EBSNI

Airtightness Testing Site Preparation Checklist

Airtightness testing is carried out on the completed building envelope. The checklist below sets out what needs to be in place before our assessor arrives. If any item cannot be met on the day, contact us in advance so the visit can be rescheduled rather than aborted.

Building envelope

- All external walls, roof, floor, windows and external doors fully installed and finished, including glazing, seals, weatherstripping and thresholds.
- All service penetrations through the envelope (pipes, cables, ducts, flues, extract terminals) installed and sealed as designed.
- Loft hatches, access panels and any floor voids closed and sealed as they will be in use.
- Internal finishes complete at the envelope line (plasterboard, skim, skirtings, window boards and sealant).

Doors, windows and vents

- All external doors and windows closed and latched, including garage doors where the garage is within the tested envelope.
- Trickle vents and any passive background ventilators closed. These are not sealed or taped.
- Internal doors wedged open so the building tests as a single zone.

Services

- Mechanical ventilation (MVHR, MEV, extract fans and cooker hoods) switched off, with the external terminals temporarily sealed. Our assessor will do this if required.
- Water traps in sinks, baths, showers, WCs and floor gullies filled with water.
- Chimneys and open flues temporarily sealed. Combustion appliances switched off.
- Letterboxes, cat flaps and similar openings closed.

Access and power

- The client must provide a 230V or 110V power supply within reach of the test door on the day of the test. EBSNI does not supply a generator.
- Clear access to one suitable external doorway for the test fan rig.
- Site induction or sign-in arranged, and a site contact available during the test.
- No other trades working within the envelope during the test. Open doors or envelope works during the test will invalidate the result.

Information required before the visit

- Plans, sections and elevations sufficient to calculate the envelope area, or the envelope area confirmed by the designer.
- The design air permeability target from the SAP, SBEM or Passivhaus assessment.
- The number of dwellings or units to be tested and the sampling basis, where applicable.

Not sure whether the building is ready? Send us a few photographs and we will advise before booking the visit.