

ThermalBuck™

Zip System Installation Guide



Quick Tips:

- Consider combined depth of insulation panel and/or rain screen when choosing the right depth of ThermalBuck. See "Product Dimensions" at thermalbuck.com for details.
- Rough opening must be oversized by 1" overall to accommodate the 1/2" tongue of ThermalBuck.
- Consider specific wall assembly specification for integration of the ZIP System. An assortment of guides based on WRB type and placement in the wall assembly are available at thermalbuck.com.
- Store ThermalBuck on pallet supplied by BRINC Building Products, or off the ground supported by 3 runners.
- If storing ThermalBuck outdoors, cover with a waterproof, opaque cover.

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MEASURE

Measure the pre-framed RO to confirm the additional 1/2" on all 4 sides (1" overall) than recommended by window manufacturer. Level & plumb, adjust RO if needed.



MINIMIZE WASTE

Consider all RO dimensions, and plan cuts to minimize waste. Leftover pieces of ThermalBuck can be used on small windows, or to splice jambs.



CUT

Miter the end of each piece at half the angle of the RO. (Typically 45°)

Undersize each piece 1/16" to 1/8" to allow for sealant at seams.



DRY-FIT

Dry-Fit the pieces of ThermalBuck to make sure it fits properly, adjust if needed.

Slight gaps are needed at corners for sealant.



AIR & WATER SEAL

Apply three 3/8" beads of recommended* sealant to the back of each piece of ThermalBuck.

*For recommended sealants, see FAQ's at thermalbuck.com.



INSTALL

Starting at the sill, push ThermalBuck firmly into the rough opening along the total length to ensure you have a good seal, and 100% ooze out at all transitions.



SEAL ENDS

Add sealant to mitered ends.



Repeat for each jamb and head piece, considering which one will be easiest to flex into place last. Ensure all corners align before nailing tongue, and adjust as needed.

100% ooze-out is needed at all transitions for proper water and air sealing.



NAIL TONGUE

Once all pieces of ThermalBuck are placed, firmly push into RO and drive a 1-3/4" roofing nail through the 1/2" tongue into the structure, every 10"-12".

Use a roofing nail gun if preferred.



CLAMP

Clamp corners with 2" roofing nails if gap is more than 1/4" while the sealant cures (see sealant manufacturers' instructions).

Do not install window until sealant has cured.



SEAL GAPS

If 100% ooze-out did not occur at all transitions, force sealant into any voids.



SMOOTH

Smooth sealant and remove excess.



SHIM

Shim on top of the ThermalBuck if required.

Use one square inch of shim per 40 lbs. window.



INSTALL WINDOW

Consult window manufacturers' instructions before installing window.

Fasten window through ThermalBuck with #10 screws or nails, angled slightly to ensure good penetration into the framing. Fasteners must penetrate min. 1 - 1/4" into the stud for structural attachment.



FLASH JAMBS

Flash along each jamb, starting at the top of ThermalBuck, ending at the bottom. Flashing tape must cover both nail flange, and transition of ThermalBuck to the ZIP sheathing.



ROLL TAPE

Roll tape along entire length of jambs to ensure a tight seal.



FLASH HEAD

Flash entire length of head, covering nail flange and the transition of ThermalBuck to the ZIP sheathing.

Extend flashing tape past the jamb flashing min. 2" on each side.



Make two horizontal cuts in the tape, following the lines of the ThermalBuck.



Wrap the face flap of tape along the side of the ThermalBuck at jambs and on to the sheathing.



Bring the second flap down along the side of the jamb, for a shingle effect.



ROLL TAPE

Ensure flashing tape is completely rolled and sealed.



INTERIOR SEAL

Use spray foam or sealant to create a back dam, and complete the interior air and water seal.

Seal *both* the transition of ThermalBuck to the window and to the framing to complete the air and water seal.



INSULATION

Install continuous insulation panels according to insulation manufacturers' instructions.



COMPLETE

ThermalBuck & insulation are on a flush plane for cladding attachment.

If using furring strips or a rain screen assembly, consider additional depth when ordering ThermalBuck. In those applications, generally order ThermalBuck 1/2" larger than insulation.

Materials & Tools:

- ThermalBuck
- Recommended sealant - see thermalbuck.com
- 1 - 3/4" & 2.0" Roofing Nails for ThermalBuck
- #10 Screws for flange (minimum penetration 1 -1/4" into structure)
- Window
- WRB (if specified)
- WRB manufacturers' recommended flashing tape
- Continuous Insulation and/or Rainscreen
- Shims if needed
- Circular Saw
- Miter Saw
- Measuring Tape
- Utility Knife
- Level
- Hammer or Nail Gun
- J-Roller & Paddle for Flashing Tape
- Pencil/Marker
- Sealant Gun
- Safety Glasses & Hearing Protection

Guidelines:

- Rough Opening must be sized 1/2" larger than window manufacturers' recommendations on each side (1" overall) to accommodate ThermalBuck.
- Refer to BRINC Building Product's installation guides for ThermalBuck, along with manufacturers' instructions for WRB, continuous insulation, and window. Consider best practices for integrating the installation steps. *This is the responsibility of the architect, builder, consultant, and buyer.*
- Avoid inhaling dust particles from machining ThermalBuck.
- Wear protective gear.
- Operate tools safely and follow manufacturers' operation guidelines.
- If injury occurs, seek medical attention immediately.

Attention:

- Request written product instruction, associated warranties and damage coverage, then provide this information and warranties to the end user and/or building owner for future reference.
- Follow all manufacturers' guidelines regarding material use, compatibility, preparation, personal safety, and disposal of any building materials.
- Any alterations to the installation instructions and recommended materials could cause failures.

Note: For additional information please refer to following document, [FMA/AAMA/WDMA 500-16 Standard Practice for the Installation of Mounting Flange Windows into Walls Utilizing Foam Plastic Insulation \(FPIS\) with a Separate Water-Resistive Barrier \(WRB\)](#)