

**a**

Apron flashing

A type of flashing that's used to prevent water intrusion at a shed roof-to-wall intersection by directing water from the wall's drainage plane to the shingle.

b**Backer board**

A water and mold-resistant tile substrate used to protect wet areas, such as showers, from water intrusion.

Brick mold

Trim at the head and jambs of a door that covers the gap between the door and the wall and creates a stop for brickwork.

Building paper

A heavy, water-resistant material commonly made of tar-impregnated paper that's installed in various places on a home, such as behind brick and stucco.



Capillary action

The movement of a liquid, such as water, into a porous material against the force of gravity. Capillary action occurs when the attraction between the molecules of the liquid and a solid is stronger than the attraction between the molecules within the liquid.

C

Construction tape

A type of tape that's used for a variety of building tasks, such as sealing housewrap and vapor barriers.

Cure

A change in the physical and chemical properties of a material by which that material reaches full strength.

Curing blanket

A covering that's watered down and used to keep a foundation slab moist during the curing process.



Deck joist

One of a series of framing members that support the deck boards and the weight of the occupants.

Deck ledger board

A piece of pressure-treated wood that's attached to an exterior wall to support the deck joists.

Drip cap

A metal flashing piece that projects outward from the head of a door or window to direct water away from the exterior finish.

Efflorescence

A whitish, powdery deposit of water-soluble salts carried to the surface of stone, brick, stucco, concrete, or mortar by water. The deposits become noticeable on the surface when the water evaporates.

End dam

The part of a sill pan that prevents water from coming into contact with the framing.



Felt paper

A heavy, water-resistant material made of tar-impregnated felt that's installed in various places on a home, such as behind brick and stucco.

Flashing

A thin sheet or strip of water-resistant material that's installed to direct water flow away from the home in a variety of places, including at roof intersections and projections, around windows and doors, and along the top of foundation walls.

Flashing panel

A manufactured panel that's used to flash plumbing and electrical penetrations in the exterior wall.

Flashing tape

Peel-and-stick flashing that's used around doors and windows.

Formwork

Temporary support structure that's used to hold concrete in place until it sets.

Grade beam

A load-bearing foundation member.

Greenboard

A type of drywall where the paper facing has been treated to resist moisture but isn't waterproof.

Grout

A cementitious material that's used to fill the gaps between tiles.

Head

The top of a door or window.

Head flashing

Flashing located at the head of a door or window.

Honeycombing

The formation of voids in poured concrete that occurs when the concrete hasn't been consolidated or mixed properly.

Hot mop

A type of shower pan liner that consists of multiple layers of felt paper that are cut and mopped into place using molten tar.

Housewrap

The material wrapped around the exterior of a home that acts as a drainage plane. Housewrap is typically 9' or 10' in width.

Hydration

A chemical reaction that combines water with cement to form concrete.



Jamb

The vertical side of a door or window.

Jamb flashing

Flashing located at the jamb of a door or window.



Mortar bed

A layer of mortar installed on top of the shower pan liner to provide a base for the tile floor.

Nailing fin

A flange that runs along the perimeter of a window and has holes every 4" to 6".



Plasticizer

A substance that increases the strength and workability of the concrete mix without adding water.

Plate compactor

A machine that's used to compact a fill material, such as gravel.

Reveal

A small space left between two materials, such as between the bottom of the wall and the surface of the shingles at a roof-to-wall intersection.

Roll flashing

The flashing used to create a flange for an entry door. This material comes in a roll that's 4" to 6" in width. It can be a self-stick, double-peel-away product or a non-stick product like through-wall flashing.

Roof rake

The sloped edge of a roof that overhangs or intersects a vertical wall.

Roofing underlayment

A roofing felt or membrane that's applied to roof sheathing.

Shed roof

A roof that slopes in only one direction.

Shim

A tapered wood strip that's used to make a structure, such as a window, plumb and level.

Shower pan liner

A waterproof membrane that's applied beneath the mortar bed in a shower. It collects water that wicks through the mortar bed and directs it toward the drain.

Sill

The flat framing member that forms the opening for the bottom of a door or window.

Sill pan

A preformed piece of flashing that's installed at the sill of a door or window to protect it from water intrusion. A sill pan has an integrated end dam.

Sill plate

A horizontal framing member that's placed on top of the foundation. The sill plate supports the structure of the home.

Slab curling

Shrinkage of the foundation slab surface that makes the slab try to curl upward, cracking in the process.

Step flashing

A series of flashing pieces used at a roof rake-to-wall intersection. Each piece of step flashing is layered with a shingle, allowing water moving down the roof to be directed to the exterior.

Subfloor

Structurally-rated plywood or OSB decking that's installed over joists.



Thin-set mortar

A type of mortar that's used to set ceramic tile.

Threshold

The strip of material that's attached to the floor beneath a door.

A vertical decorative bar on the left side of the page, consisting of a light yellow background with a large, white, stylized letter "V" shape cutout.

Vapor barrier

1. 10 mil plastic sheeting that's used to prevent water from penetrating the foundation slab.
2. 6 mil plastic sheeting that's used to prevent air and moisture movement in walls.



Wallboard

An interior-facing panel used for walls and ceilings. It consists of a gypsum core that's sandwiched between paper faces. Also commonly known as drywall.

Weatherstripping

Strips of material that are attached to the frames of doors and windows to make them airtight.

Weep hole

A small hole that allows water to drain, rather than condense or accumulate.

Weep screed

A stop for stucco that allows water to weep from behind the stucco.

Wick

To draw or to be drawn into a porous material through capillary action.