

WEATHER-RESISTIVE BARRIERS

DETAILS FOR WINDOWS AND DOORS

Some windows leak through their frames or at the junction where two or more windows are joined (mullled). Without a weather-resistive barrier, water leaking behind the plane of the nailing flange or on the back of the brick mould can damage the sheathing.

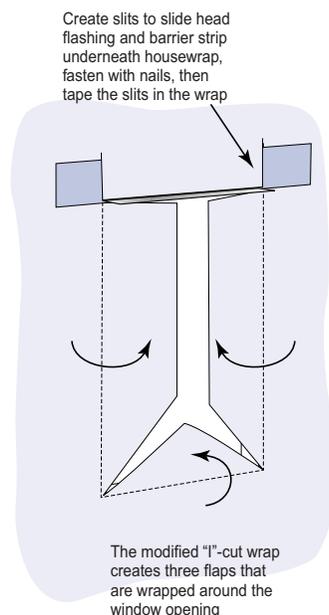
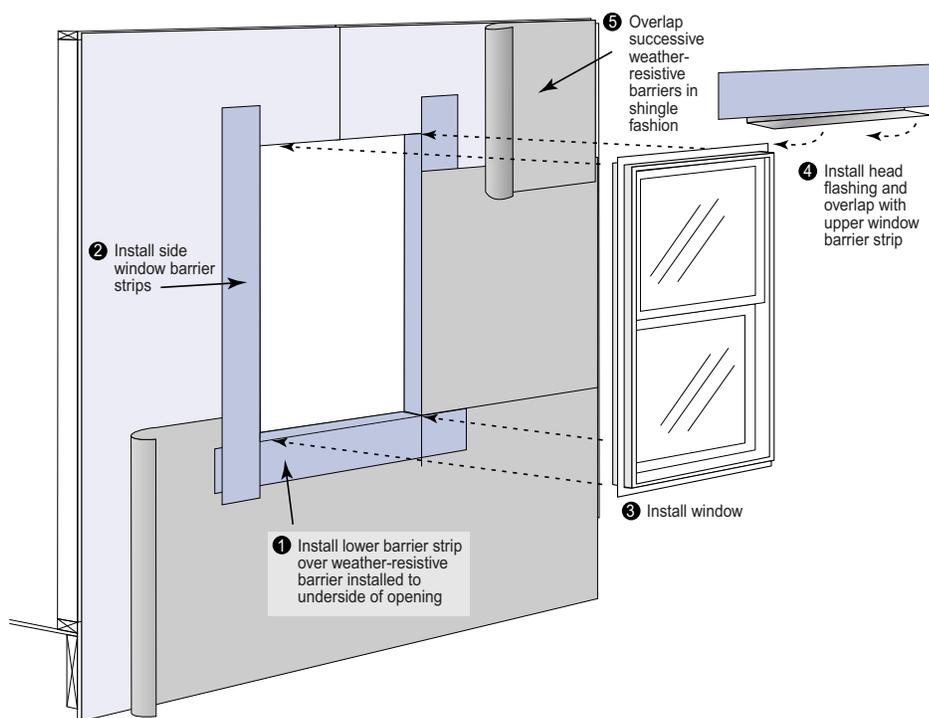
The figures illustrate a procedure for flashing window openings with building paper or housewrap so that any potential leaks do not cause damage. Details may vary with siding and window type and the installation sequence for the window, trim, and weather-resistive barrier. It is advisable to install window head and sill flashing, whether it is metal, plastic, or a self-sticking elastomeric membrane. Avoid relying on tapes or sealants to

provide waterproofing, as these products may fail over time. Some building paper may not be suitable for wrapping window openings or corners because of material cracking.

It is common practice and recommended by some manufacturers to cut an “X” in housewrap placed over window and door openings, pull the material inside, and secure it by stapling. Other manufacturers require alternative methods, such as the modified “I”-cut, depending on the overall flashing approach. The “I”-cut allows the vertical leg of head flashing to be placed under the weather-resistive barrier and then taped or sealed.

It is best to divert drainage onto the face of the weather-resistive barrier. Do not tape down or seal behind the bottom nailing flange of windows, as doing so could accidentally trap in water.

FLASHING WINDOW OPENINGS



- Barrier strips are attached with nails and overlapped with successive barrier strips and weather-resistive barriers in shingle fashion. Do not depend on tapes or glues, as they may fail over time.

Housewrap technique utilizes a modified “I”-cut in the material, which is then wrapped to the inside of the window frame and fastened. The head flashing and barrier strip are fastened and “shingled” under a flap that is cut in the wrap. These seams are then taped.