

### Chapter 12 – Air Sealing (Poly)

Installing Poly Vapor Barrier	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Install vapor barrier on main floor of the house only</li><li>2. Minimize staples. Target every 24". Tape holes seams having less than a 2-stud overlap and ceiling poly seams with air sealing tape</li><li>3. All poly overlaps must cover two studs or trusses</li><li>4. Before stapling at corners:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Tuck poly TIGHT INTO corners - NO AIR GAPS or "stretched" corners but a nice 90-degree crease formed into corner</li><li>b. Verify poly is not bunched up (especially at ceiling/wall corners)</li><li>c. Staple corners with hand stapler tight to corner. Keep staples 1" away from corners</li></ol></li><li>5. Use nominal 12' poly for ceiling; 8' poly for walls</li><li>6. Install all ceiling poly before installing wall poly</li><li>7. After installing poly, cut an X across electrical box corners and push poly up ½' around box</li><li>8. Cut an X across house scuttle and staple to framing</li><li>9. Cut an X across windows and staple to framing</li><li>10. Cut out poly over bath fan opening and seal poly to housing with air sealing tape</li><li>11. Cut out the poly covering the door along the outside edges of the door jamb. Roll up and tape over door</li><li>12. Tape around exterior corners along top plates</li><li>13. Extend ceiling poly 6" down the top of walls</li><li>14. Pull vanity, thermostat, and doorbell wires through poly</li><li>15. Install bedrooms and kitchen/living room areas 1<sup>st</sup> (before bathroom and closets)</li><li>16. Use scrap pieces (if available) for bathrooms and closets</li><li>17. At intersecting corners, extend wall poly to cover the 1<sup>st</sup> stud beyond the corner of intersecting wall</li><li>18. Move insulation if covering wall studs before covering with poly.</li><li>19. Keep poly tight. Tuck poly tightly into to corners before stapling. Keep staples 2' apart.</li><li>20. Before stapling free ends at wall corners, staple the factory edge of at least 4 adjacent studs, then staple the down the 4 studs top to bottom before securing the free end wrap.</li><li>21. When stapling corners, staple one stud at a time, top to bottom. Staple exterior corner stud 1<sup>st</sup> before intersecting wall stud</li><li>22. Cover all ceiling areas, exterior walls, two studs of intersecting walls and flush sliding closet headers with poly.</li><li>23. At ceiling/wall intersections, staple to truss first before securing to top plate</li></ol>
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## Quality Points

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- All ceiling area is covered with poly
- Ceiling poly is covering upper and top plates around entire house exterior, " and there's a 2 truss overlap on all overlap seams AND taped along trusses
- Poly corners are tucked tight to framing and will not interfere with sheetrocking
- Poly around exterior corners and posts is sealed to top plates
- Closet headers with flush sliding doors are covered with poly (inside and outside) and header ends are sealed with air sealing tape
- Poly around ceiling and wall electrical boxes has a snug fit (or otherwise taped)
- All exterior wall areas are covered with poly (including 1<sup>st</sup> 2 studs on intersecting walls)
- Wall poly has minimum 24" (2 stud) overlap of seams (otherwise seams must be taped)
- All holes or tears in poly are taped with air sealing tape. Bath fan perimeter is sealed with air sealing tape.
- Window and house scuttle access poly are cut from each window and excess poly is stapled to framing (Hold off from cutting scuttle poly in the winter. See Construction Supervisor)
- Window poly cut-outs are placed in tub
- Poly covering bath fan is cut along outer edge of the fan flange and taped to flange
- Unusable small scraps of poly (< 3') are stapled to interior wall surfaces (other than bathroom walls) and larger pieces are temporarily stored in the bathtub for painting day
- Poly cut along exterior door jambs is rolled up and taped above door with painter' tape