Supplement E

Permeance Values for Common Building Materials*

Materials	Permeance
Polyethylene (4 mil)	0.08
Latex Primer/Sealer	6.28 (1 coat = 0.0012″)
Vapor Retarder Paint	0.45 (1 coat = 0.0031″)
Polyvinyl Acetate Latex (PVA)	5.5 (3 coatings – 4 oz/sf)
Vinyl Acrylic Primer Latex	8.62 (1 coat = 0.0016″)
Kraft Paper (Asphalt Impregnated)	0.03
15 lb Asphalt Felt Paper	1.0
Gypsum Wall Board (3/8″)	50
Plywood (1/4″ w/exterior glue)	0.7

The Washington State Energy Code requires vapor retarders have a permeance rating (dry cup) of 1.0 or less. Section 502.1.6.1

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*2005 ASHRAE Fundamentals Handbook. See Section 25.17, Table 9 for more details.

Materials must be applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions to achieve specified permeance ratings.

This table permits comparisons of materials: but in the selection of vapor retarder materials, exact values for permeance or permeability should be obtained from the manufacturer or from laboratory tests.