

# WALL BATTS INSTALLATION GUIDE



THERMAL  
INSULATION



FIRE  
PROTECTION



NOISE  
REDUCTION



ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION



## WALL BATTS INSTALLATION GUIDE

### 1.SAFETY

Installers are required to carry out their duties in accordance with their employer safety management plans and policies. The installer may also need to accommodate specific builder safety policies on site. It is a requirement that you review the Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) prior to commencing installation and ensure all risks are identified and controlled.

### 2.CONFIRM THE SCOPE OF WORK

#### 2.1 RELEVANT INSTRUCTIONS AND OPERATIONAL DETAILS ARE OBTAINED USING WORK INFORMATION, SUCH AS:

- A purchase order
- Job sheet instructions
- Energy rating reports
- Architect drawings and their respective notes
- Client specific instructions
- Builder specific installations.

#### 2.2 BASIC INFORMATION REQUIRED INCLUDES:

- material R-value of batts required
- batt width to match stud centres
- number of packs required for the job
- locations of the walls to be insulated including any special areas
- for claims of thermal performance from a reflective wall wrap, you must provide a physical restraint between the batt and foil surface to maintain a still air gap of at least 20mm.

#### 2.3 TOOLS

##### BASIC TOOLS:

Sharp knife, cutting board and breathing mask

##### FOR WALLS:

- Polypropylene string
- Staple gun and staples

### 3.CONFIRM MATERIAL TYPE AND QUANTITY

The installer needs to confirm that the material R-value ( $R_m$ ) of the batts on hand, are those that meet the material R-value target set by the scope of work. The quantity of batts required is based on the projects wall surface area in m<sup>2</sup> divided by the manufacturers nominal coverage quoted on the batt packaging. The manufacturer's advice normally allows for wall timbers. This is a rough calculation and an allowance of surplus stock should also be on hand.

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### 4. BASIC RULES FOR WALL INSULATION

- Turn off power at the fuse box before commencing the installation.
- Ensure you place a warning tag to prevent power being restored prior to completion of the install.
- Insert UET wall insulation in wall cavities.
- For external walls, stringing is recommended to ensure the insulation cannot bridge the cavity.
- Start at the underside of the top plate, 75mm in from the vertical stud.
- Staple polypropylene string to the underside of the top plate as far back as the thickness of the insulation.
- Drop the string to the top of the nogging, tensioning before stapling.
- Run the string towards yourself and turn it to the underside of the nogging and staple
- Drop the string to the bottom plate, tensioning before stapling

### 5. FOR DIFFERENT WALL INSULATION

#### 5.1 BRICK VENEER WALLS:

- Friction fit the insulation into the wall frames ensuring there are no gaps between the insulation and studs or noggins.
- It is important that the insulation is secured so it cannot fall into the cavity or come in contact with the outer brickwork allowing moisture to pass from the exterior wall to the internal lining.
- Wall wrap (recommended) or long lasting string/twine should be fixed across the exterior face of the frame before installing the insulation from the inside.
- Where string/twine is used, twine should be fixed between each set of studs from the top to the bottom, running parallel with the studs. Where two lengths are used they should be evenly spaced.
- Ensure that the batts do not protrude past the stud and fit snugly including where insulation is around water pipes or other rigid obstructions in the wall.

#### 5.2 FIBRE CEMENT OR WEATHERBOARD CLAD WALLS:

- In non-tropic climates, a vapour permeable wall wrap or building membrane must be used so as not to cause accumulation of moisture. Always check with the manufacturer of the cladding material for suitable characteristics of the building membrane.
- Butt the insulation closely together to ensure there are no gaps left at joints.
- Offcuts may be used to fill small spaces to ensure complete coverage.

#### 5.3 CAVITY BRICK WALLS (DOUBLE BRICK):

- Glasswool insulation is not recommended for external wall full fill cavity applications.

#### 5.4 INTERNAL PARTITION WALLS:

- Friction fit the insulation into the wall frames ensuring there are no gaps between the insulation and studs or noggins.
- Ensure that the batts do not protrude past the stud and fit snugly

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### 6.SPECIAL CONSIDERABLE

Where installing around wall lights or chimney flues consult the appliance manufacturer's instructions for appropriate clearances. Do not block ceiling vents and take care around downlights and other sources of heat and electrical components. If they are unknown, refer to NZS 4246:2016.

### 7.ELECTRIC CABLES AND SERVICES

- Electric cables and equipment partially or completely covered may overheat and fail.
- Lay insulation with electrical wiring and equipment, such as transformers, on top. For excessive runs covered by insulation seek advice from an electrician as to whether cardboard spacers or similar would be required to allow air circulation.
- Electrical wiring must not be completely surrounded by insulation without prior approval from a licensed electrical contractor. Partially surrounding of electrical wiring is acceptable as long as the wiring has been done in compliance with ASS3000 post 1984.
- For more information regarding the installation of insulation around electrical cables and equipment, please refer to AS3999.

### 8.AFTER COMPLETION

- Ensuring that there are no gaps in the insulation batts or between the batts and studs or noggins.
- If the batts are being installed in a brick veneer wall, confirm they have been mechanically held in the stud frame by the stringing-in method.
- Generally ensure that the batts do not protrude past of the stud surface area and fit snugly.
- Where insulation batts are around water pipes or other rigid obstructions in the wall, ensure that the insulation batt doesn't protrude past the stud.
- Stringing-in any inaccessible ceiling areas that will not be accessible from the ceiling void, during the wall batt installation process.
- Returning functioning work areas to a clean and tidy state. This may require: wet mopping of loose fibre or alternatively vacuum the area using a vacuum cleaner with a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter.
- Ensuring the work area is cleaned and off-cut materials are placed back into the original package (when possible) and taped closed. Dispose of in accordance with local authority guidelines.
- Ensuring tools and equipment are cleaned, checked, maintained and stored in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and standard work practices.
- Advise client and all on site power is about to be reactivated.
- Confirming power is reactivated and isolation tags are removed.
- Notifying relevant people that the installation is finalised (i.e. supervisors, the client etc).
- Completing necessary documents and forms.
- Evaluating your work quality and process to identify improvements.
- Following up, reporting and resolving any outstanding issues or problems such as non-conformances, client complaints, damage to property, faulty materials etc.