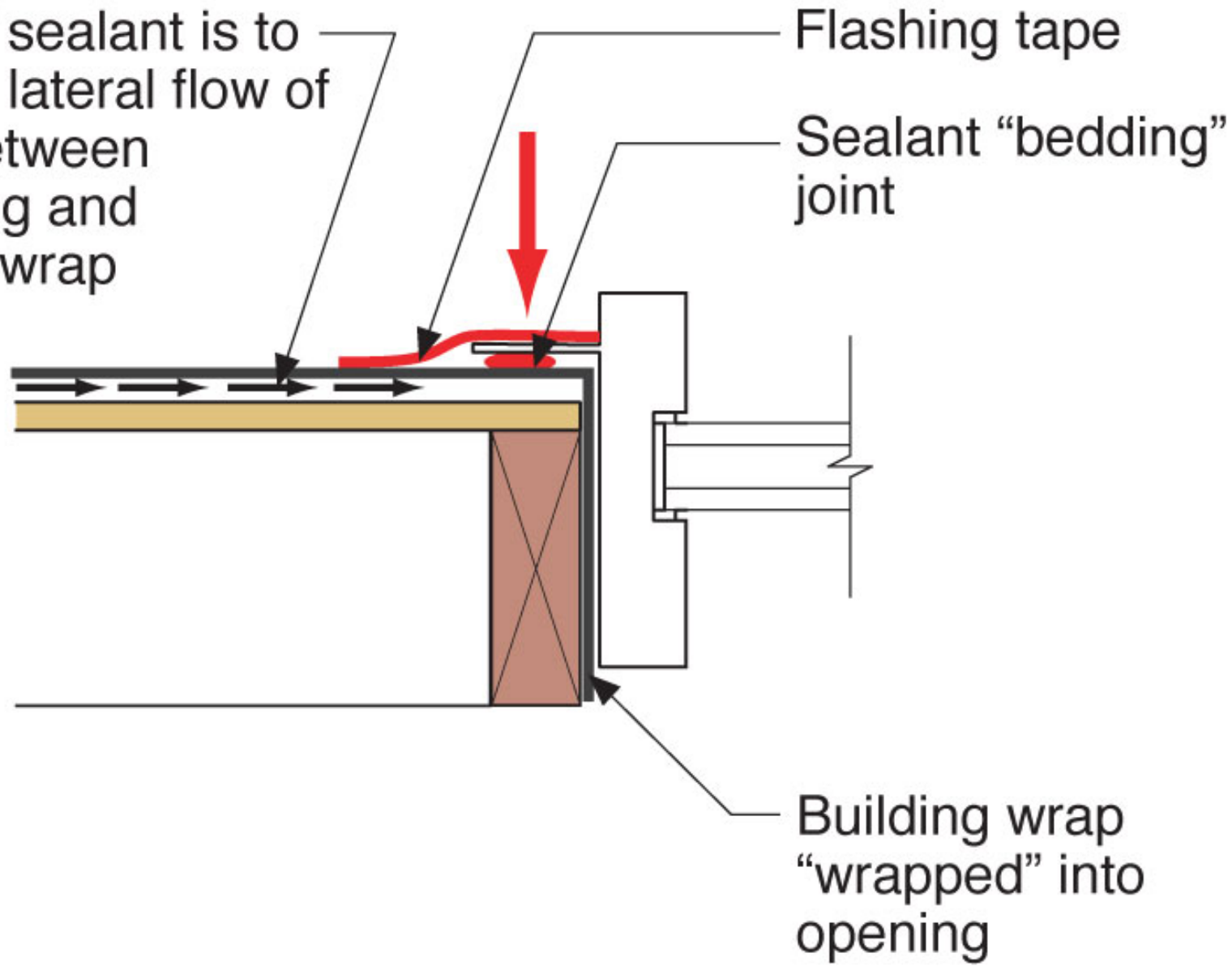


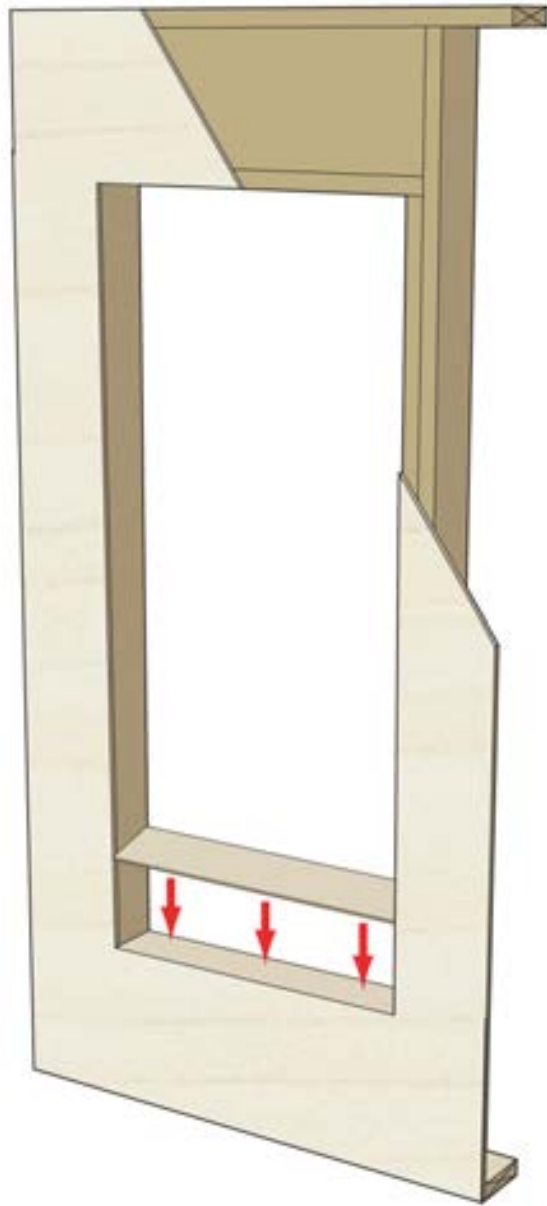


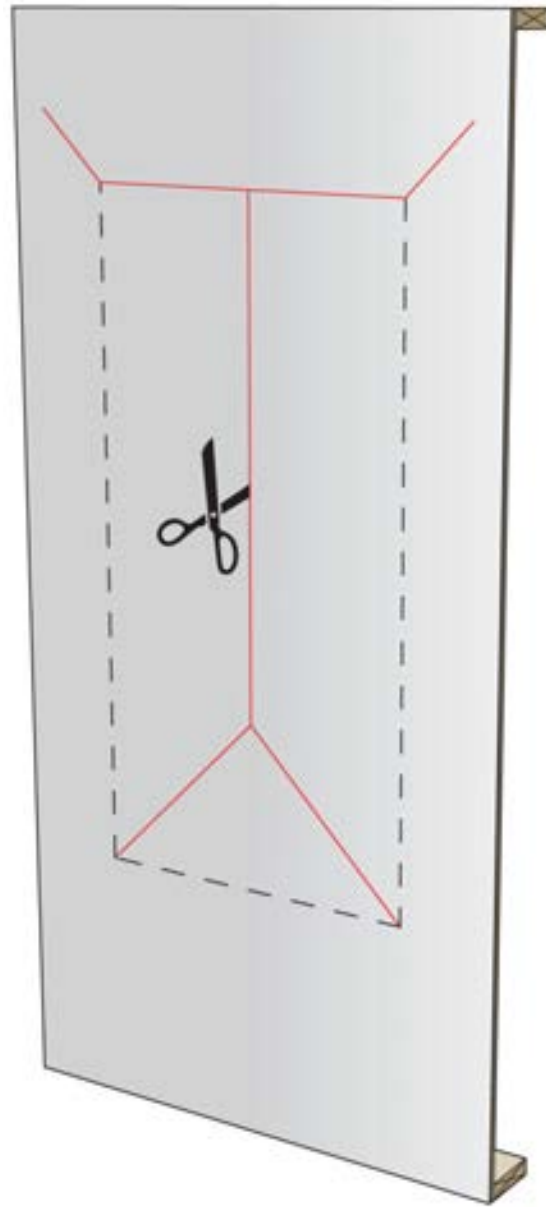


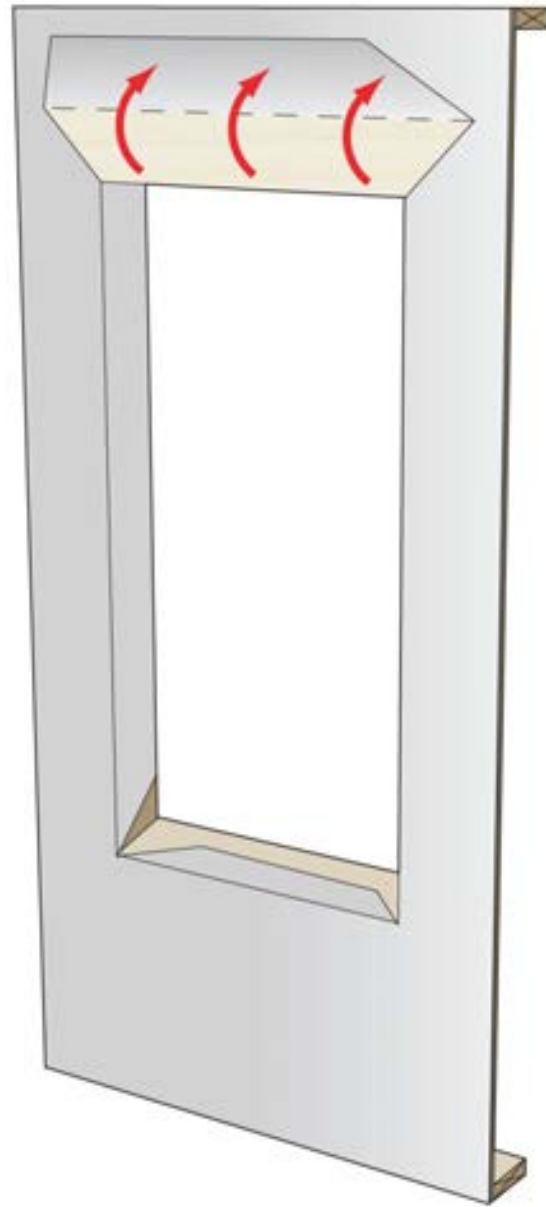


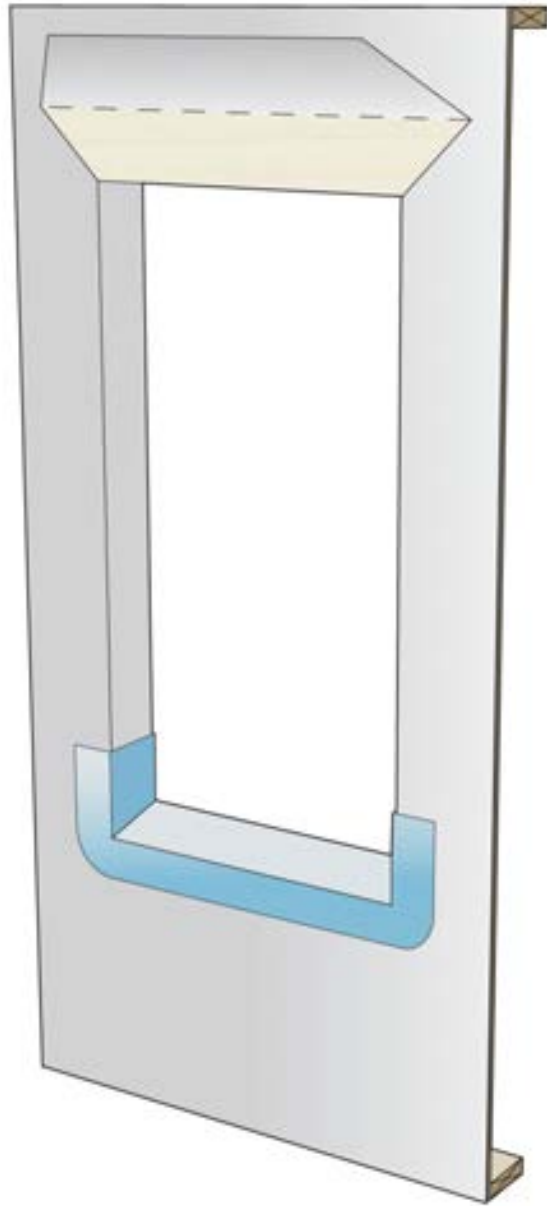
Intent of sealant is to limit this lateral flow of water between sheathing and building wrap

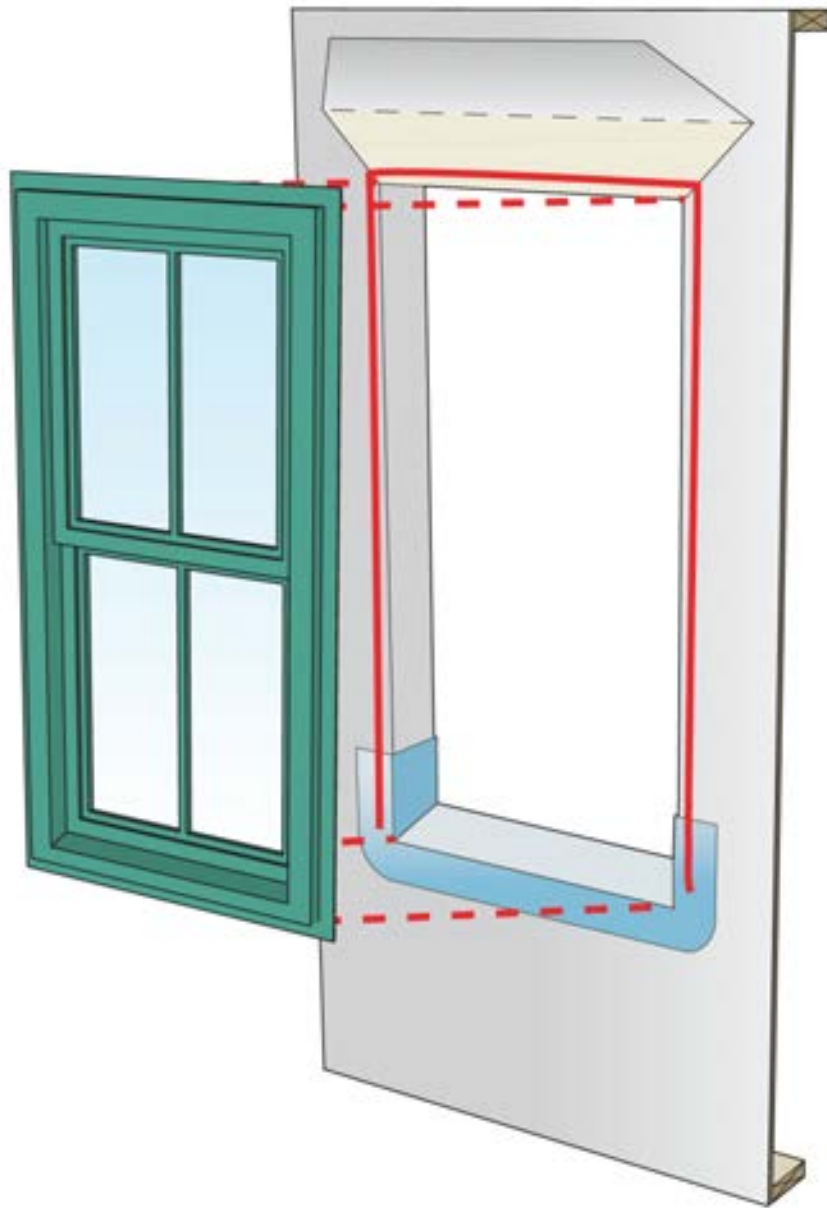


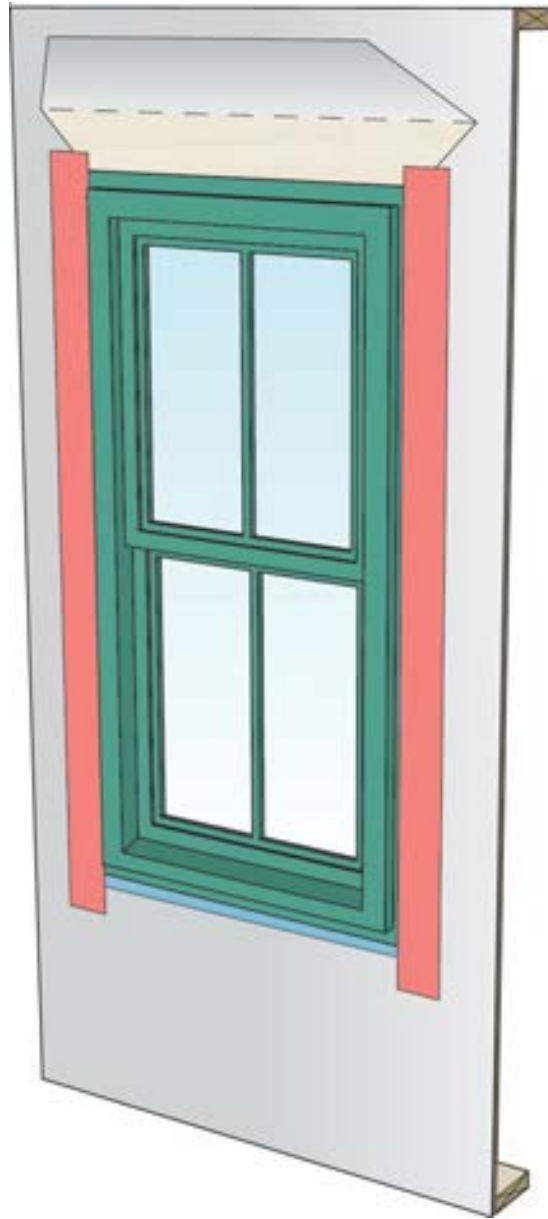


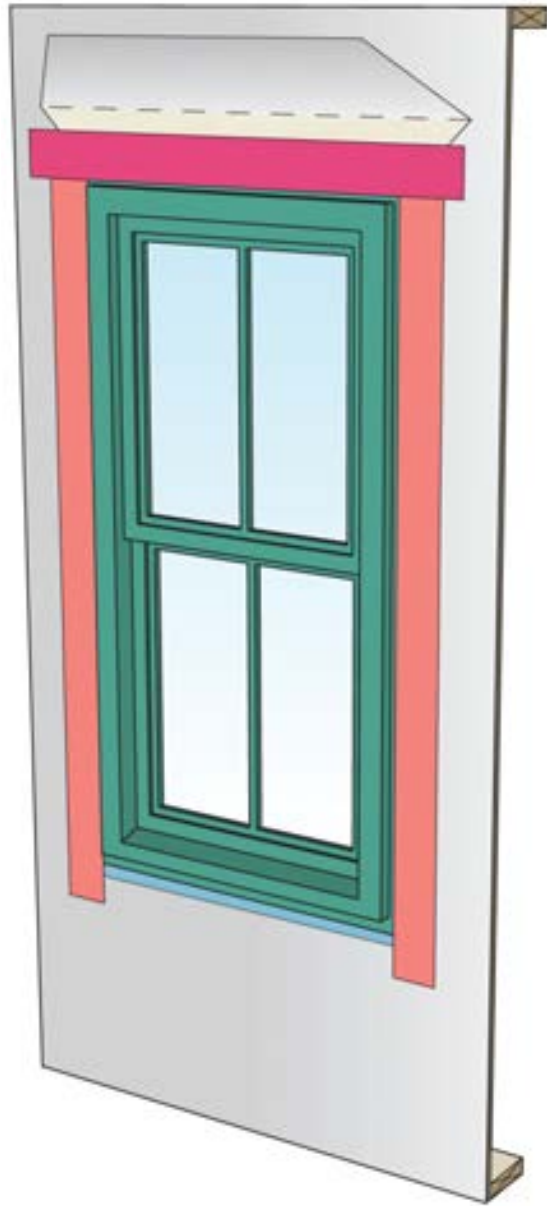


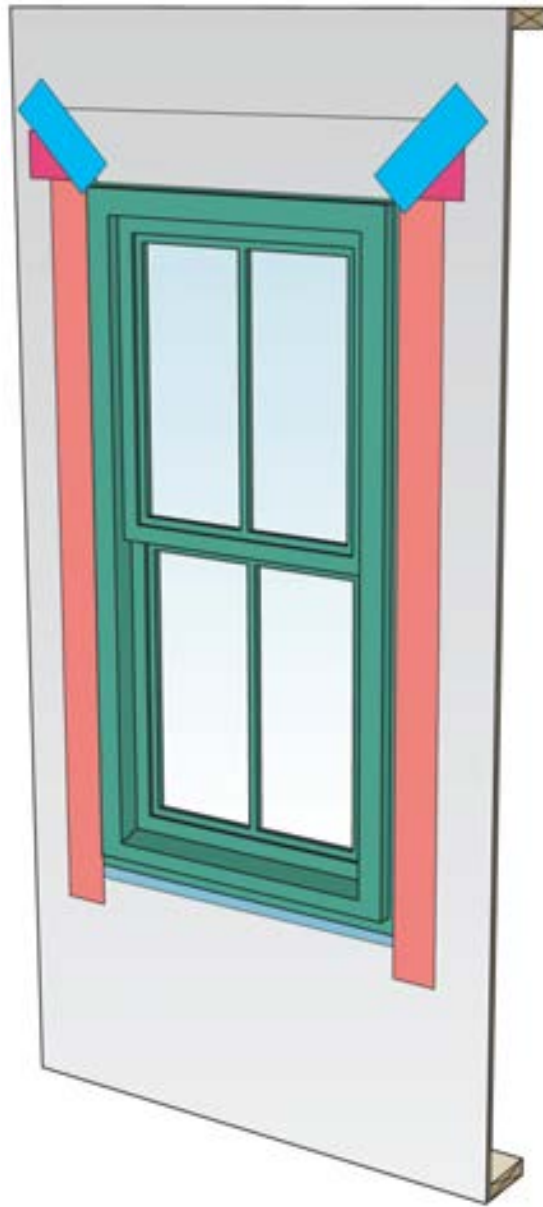


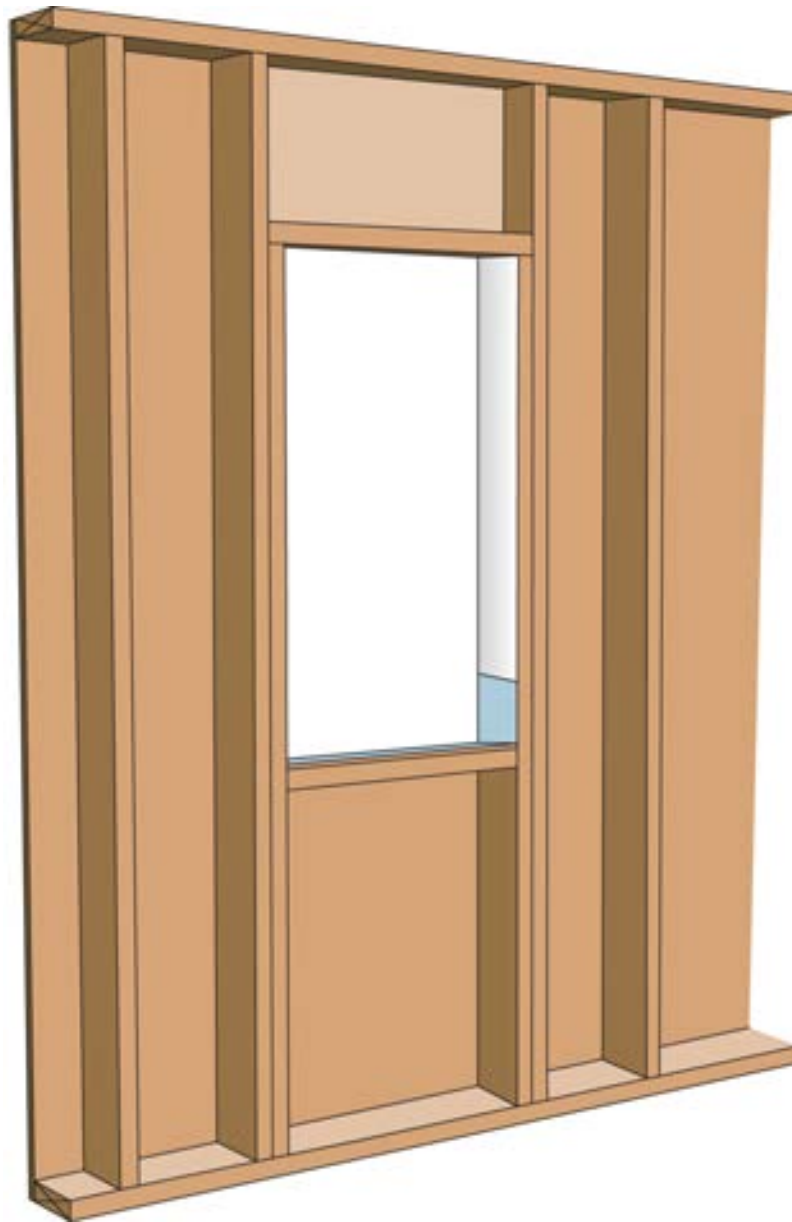






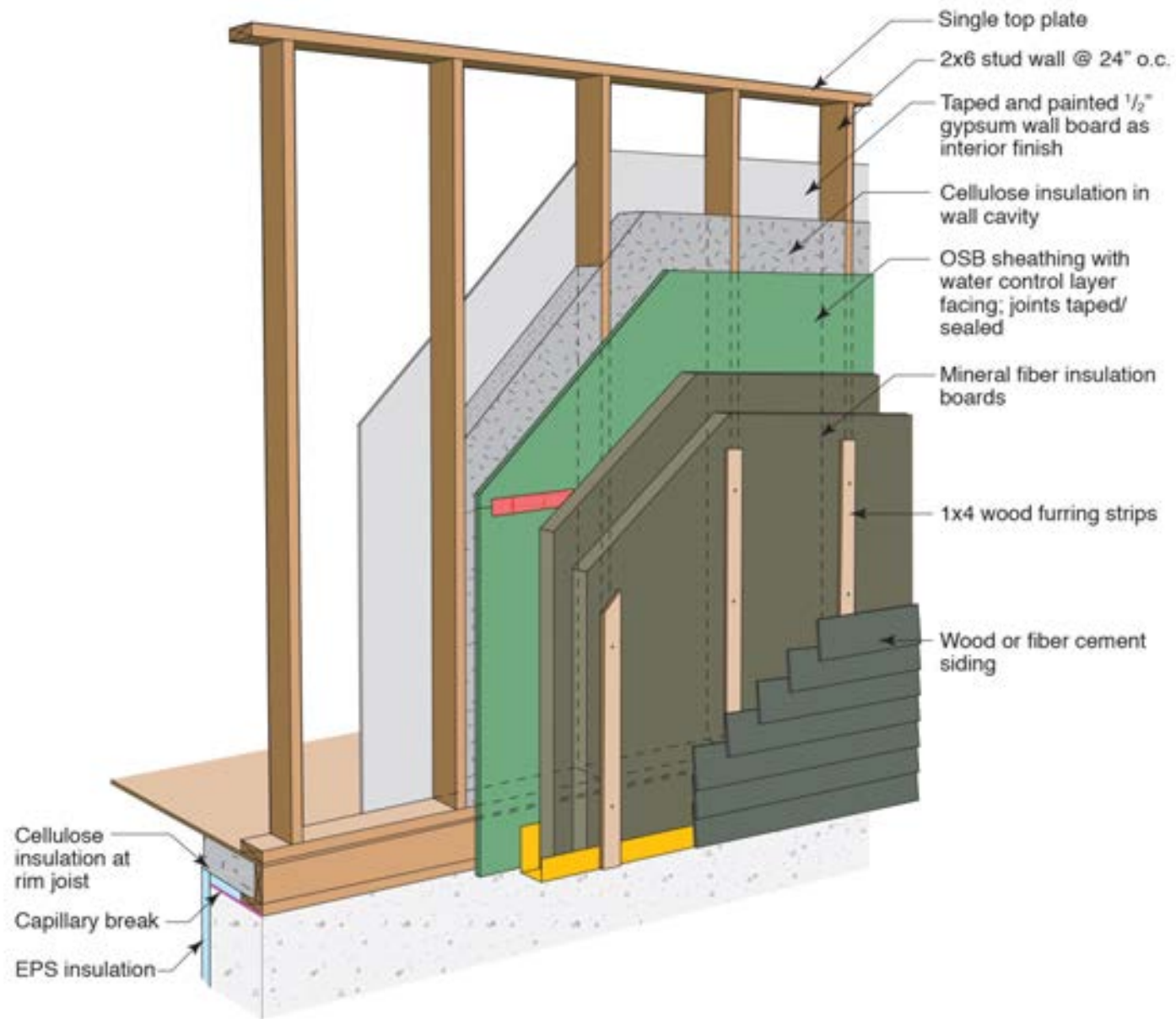


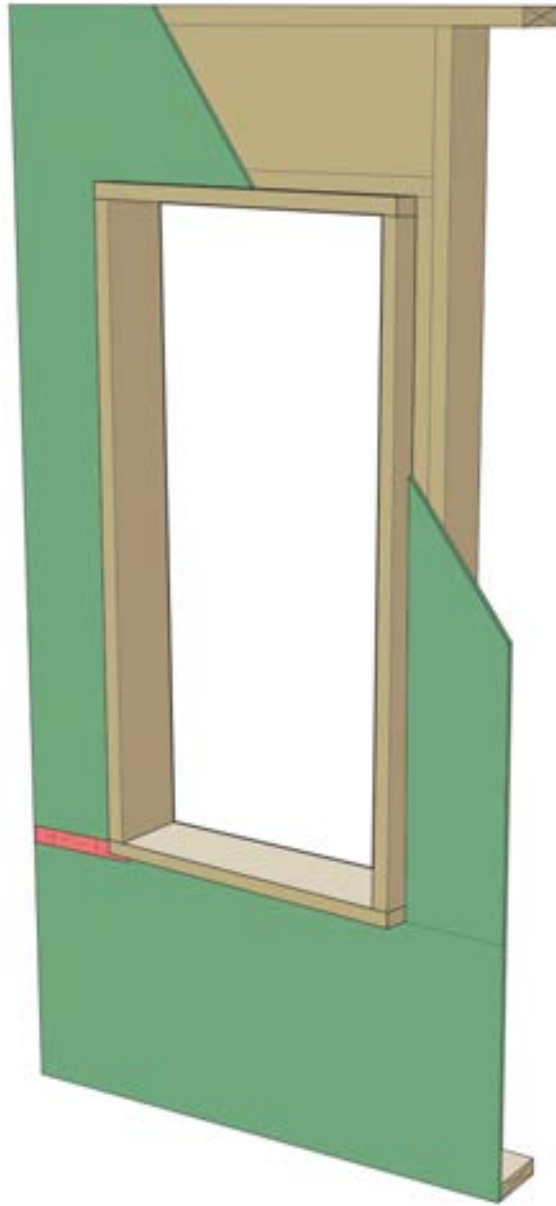


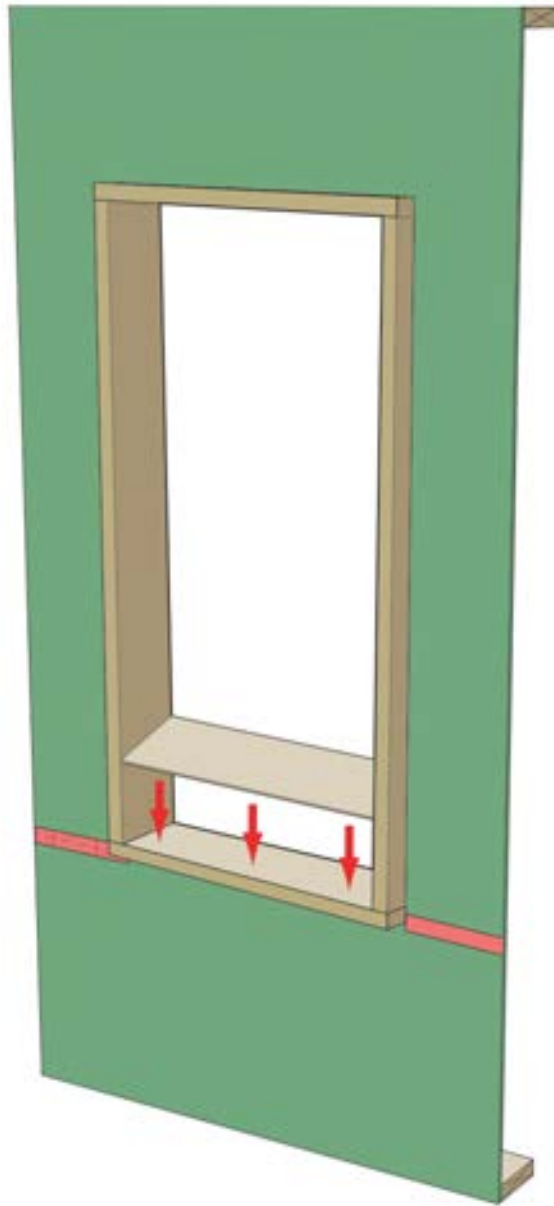


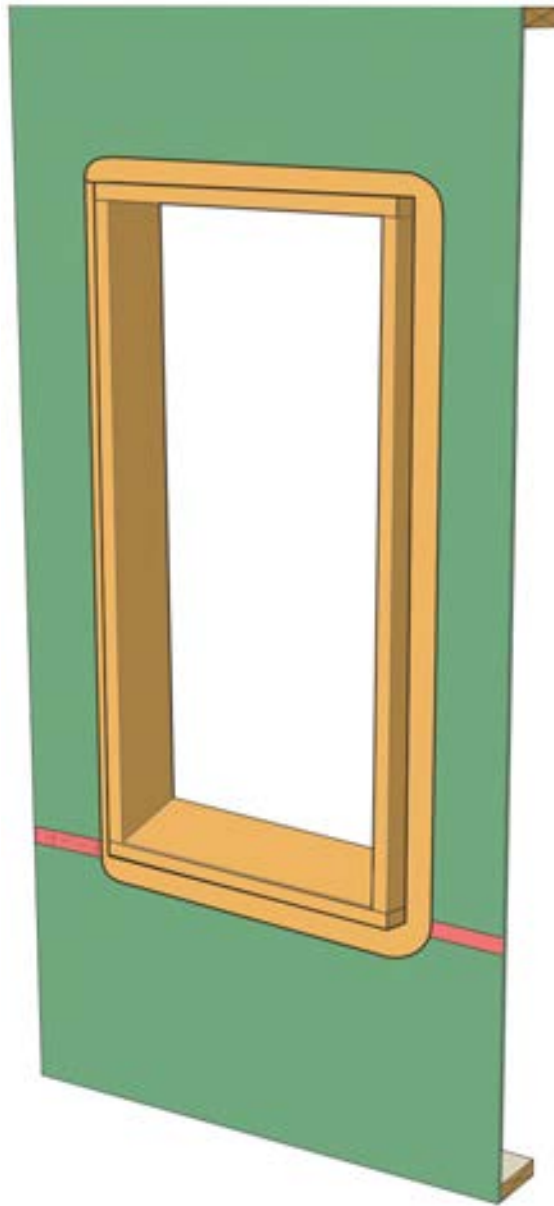


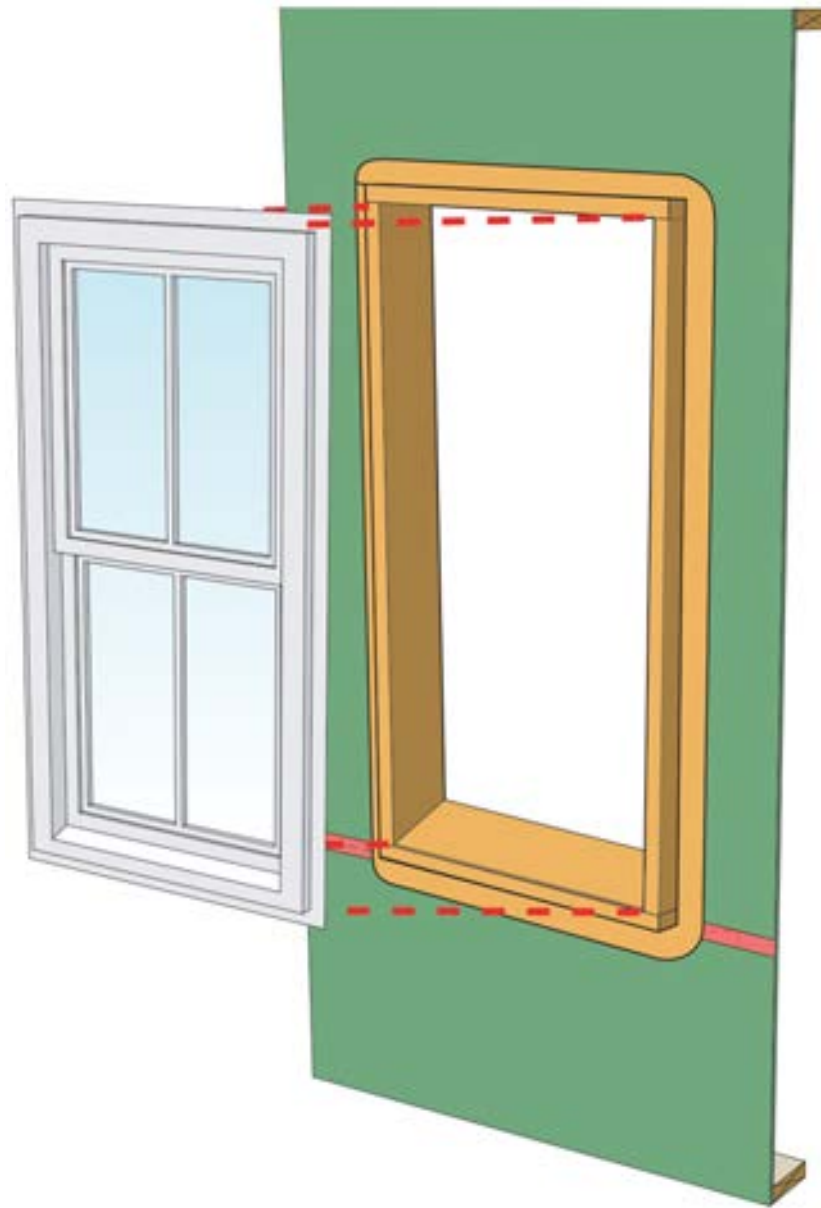






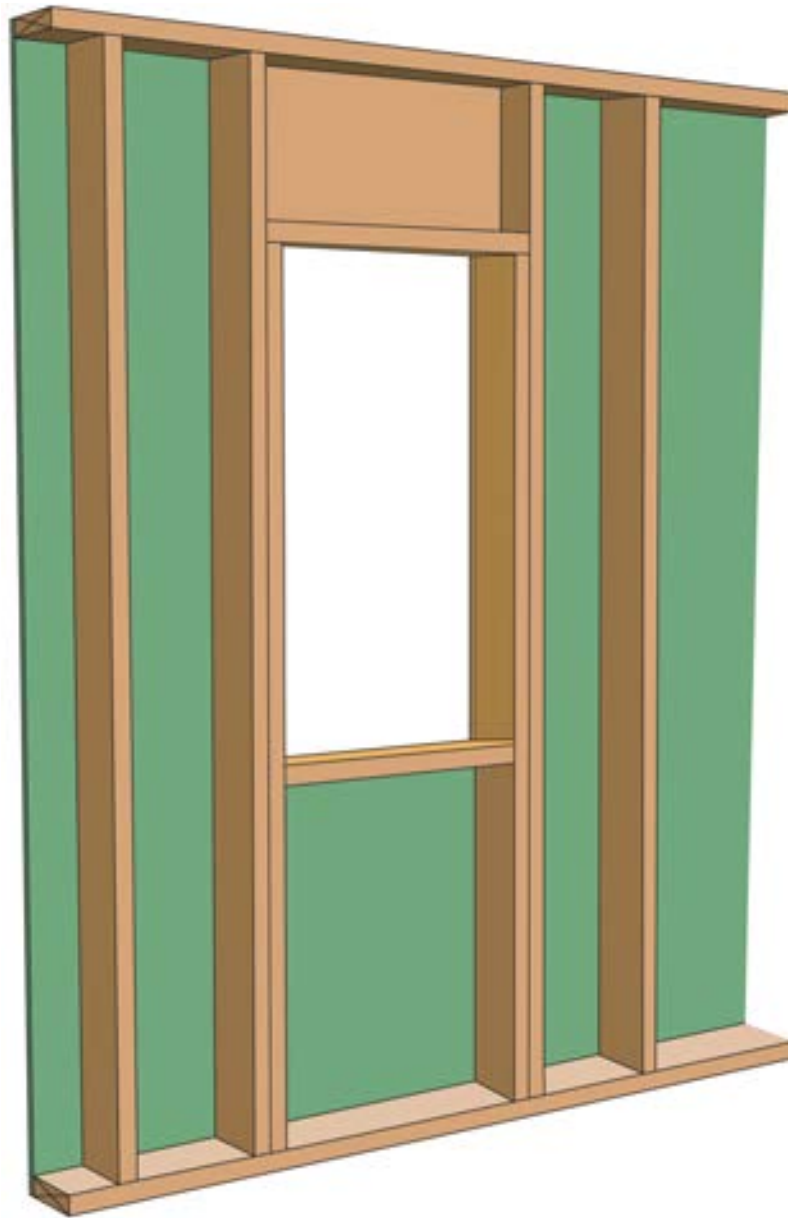






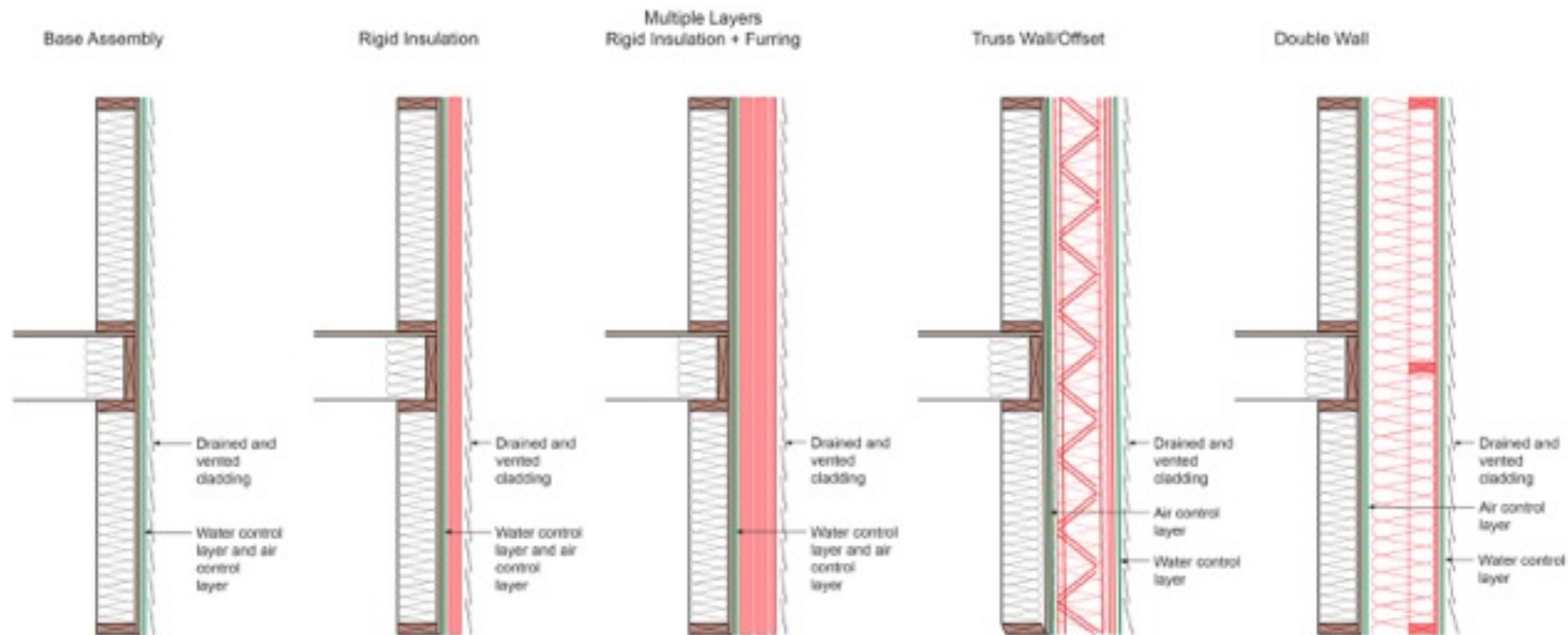










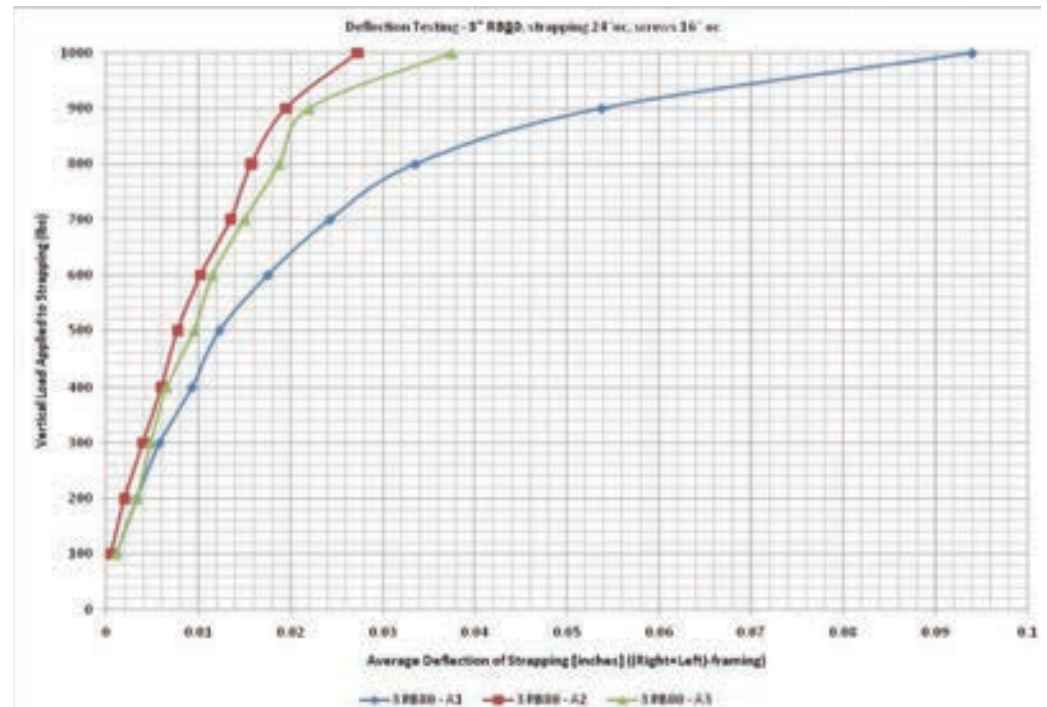


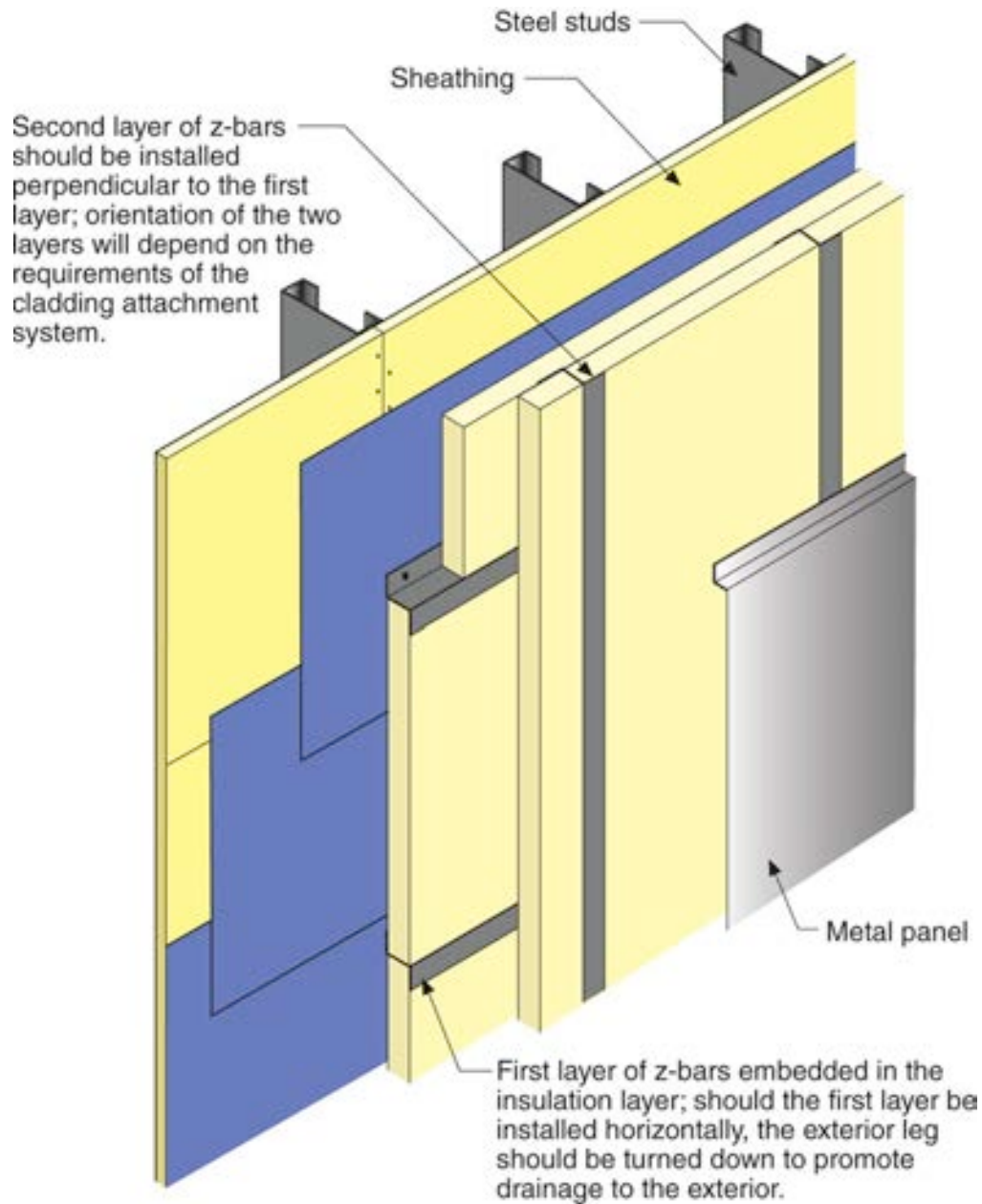


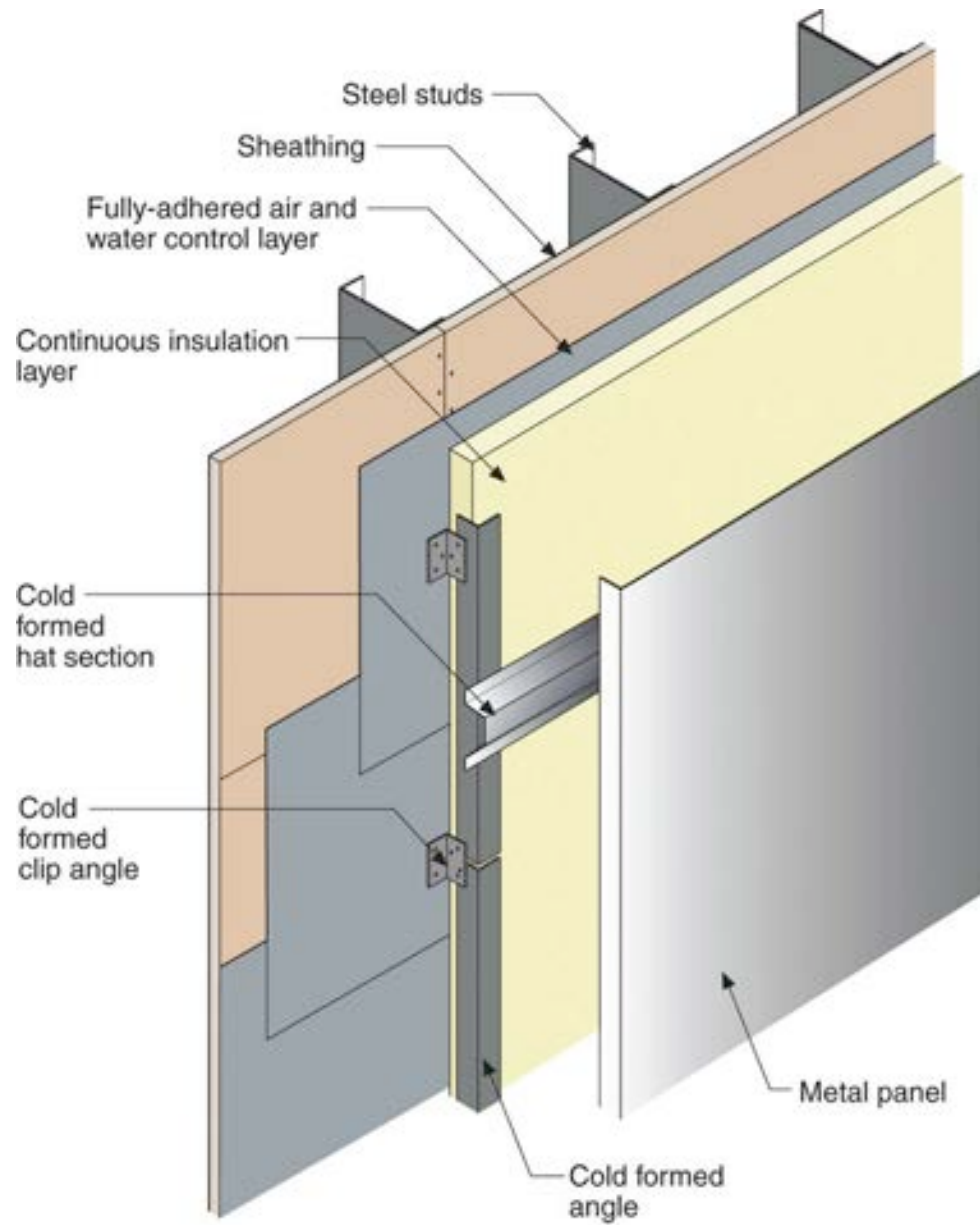


Rockwool

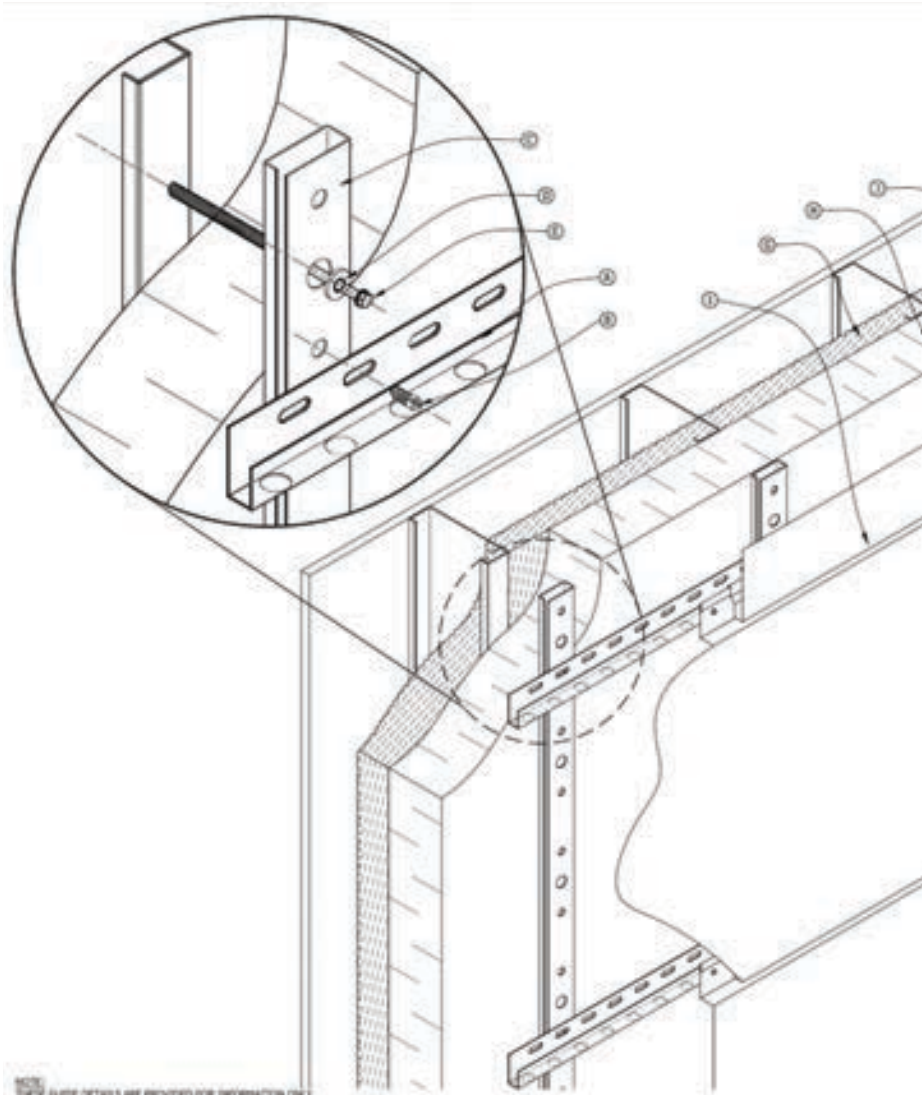
1x3 furring @ 24" o.c.
#10 screws @ 16" o.c. vertically
Result: 20 psf cladding weight
with < 2/100" deflection









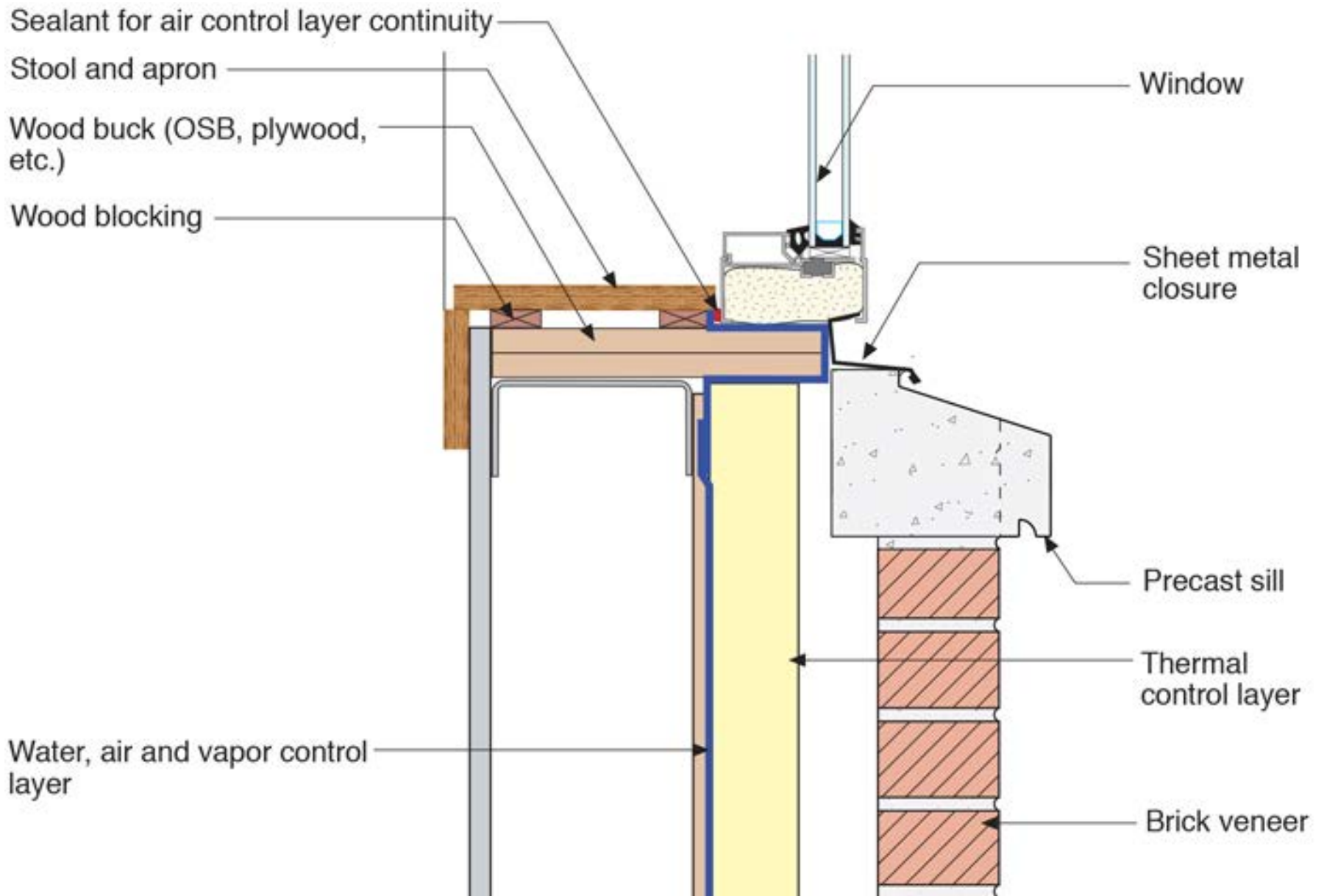


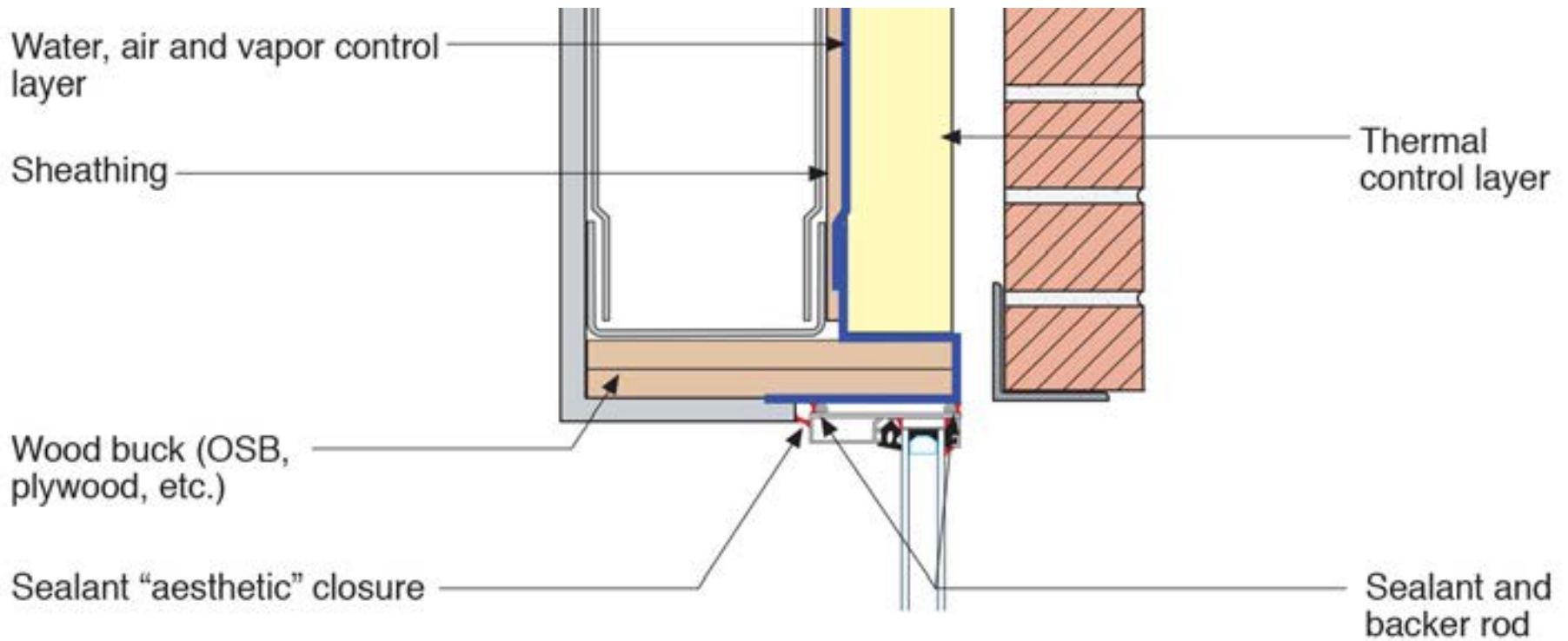




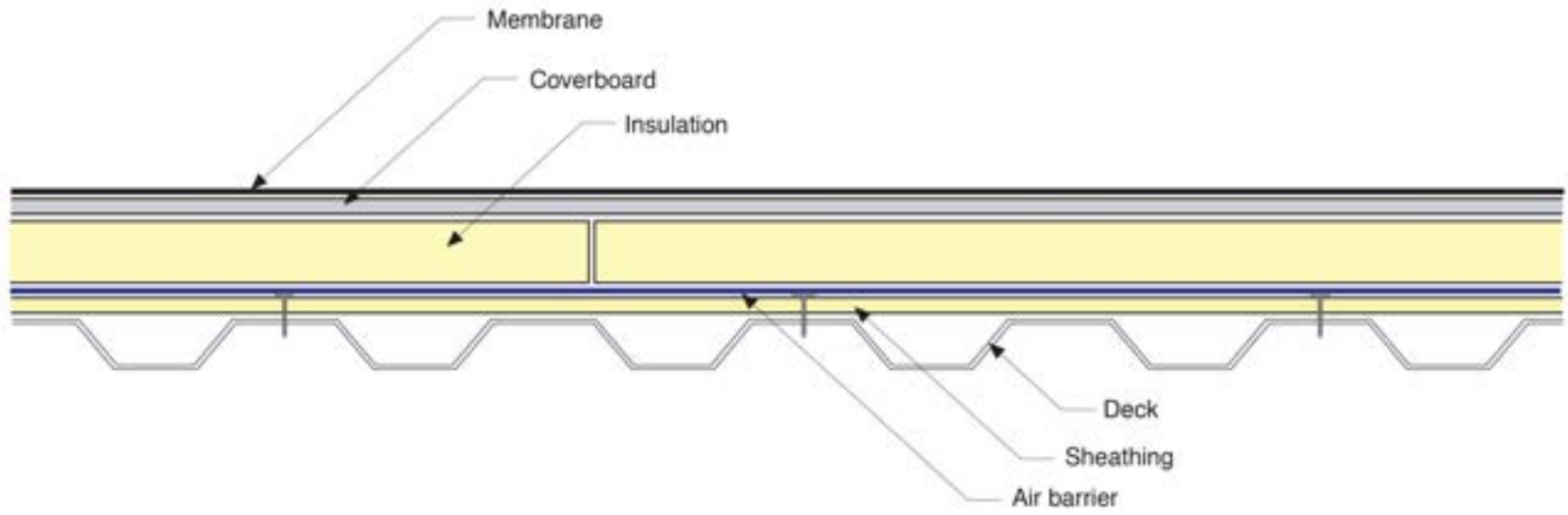








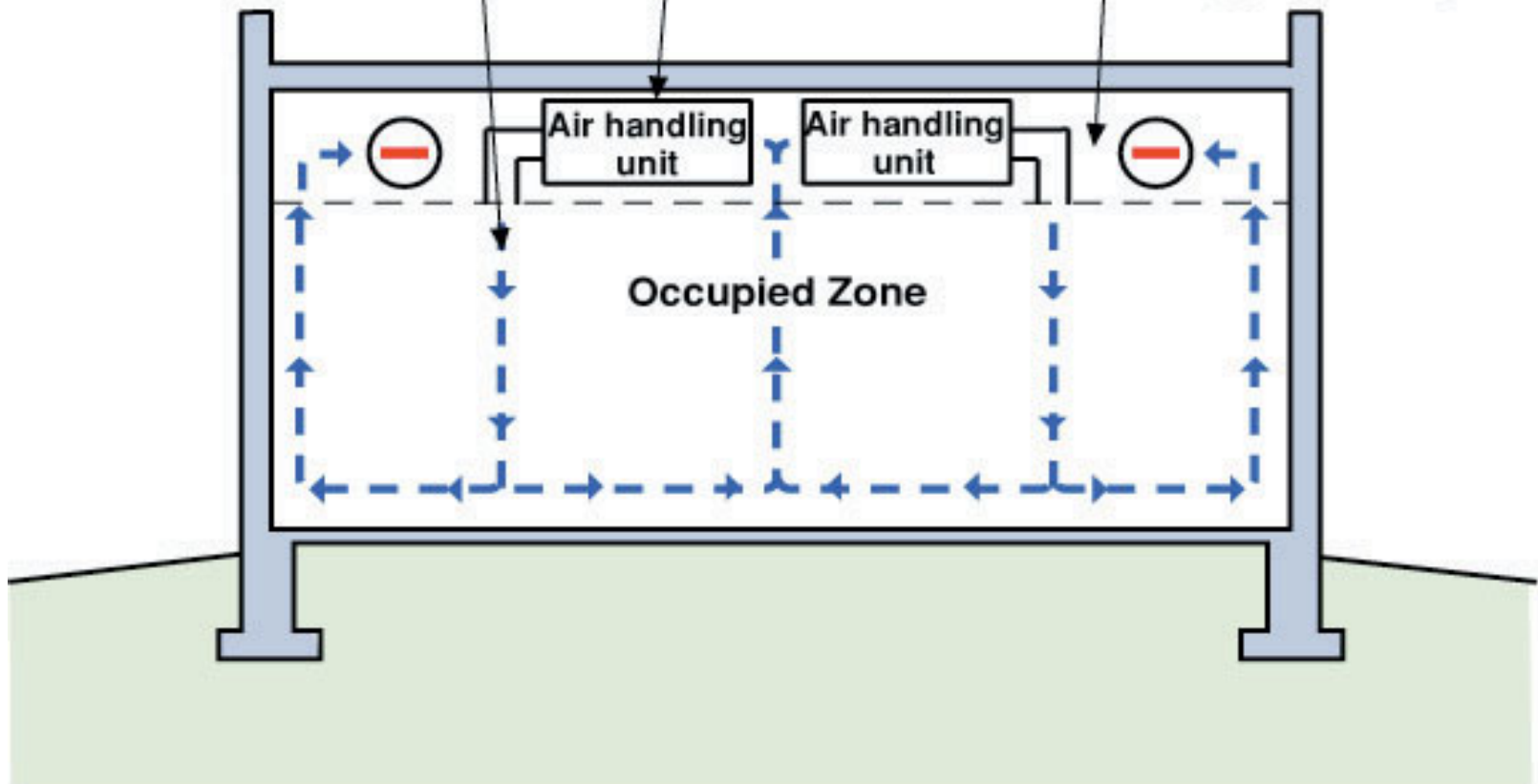
Air Leakage

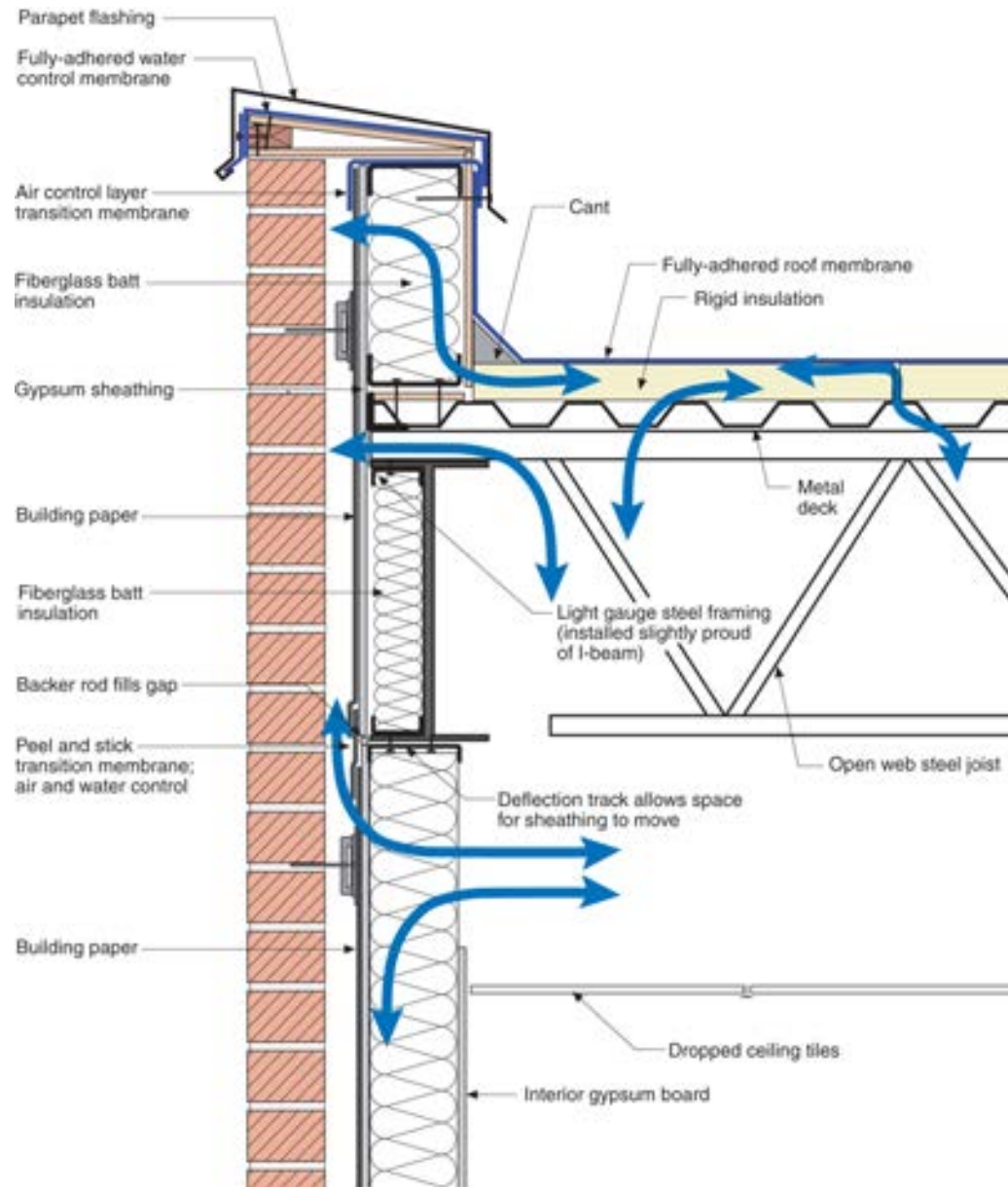


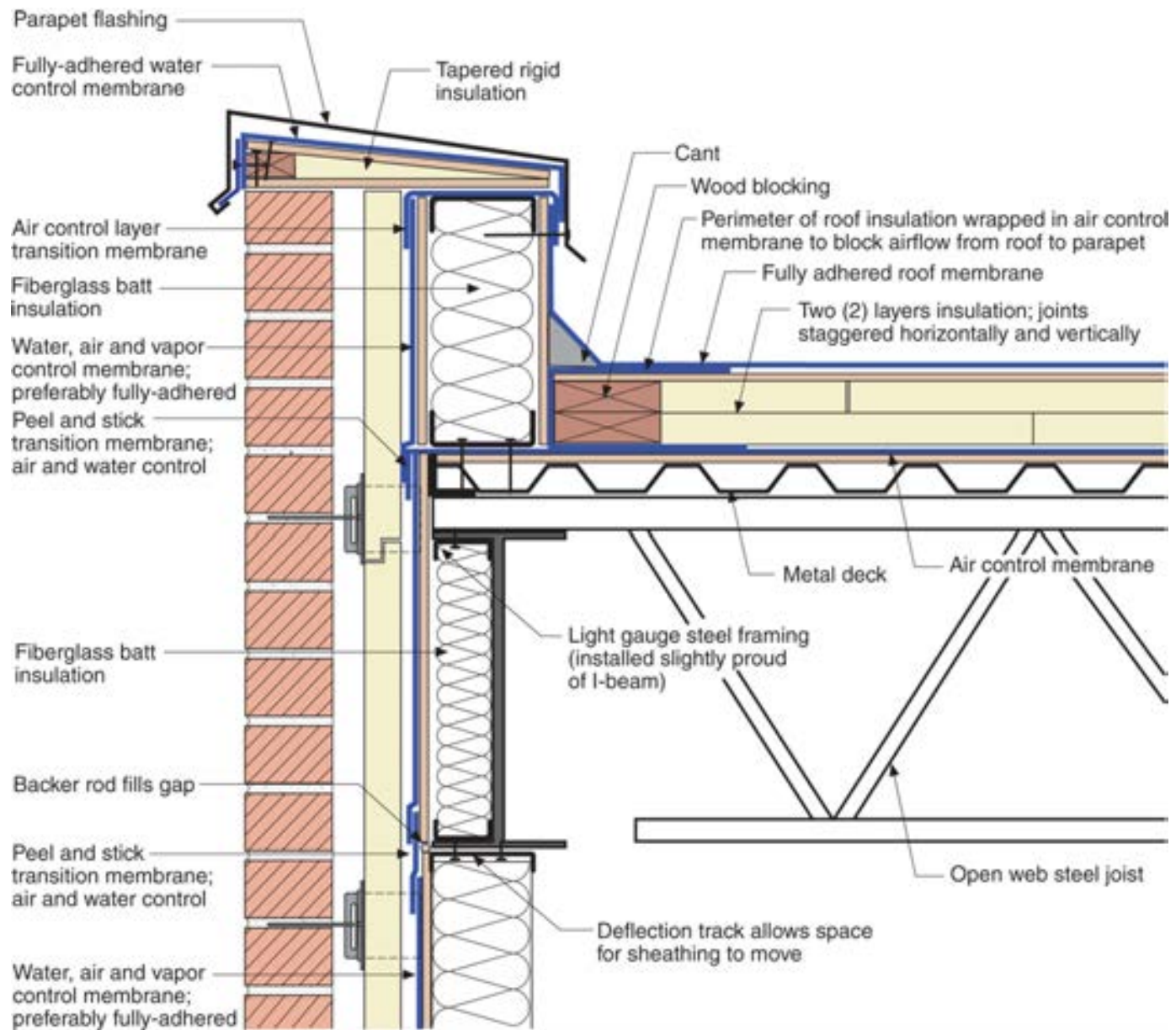
Supply air into occupied zone returns to AHU by passing through deliberately porous dropped ceiling or through return grilles installed in dropped ceiling

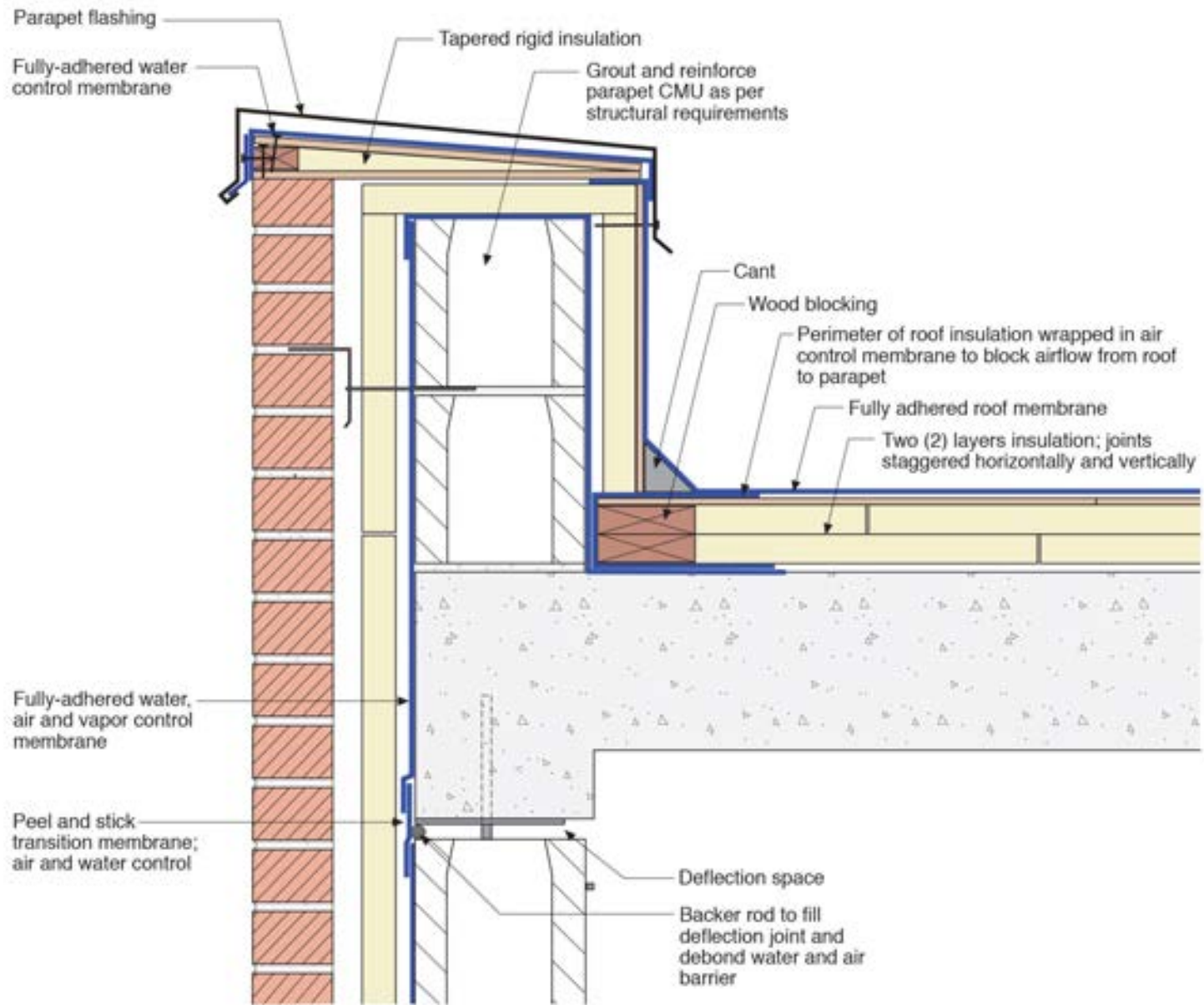
Air handling unit extracts air from dropped ceiling, conditions it and injects it into the occupied zones via supply ductwork

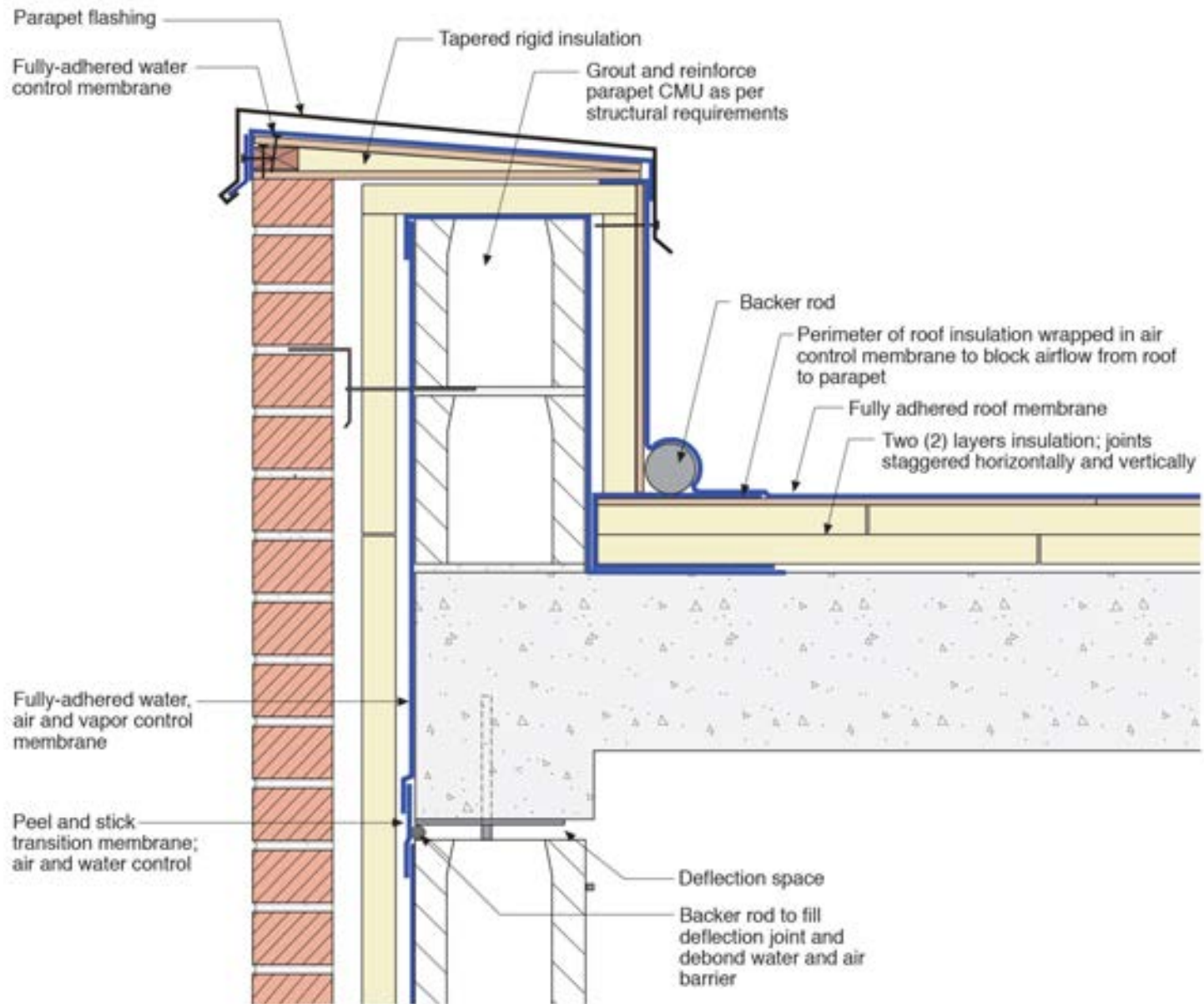
Dropped ceiling depressurized by air handling units extracting air from dropped ceiling

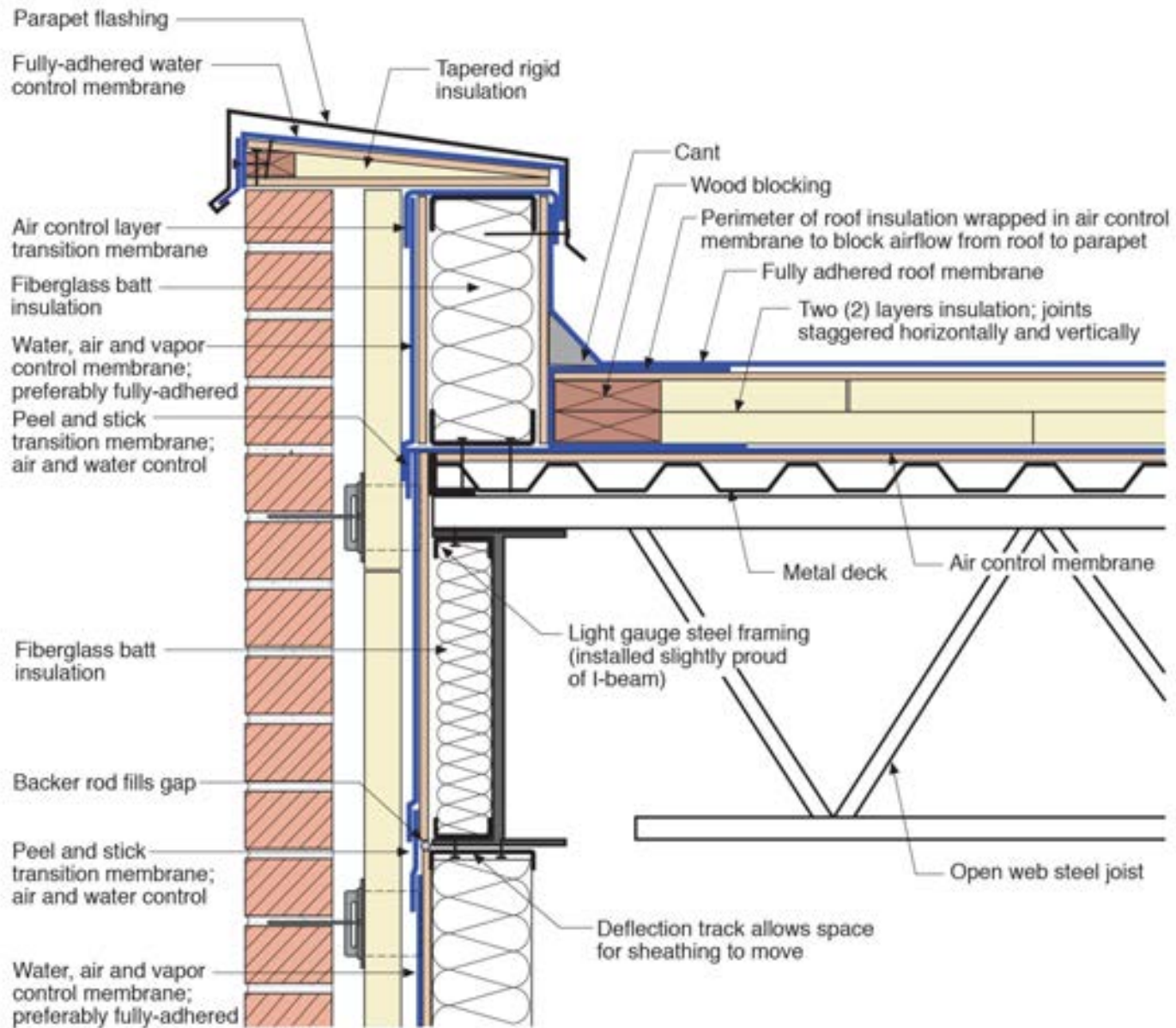


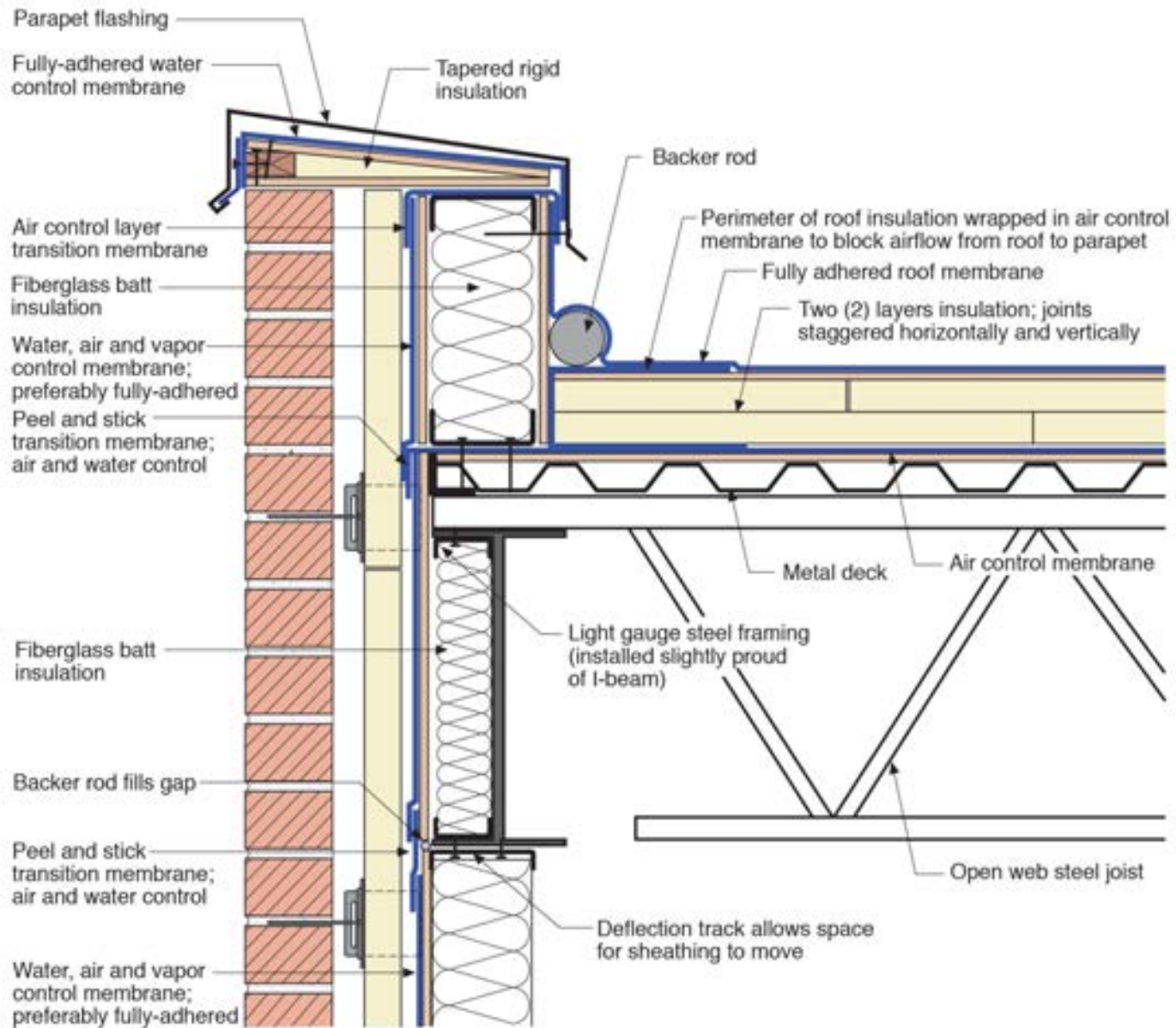


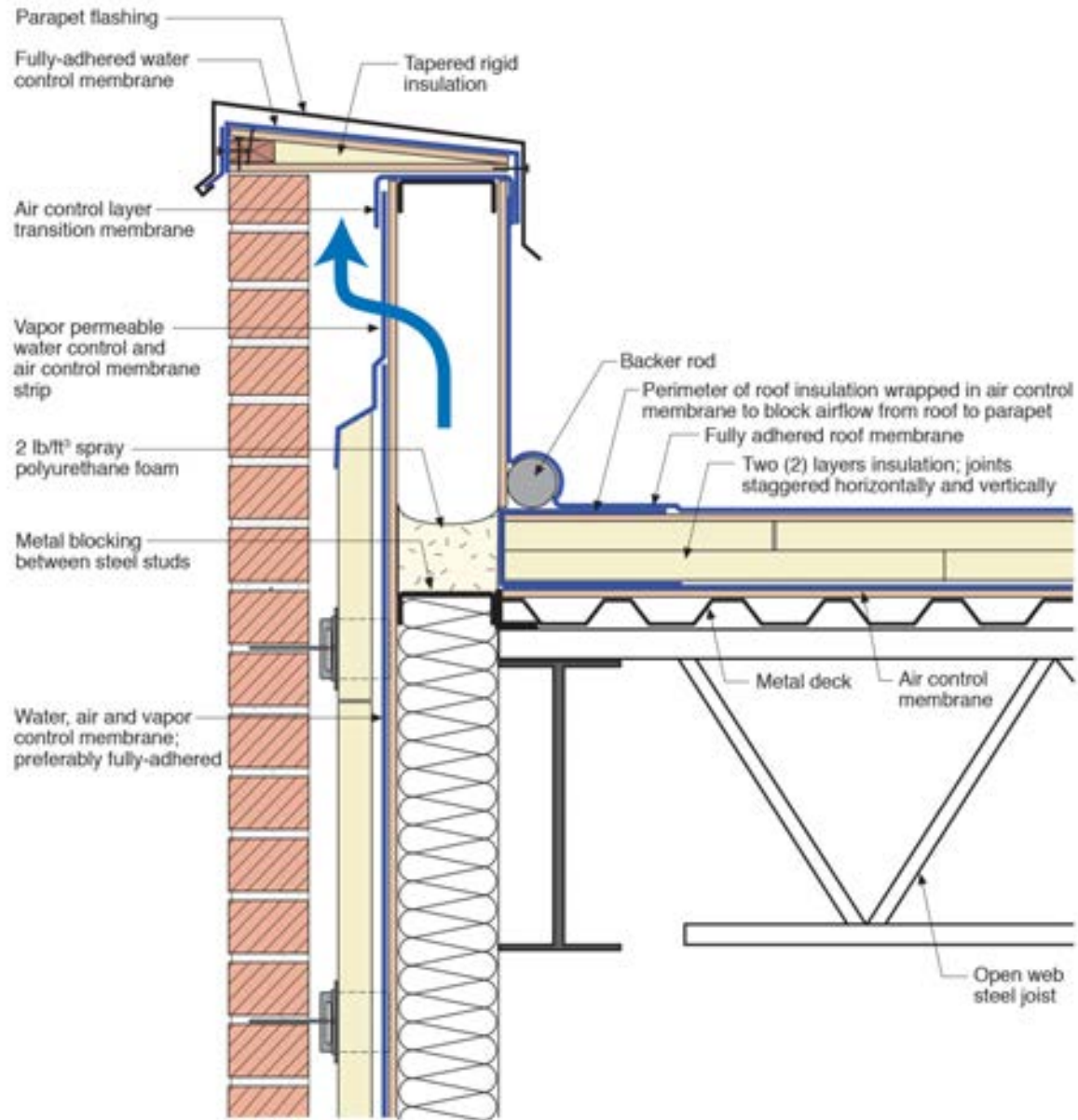


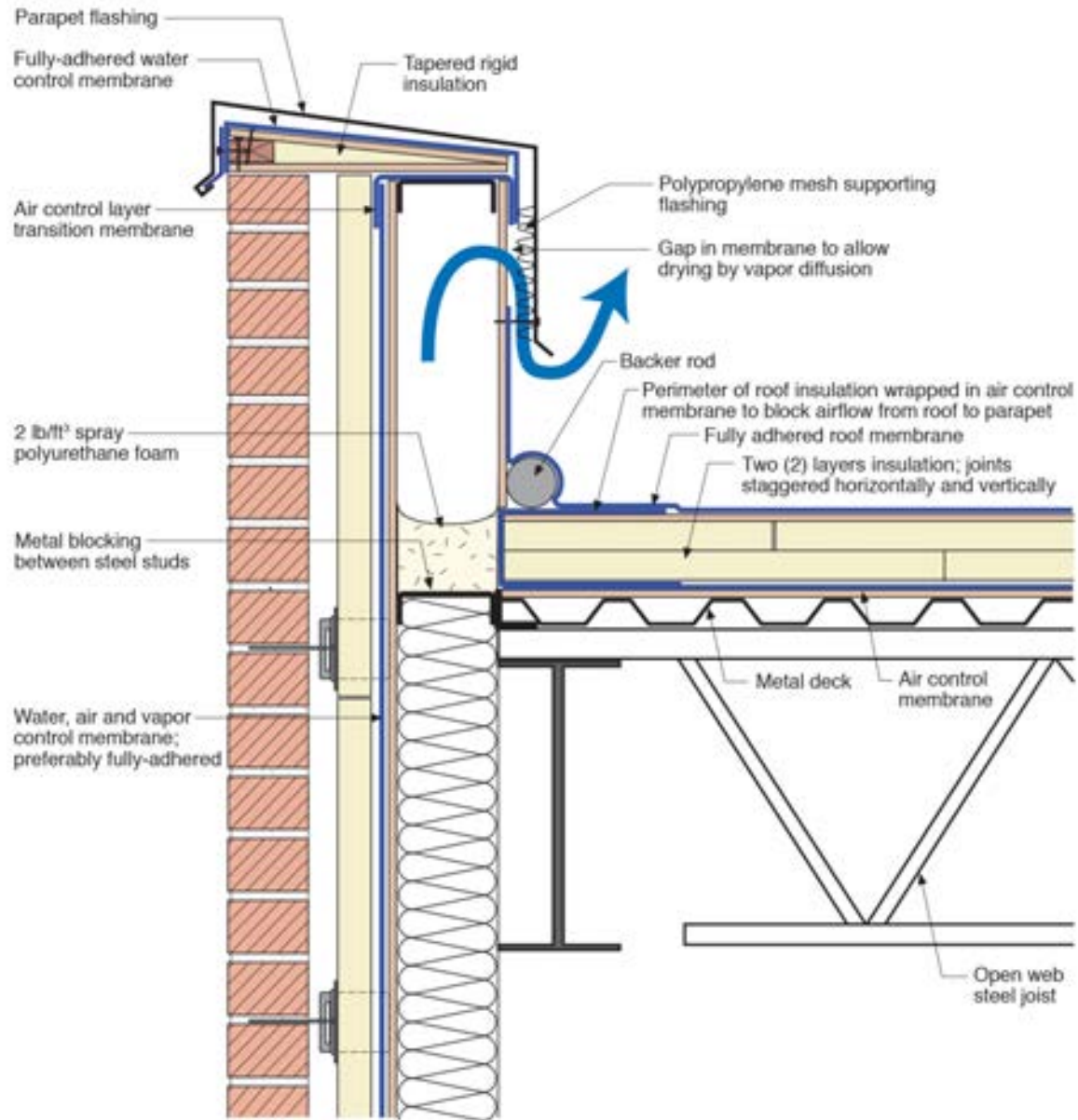


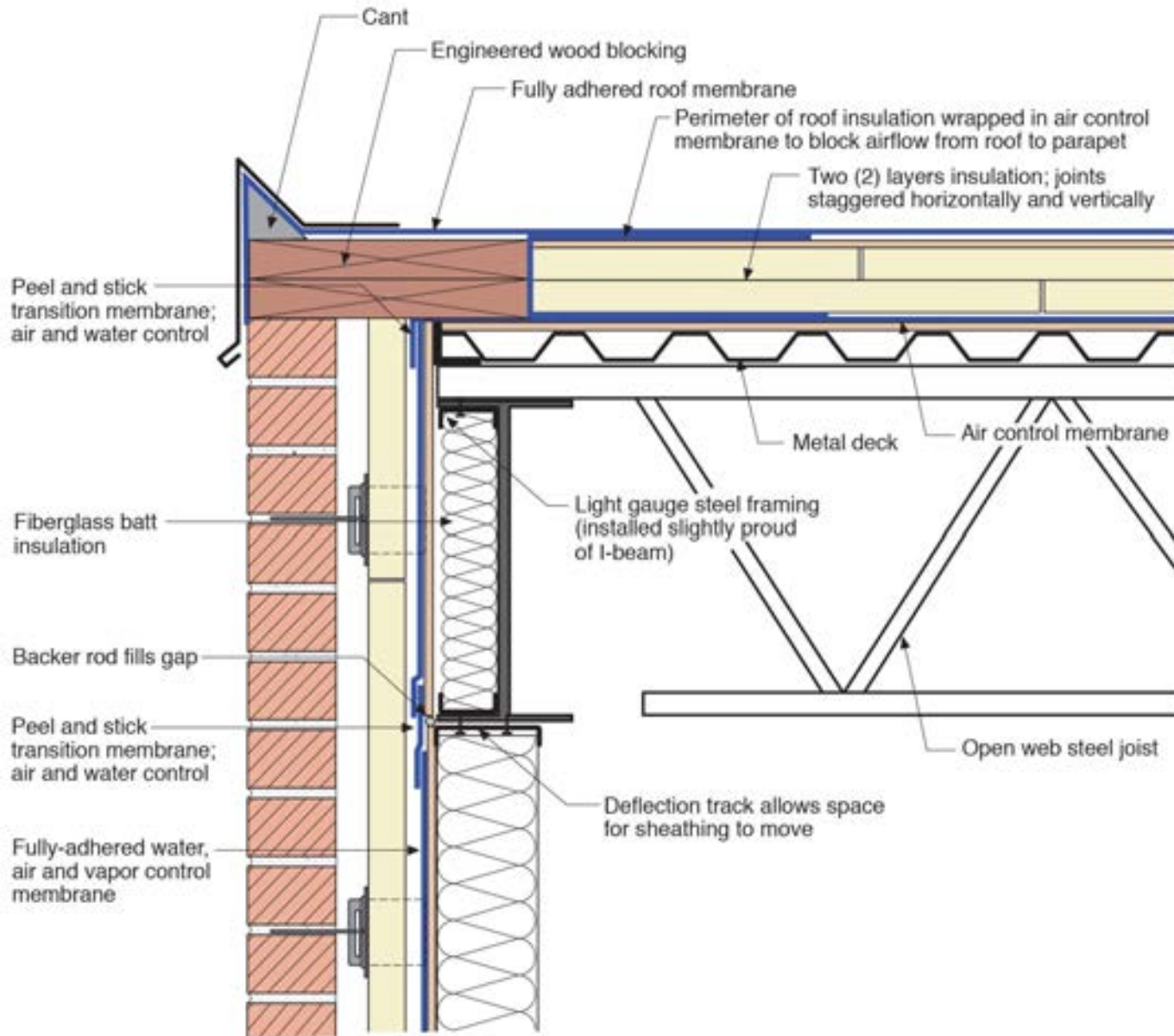


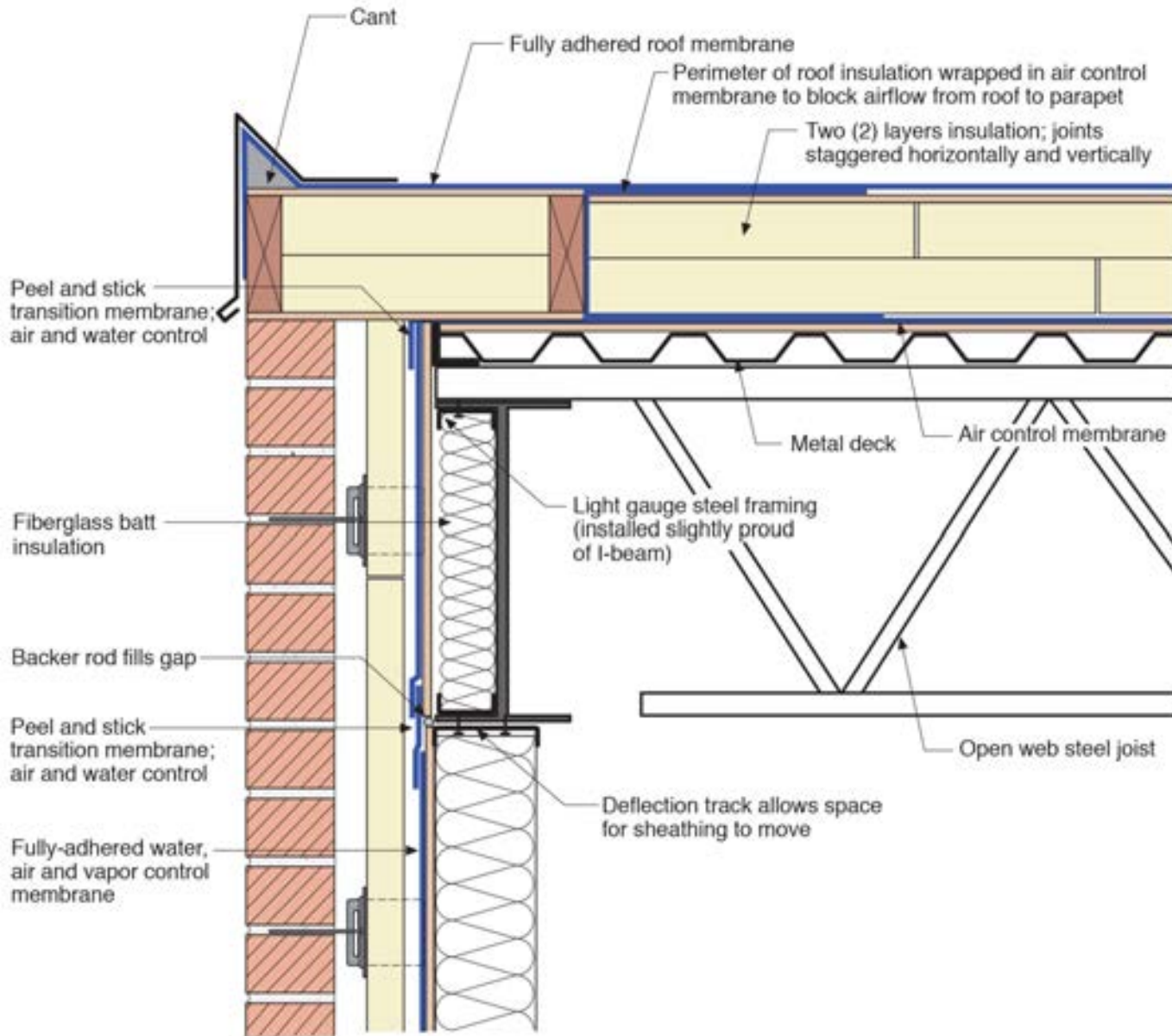


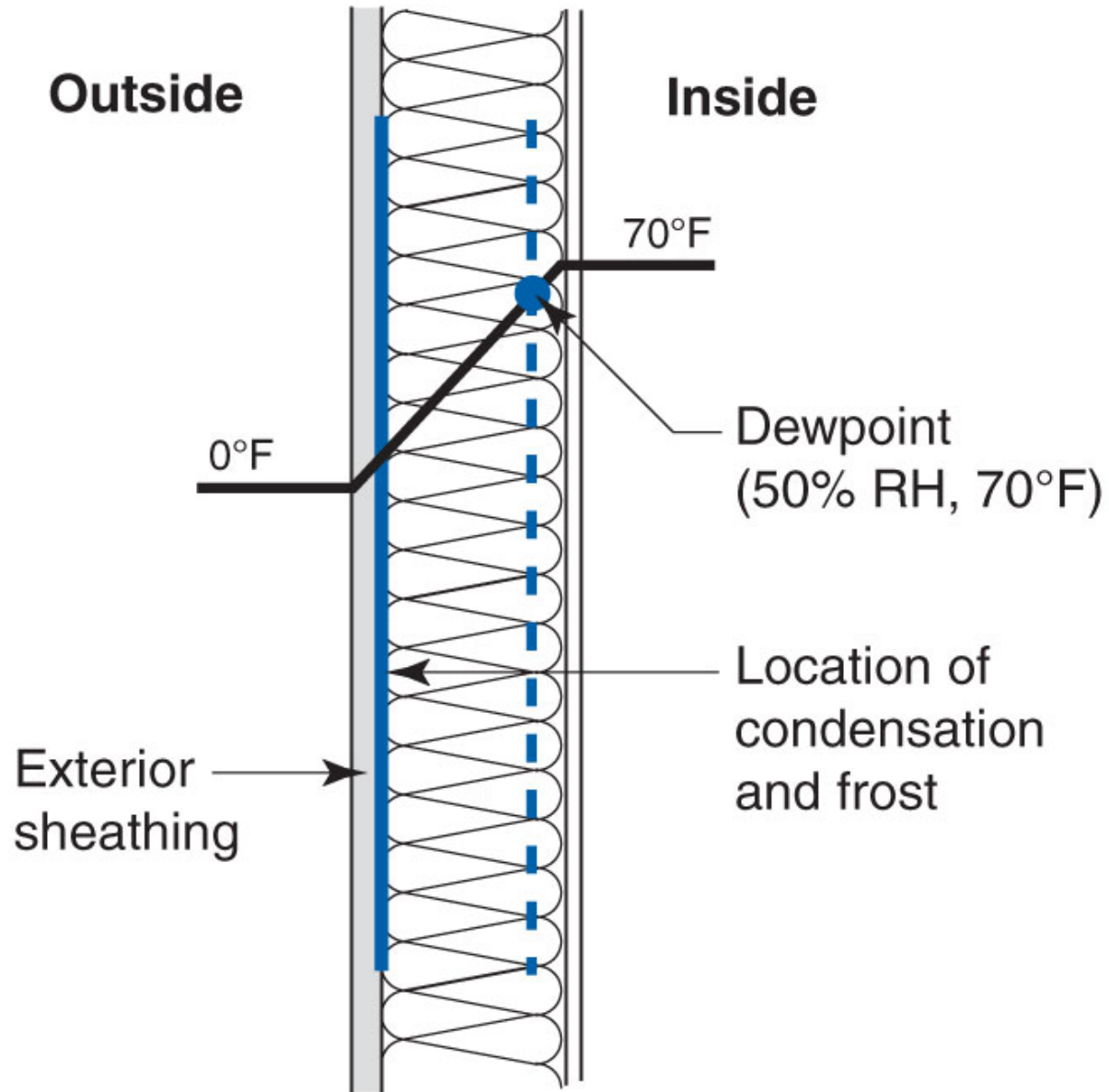




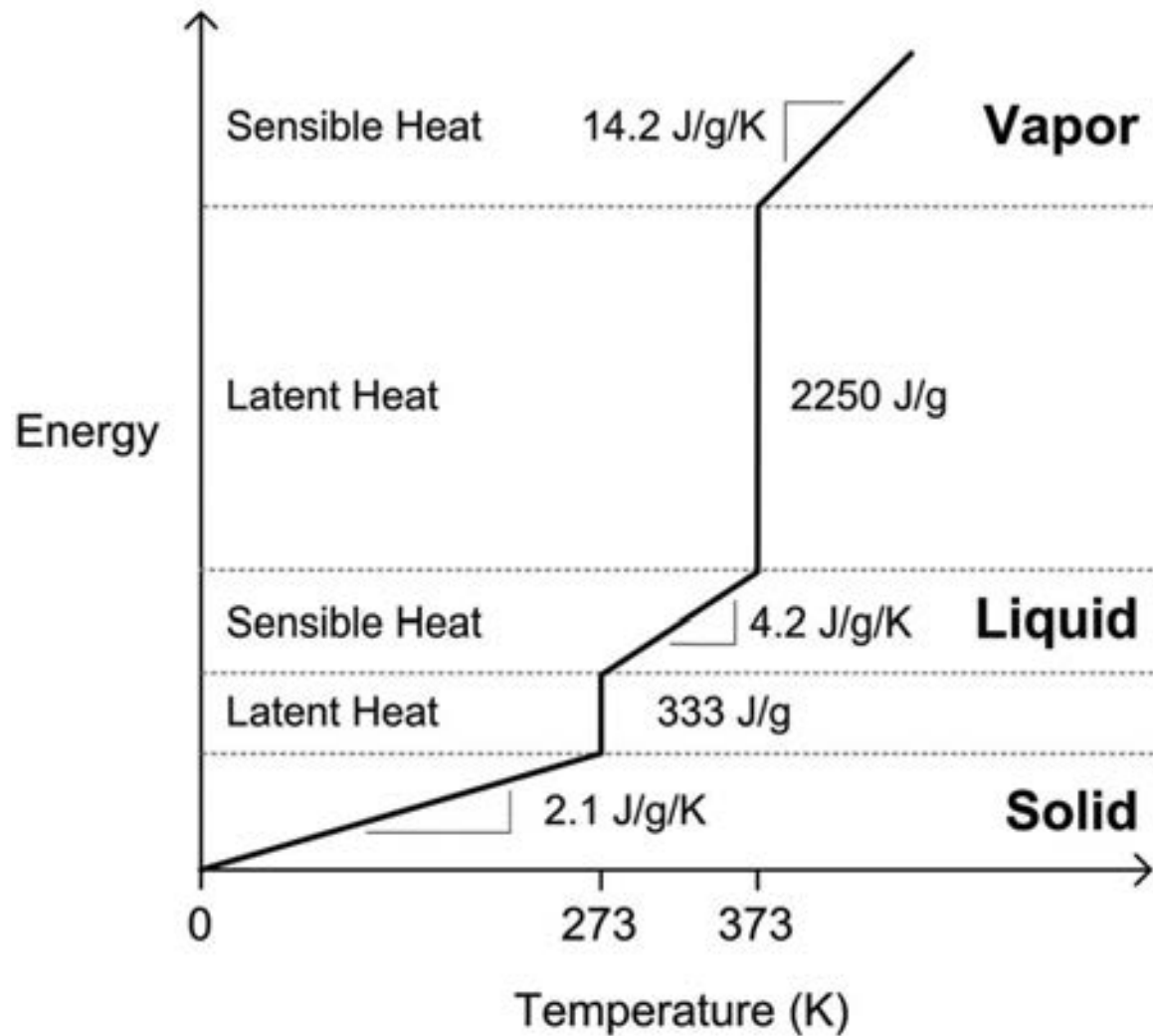








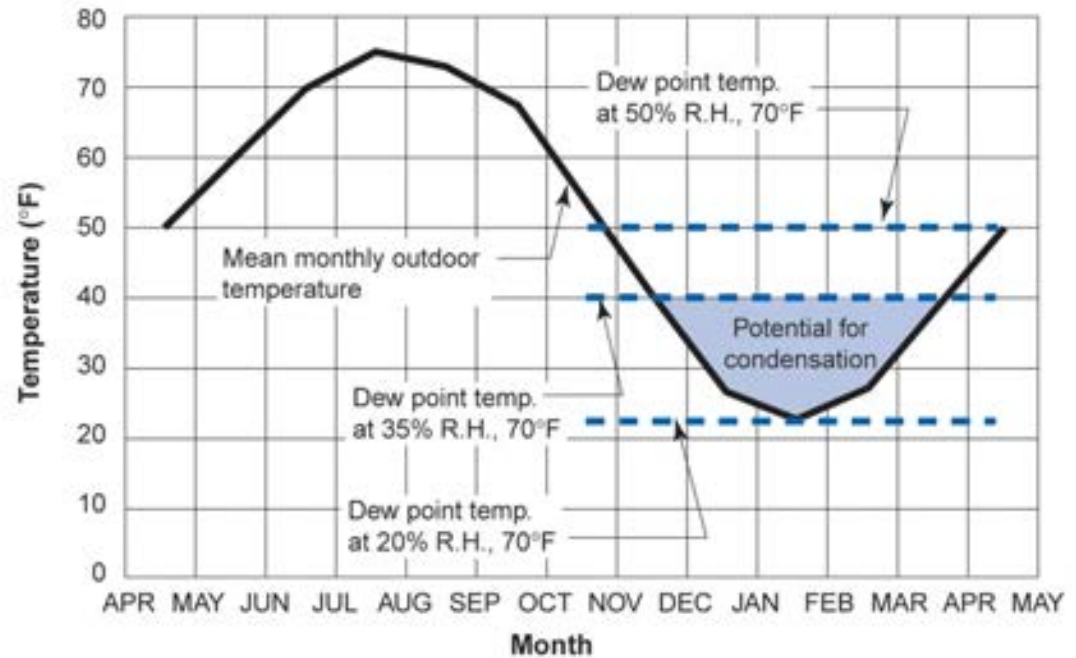
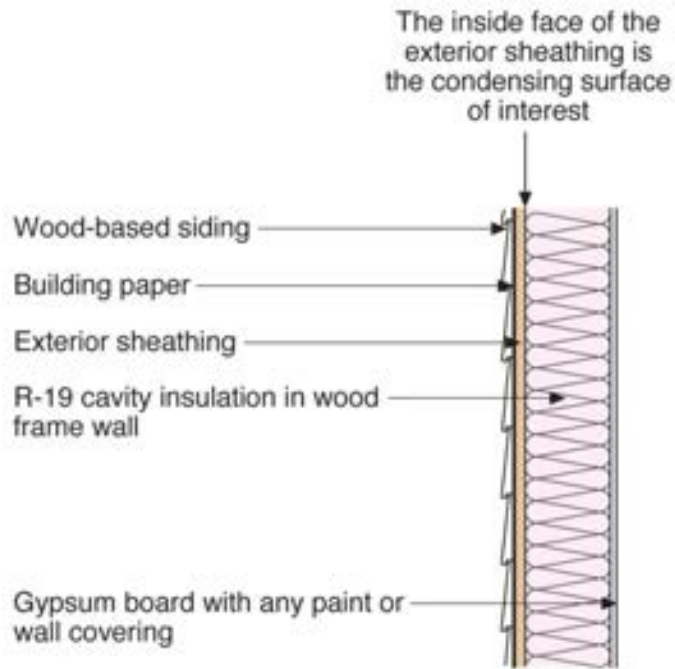


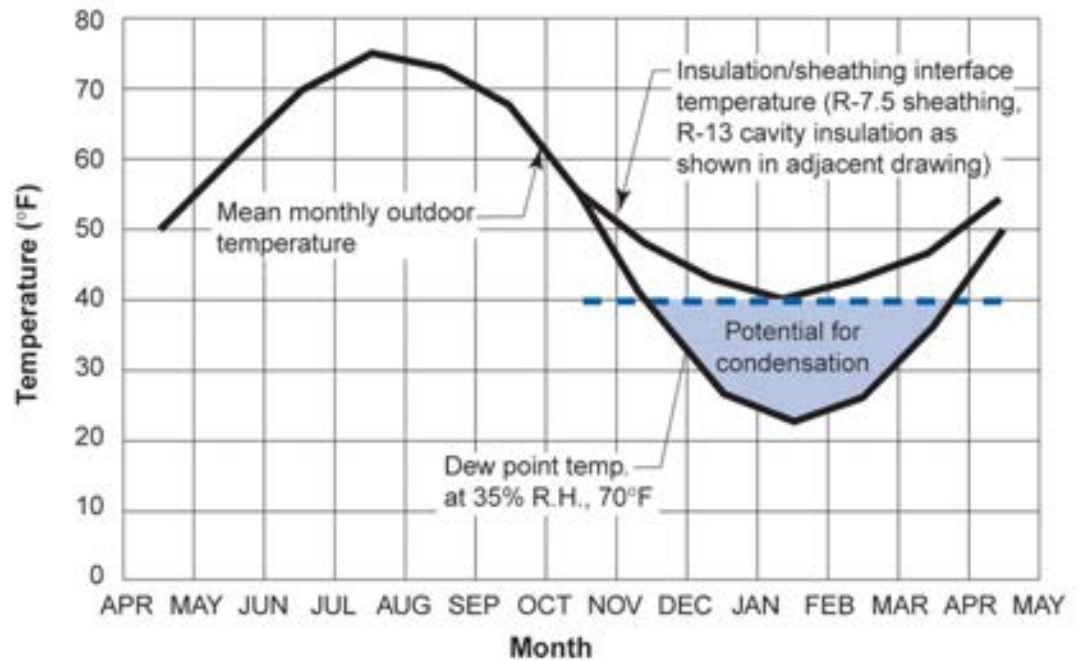
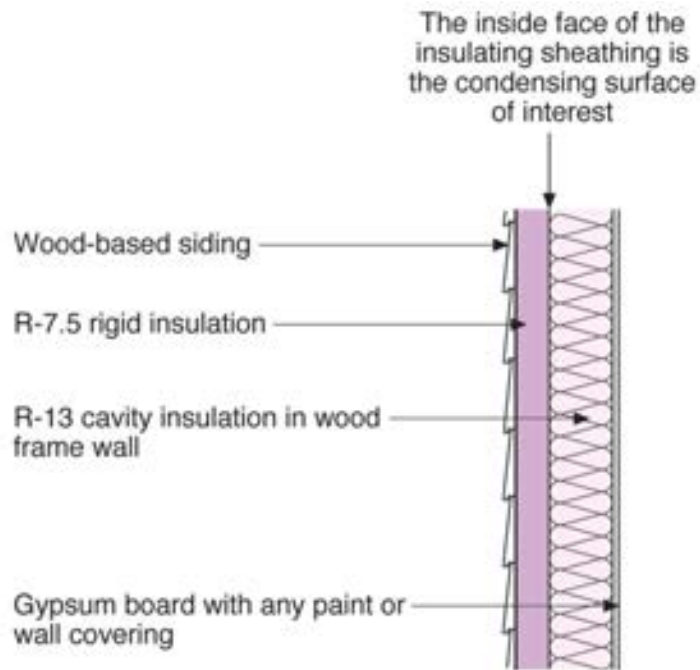


Simple linearized energy-temperature relation for water

From Straube & Burnett, 2005







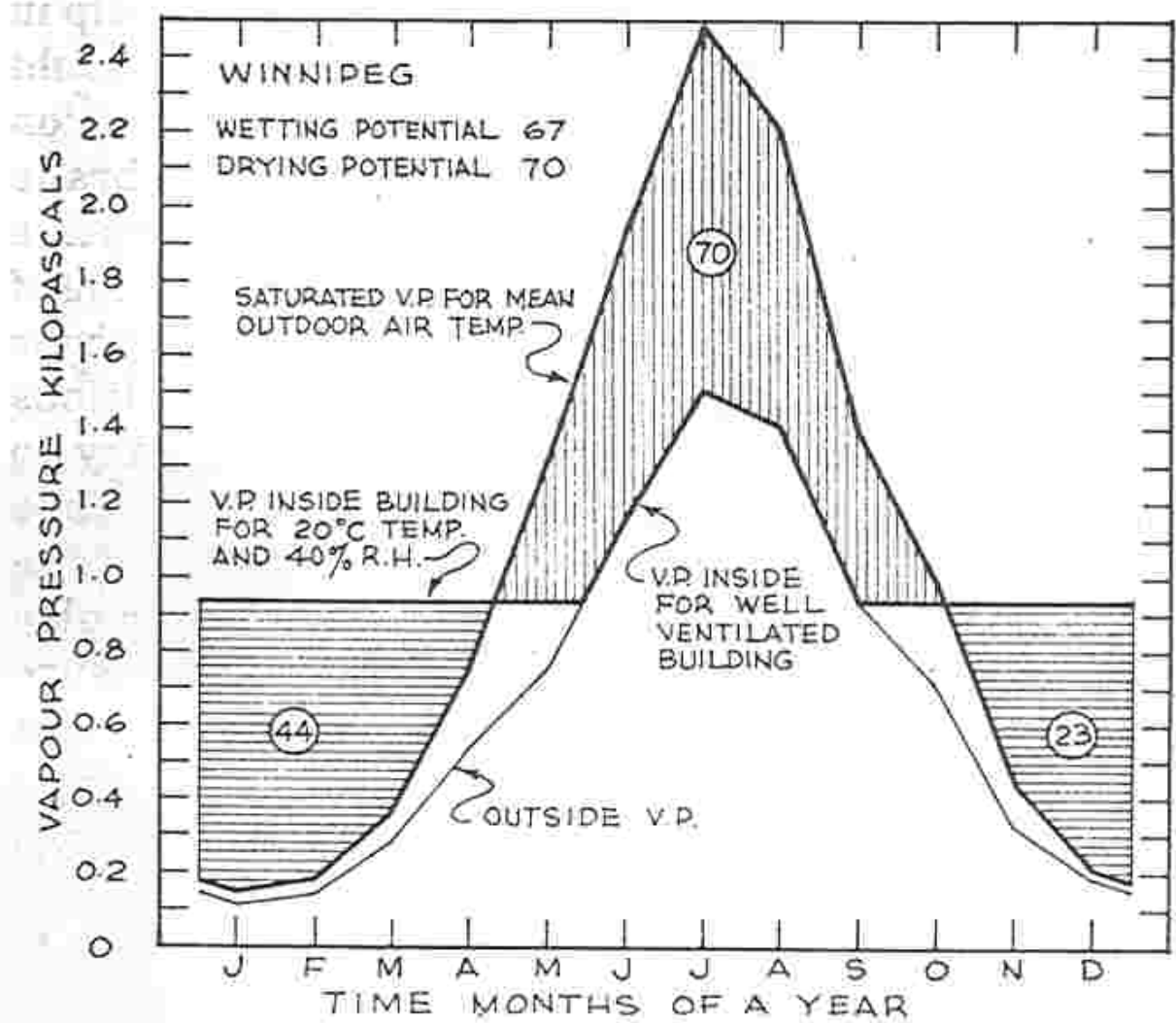
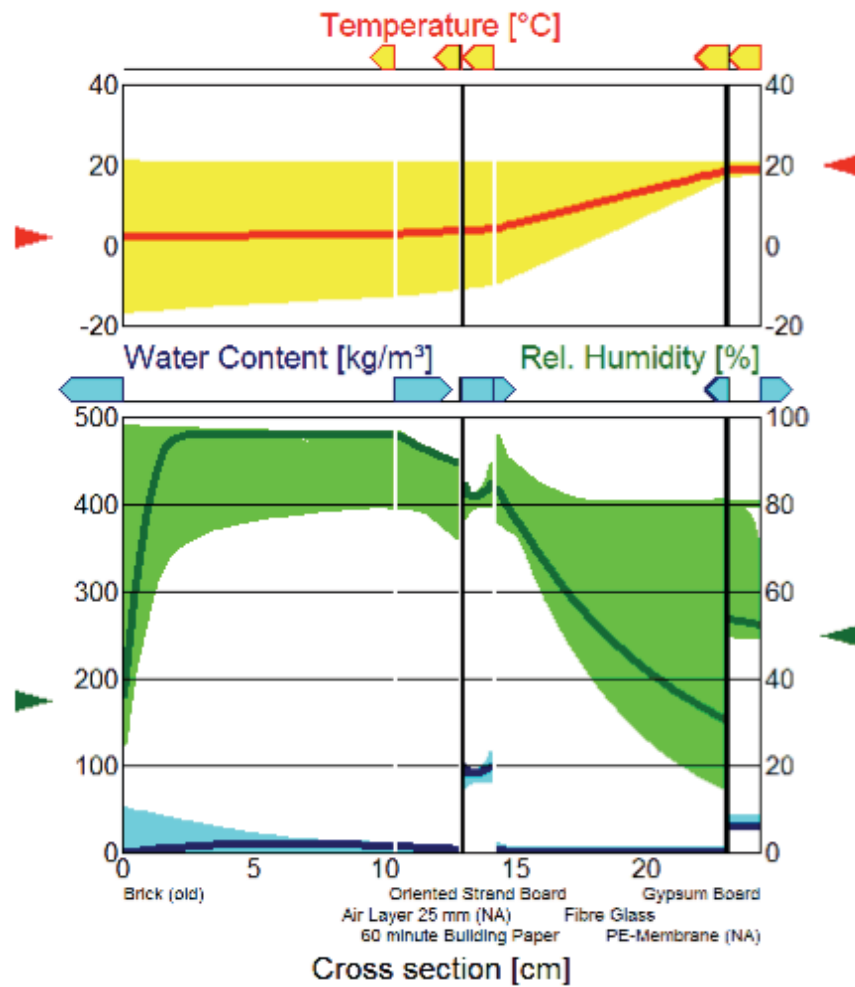


Figure 8-7. Outside vapour pressure, saturated vapour pressure and inside vapour pressure for Winnipeg.



WUFI® 3.3 Pro. IBP
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2001

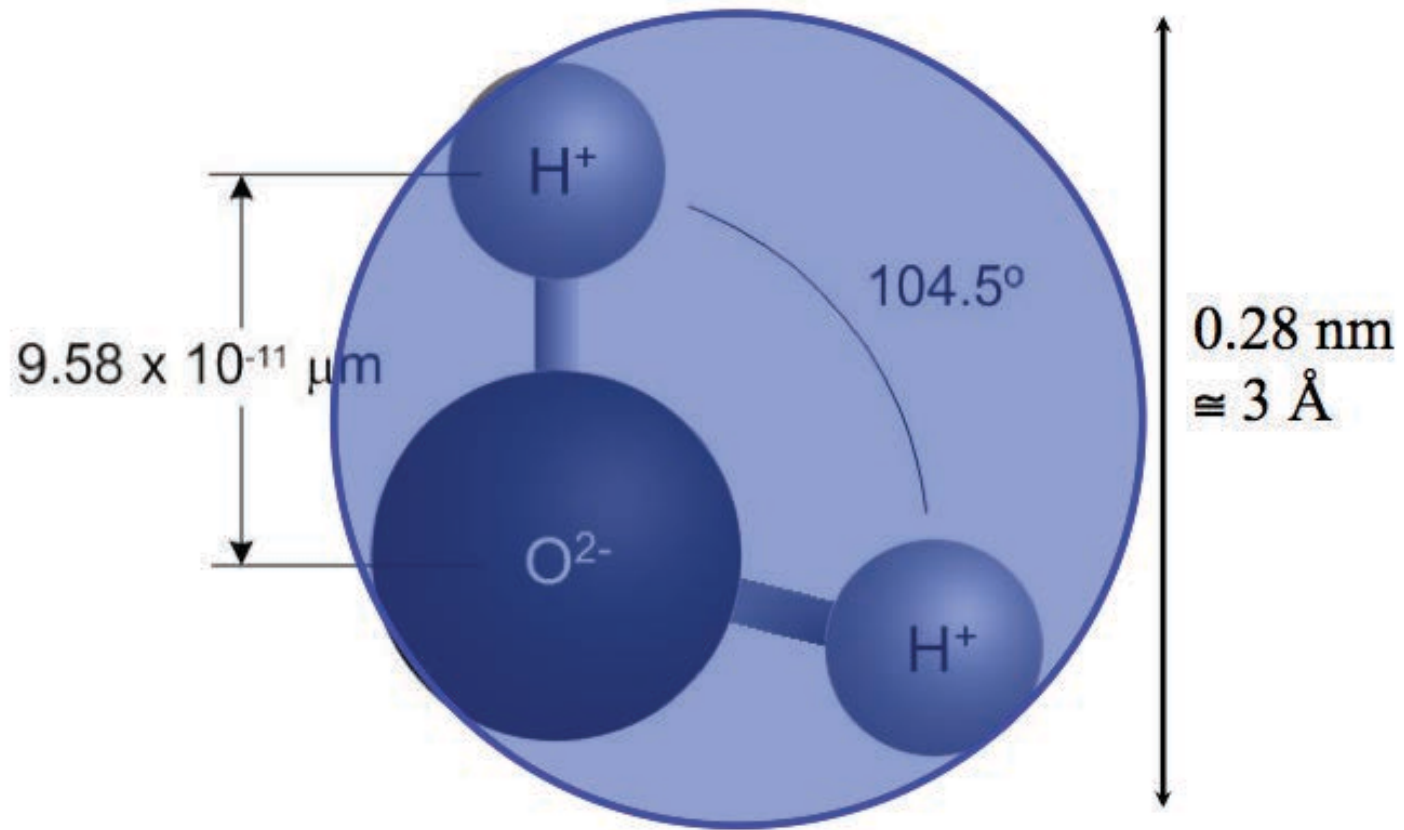
100%

0%

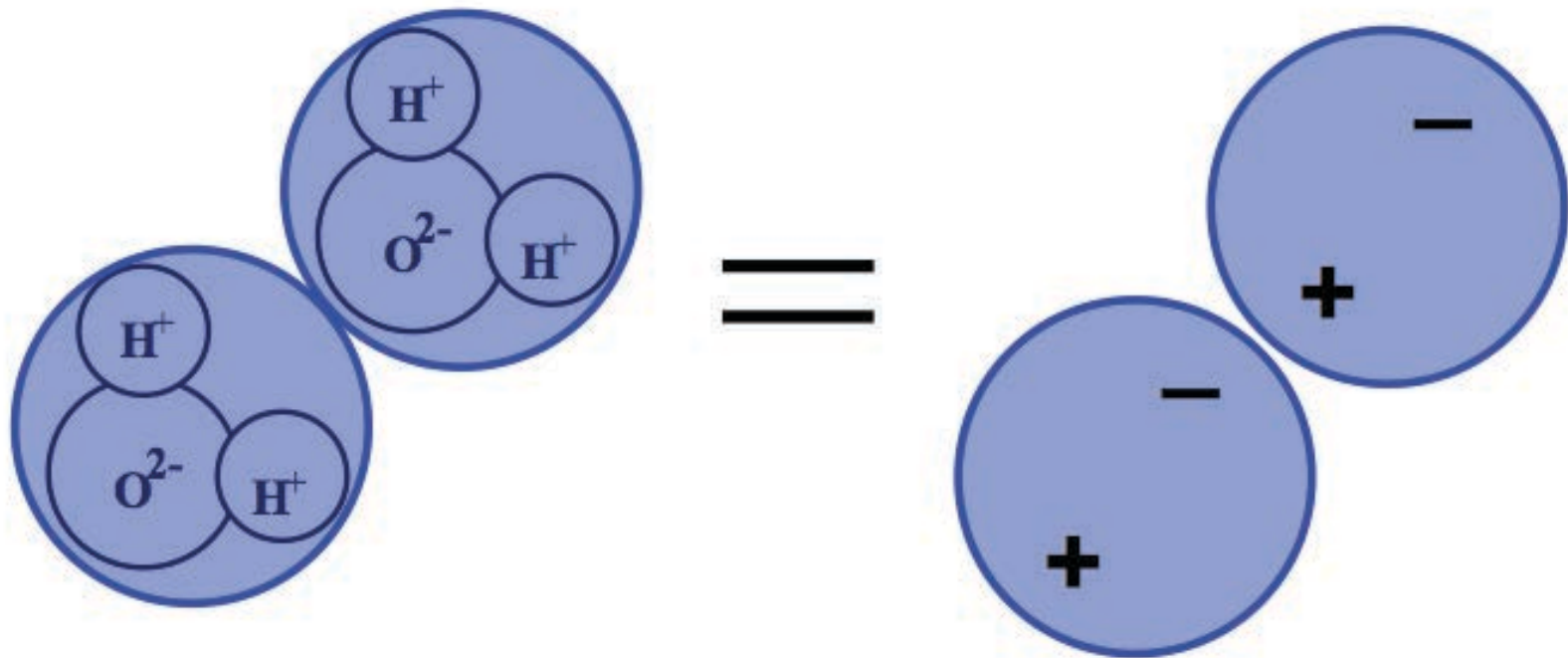
100%

0%

Water Molecules



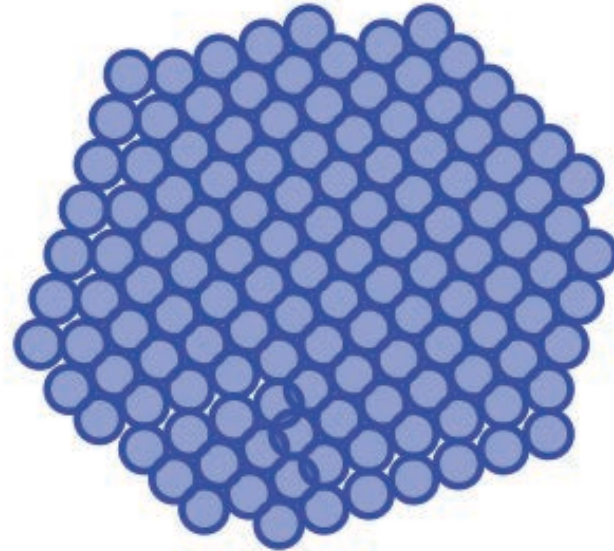
Polar Molecule



Size Matters



Vapor



Liquid



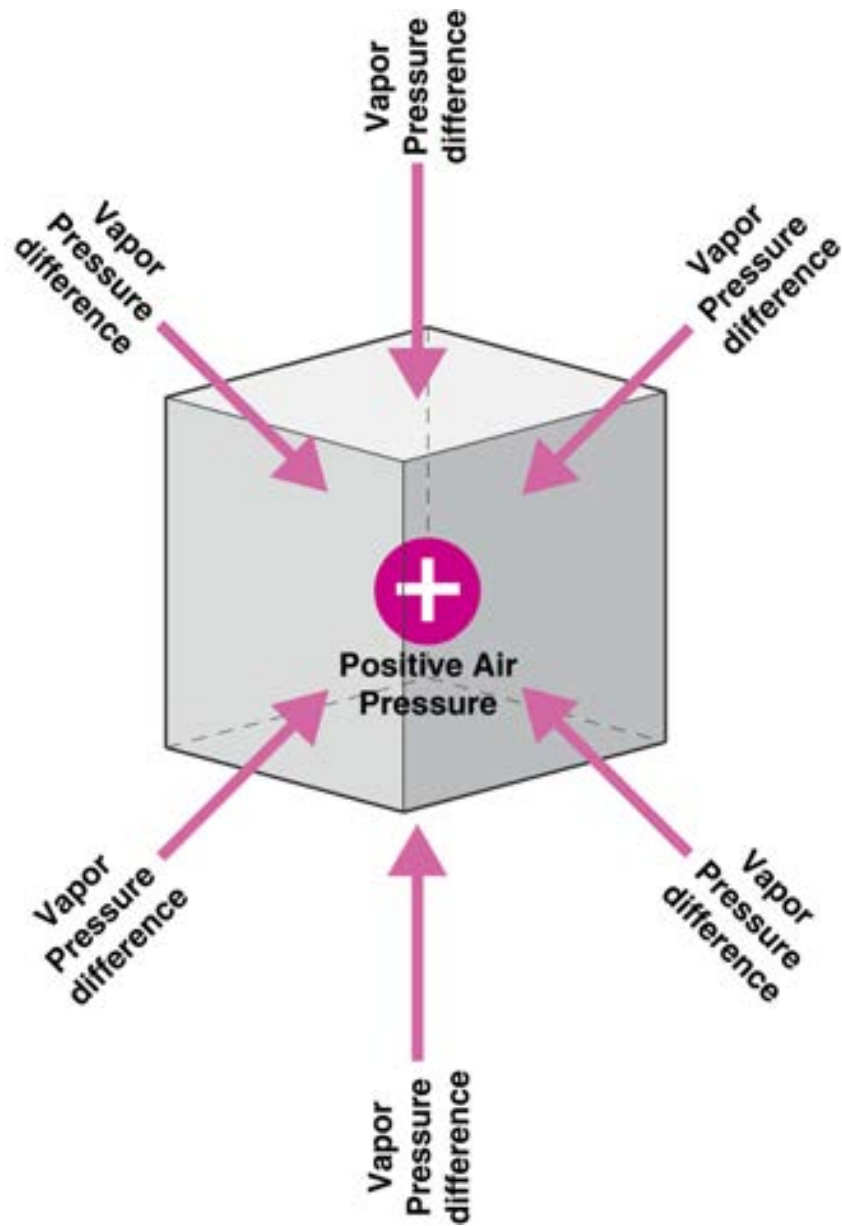
**Higher Dewpoint Temperature
Higher Water Vapor Density
or Concentration
(Higher Vapor Pressure)
on Warm Side of Assembly**

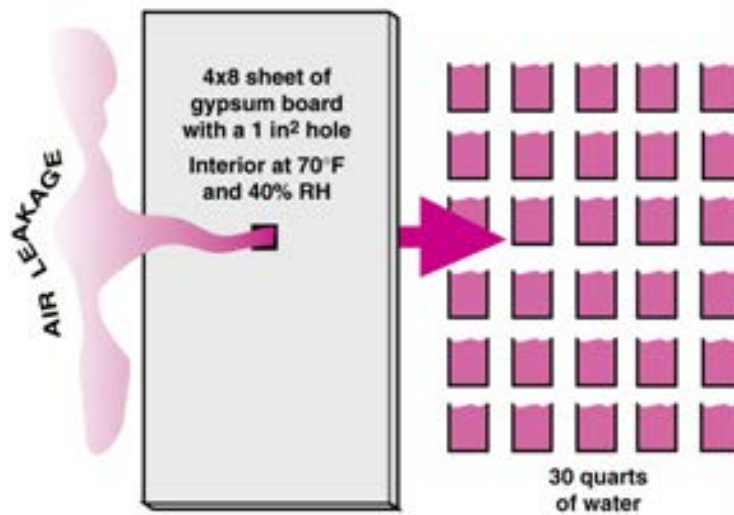
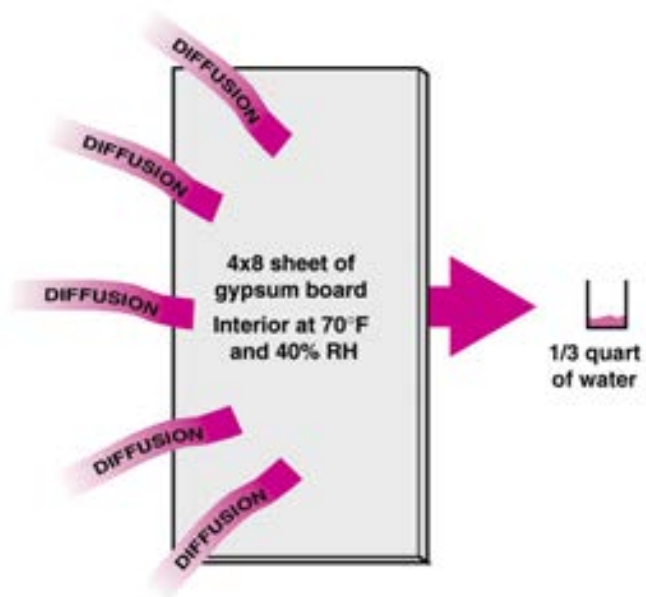
**Low Dewpoint Temperature
Lower Water Vapor Density
or Concentration
(Lower Vapor Pressure)
on Cold Side of Assembly**

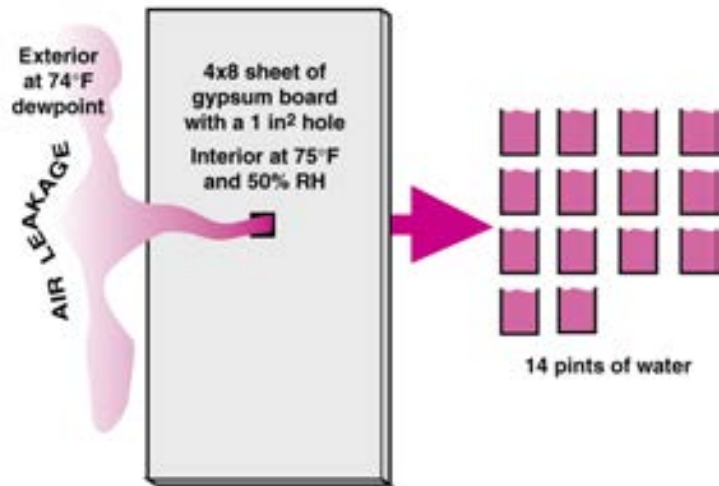
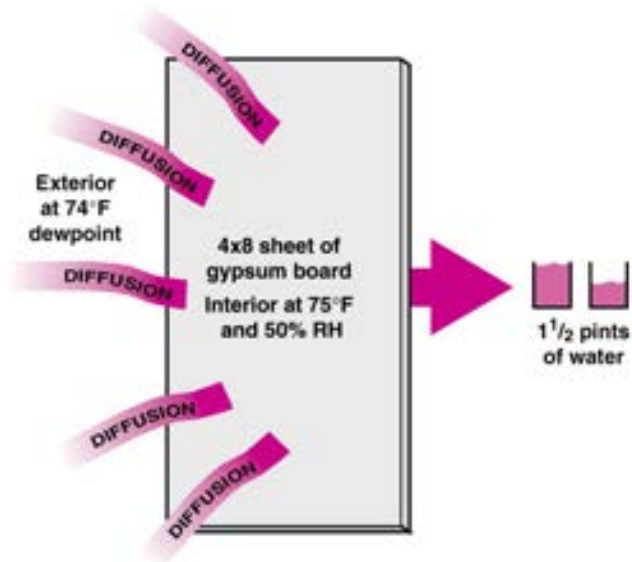


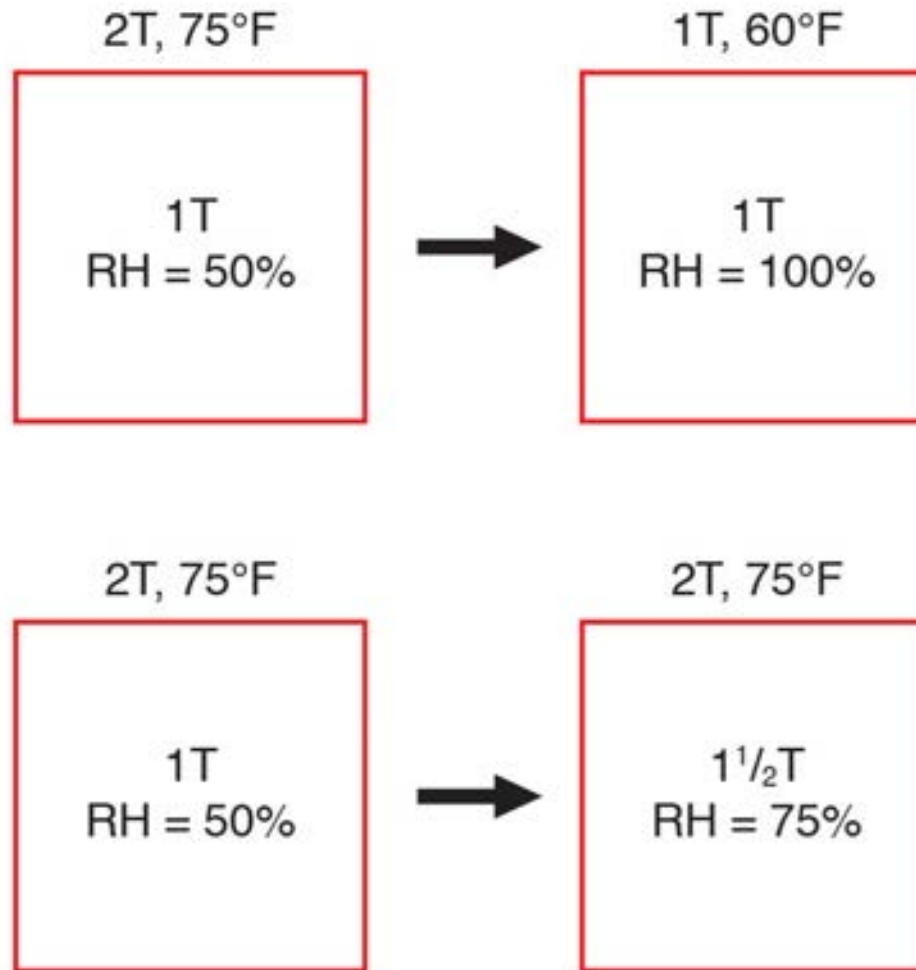
**Higher Air
Pressure**

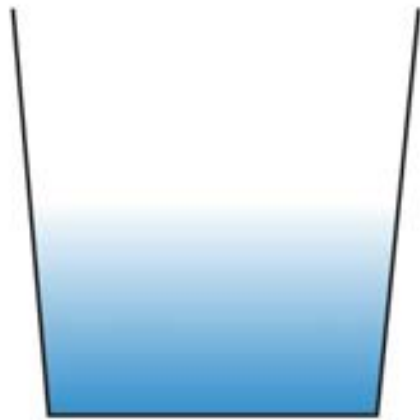
**Lower Air
Pressure**



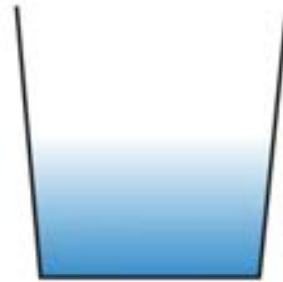








90°F
50% RH



75°F
50% RH



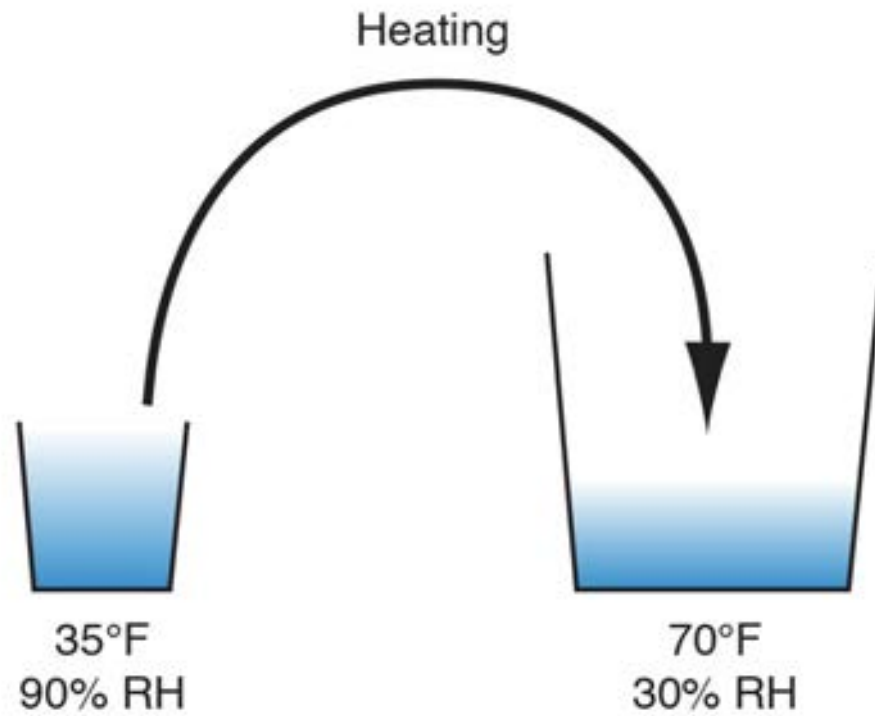
60°F
50% RH

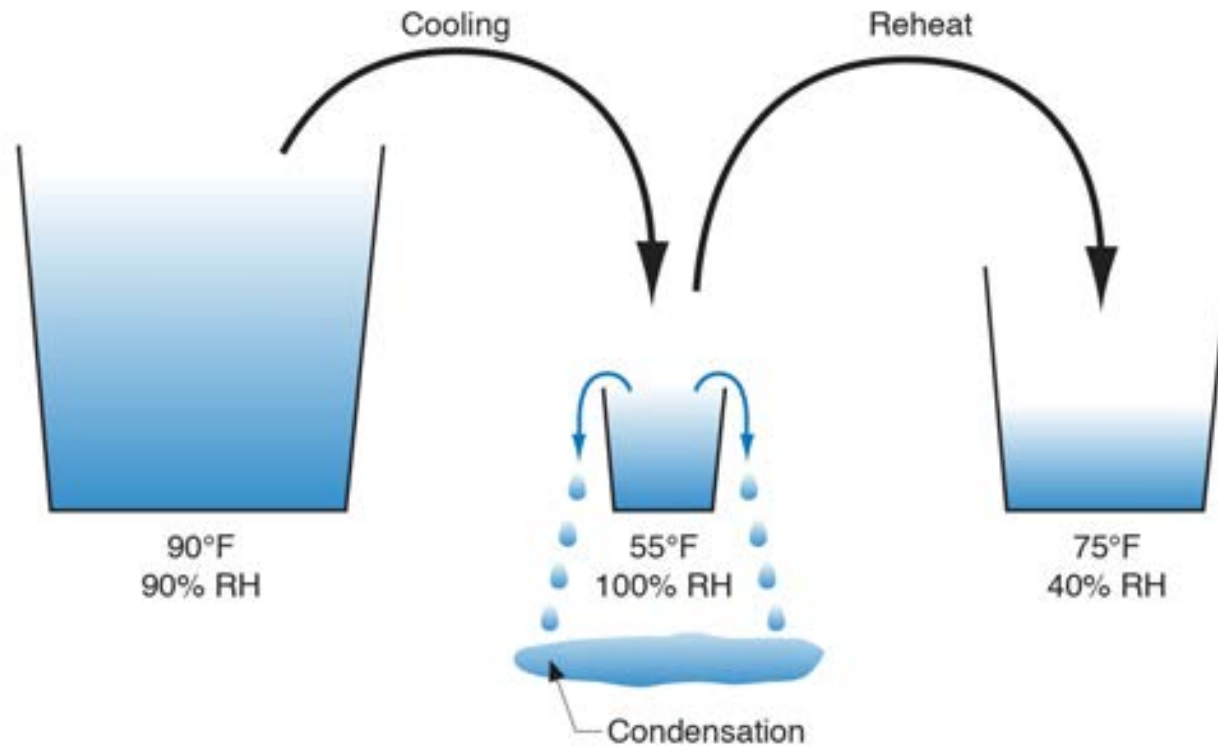


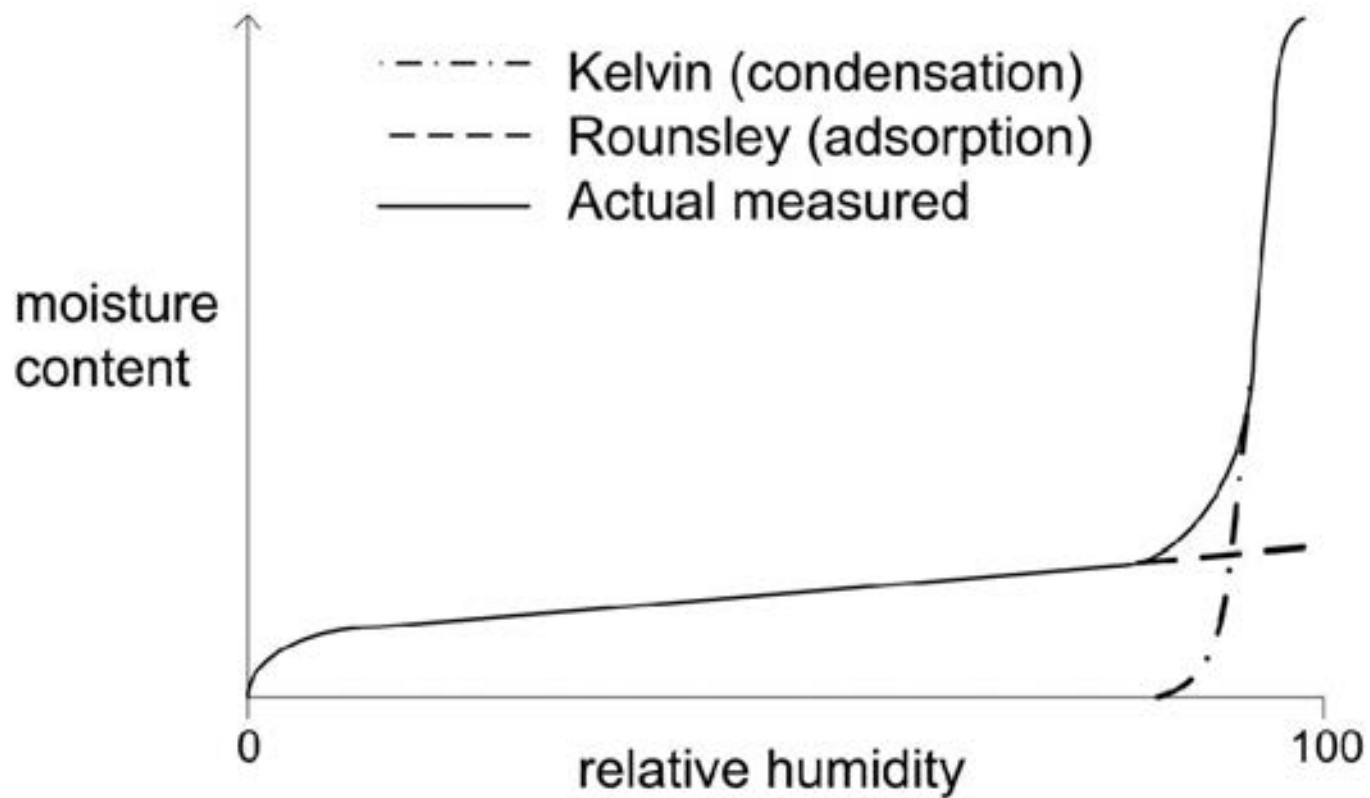
45°F
50% RH



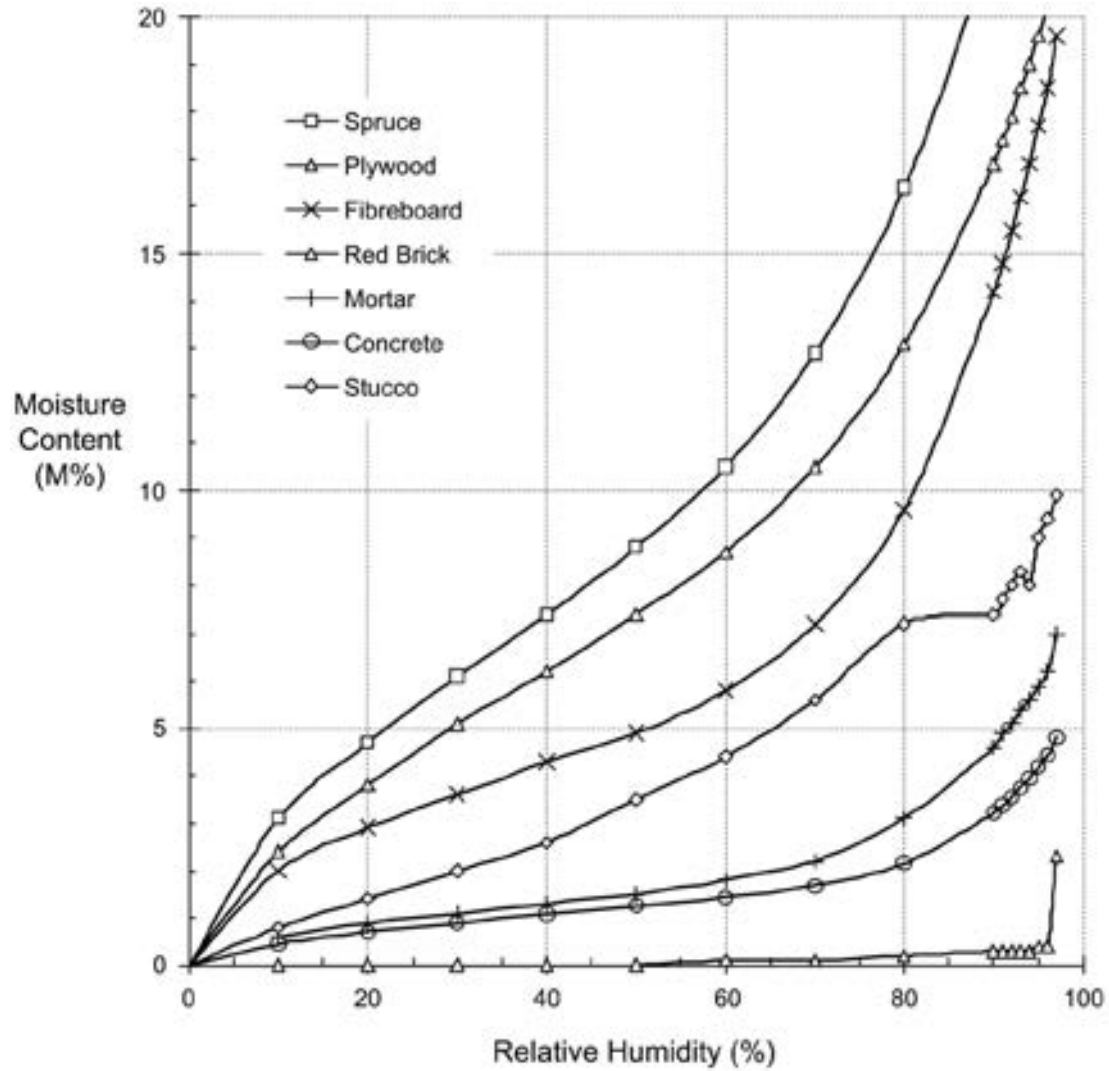
30°F
50% RH





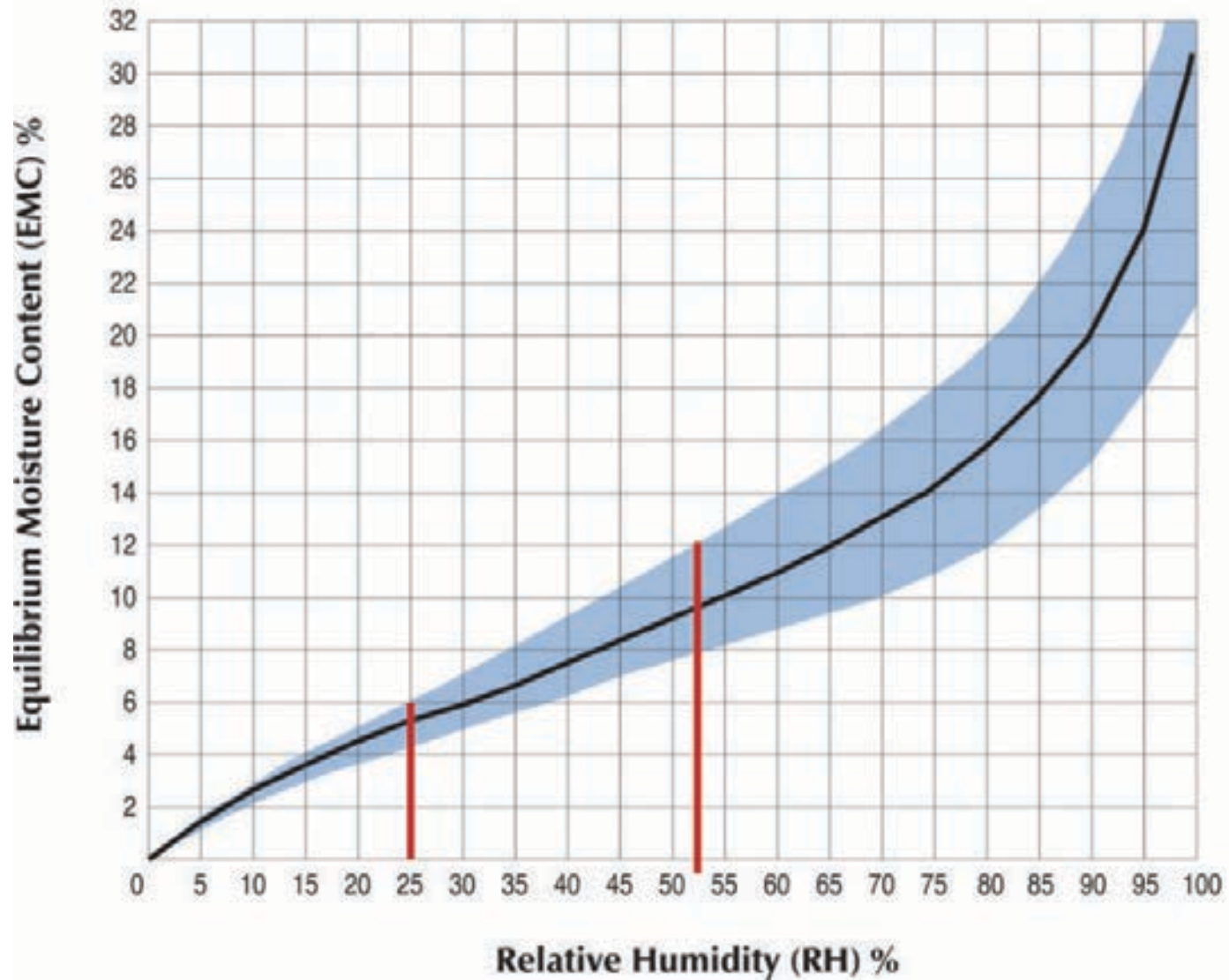


**Typical predicted sorption isotherm according to Kelvin equation
and modified BET theory**
From Straube & Burnett, 2005



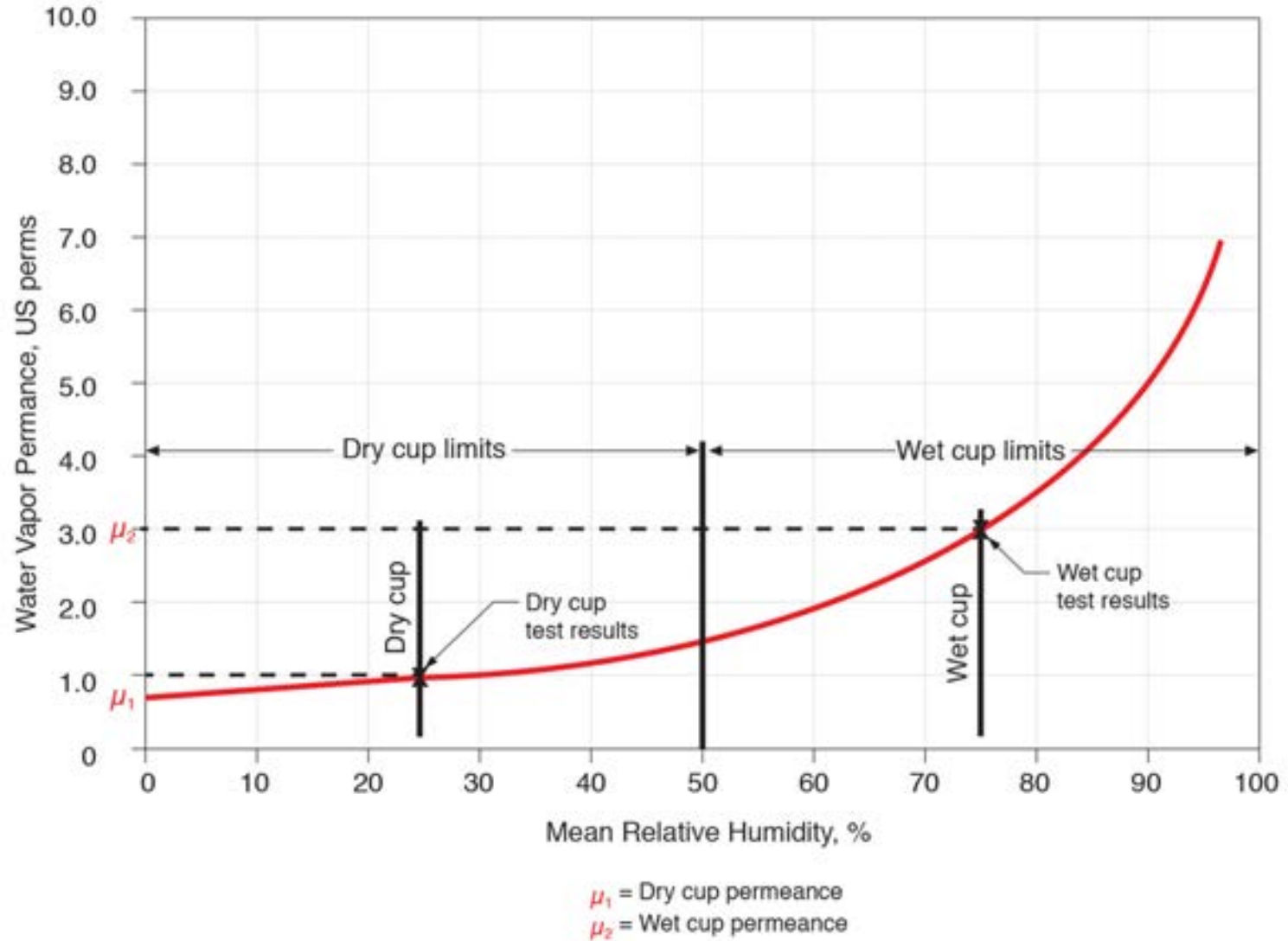
Sorption isotherm for several building materials [Kumaran 2002]
 From Straube & Burnett, 2005

Moisture Content vs. Relative Humidity



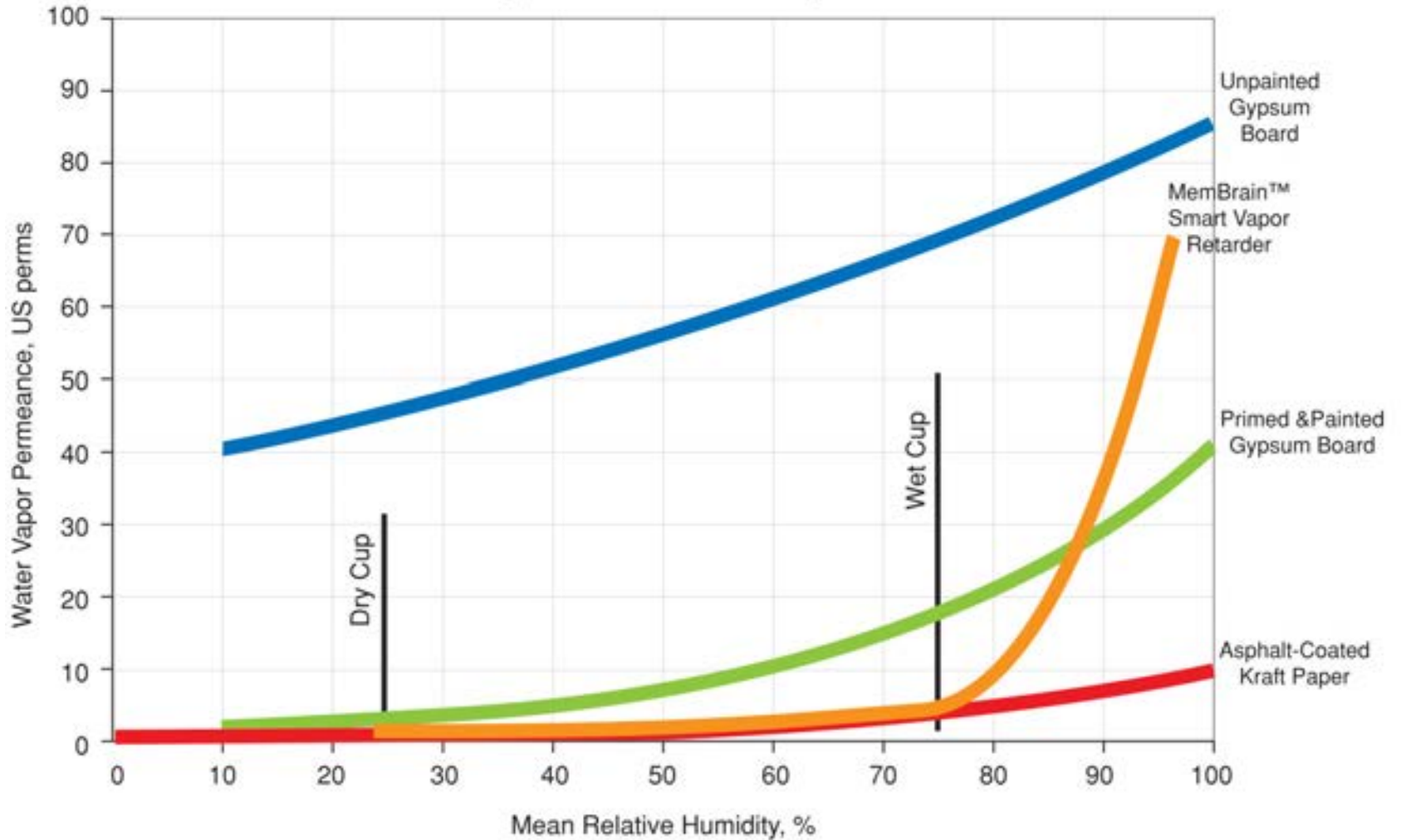


Water Vapor Permeance vs. Relative Humidity

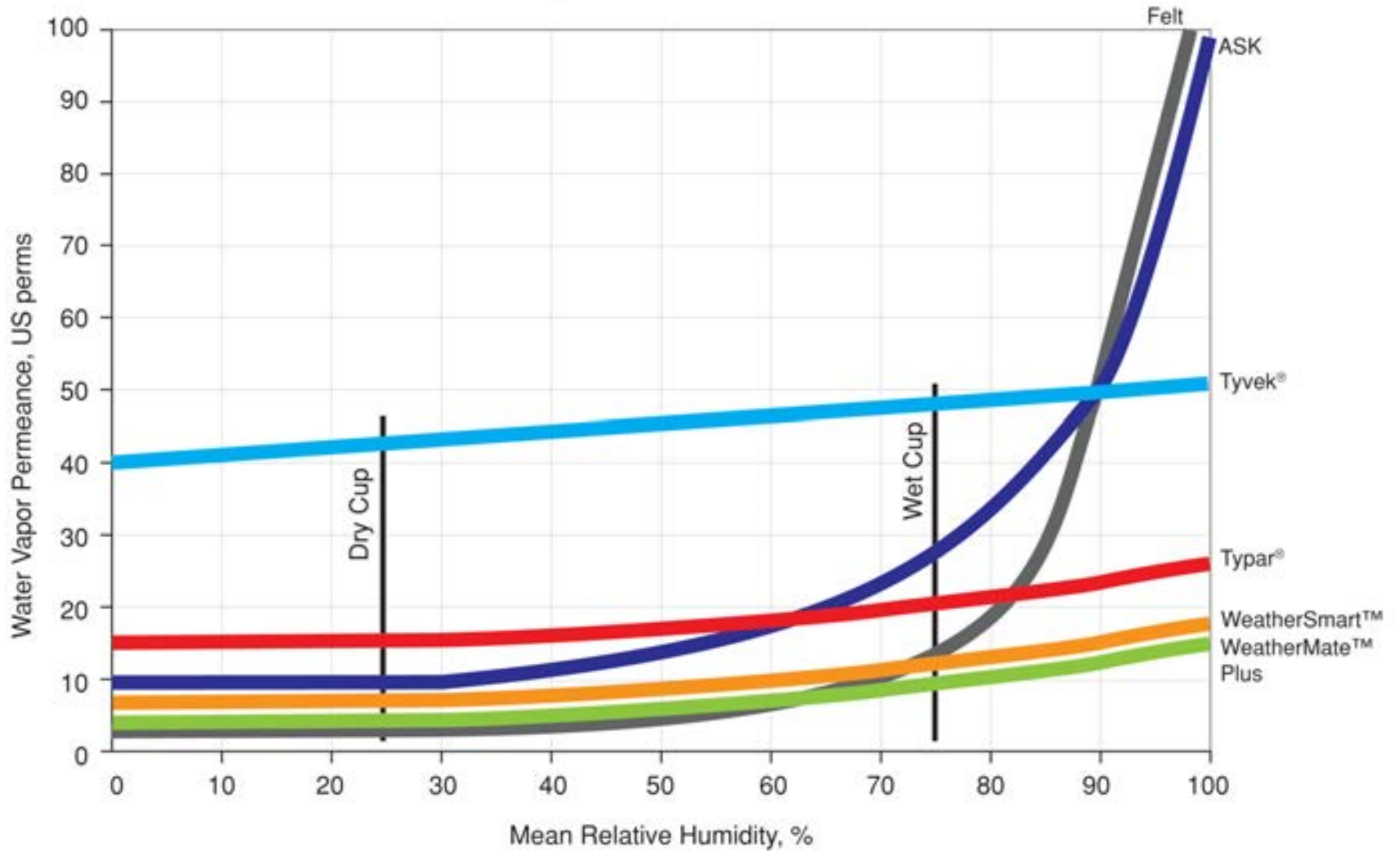




Water Vapor Permeance of MemBrain™ Smart Vapor Retarder, Primed and Painted Gypsum Board, Unpainted Gypsum Board and Asphalt-Coated Kraft Paper



Water Vapor Permeance of WRB's







Water Vapor Permeance of Sheathing Materials

