

ZIP System™ Rainscreen FAQ

Q: Why should I use ZIP System™ rainscreen?

A: ZIP System rainscreen is an entangled mesh drainage medium with a fabric covering on the exterior side. This product can improve the moisture management of a wall assembly by offering a capillary break between the cladding and the wall sheathing. In addition, ZIP System rainscreen can promote drying potential by enabling natural ventilation to occur through the ¼" gap created by ZIP System rainscreen. When stucco, adhered stone, and other adhered claddings (hereafter referred to as reservoir claddings) are installed, ZIP System rainscreen can perform as the code-required secondary water-resistive layer. To achieve this, the vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen must be taped with ZIP System™ flashing tape.

Q: What are the roll size and the dimensions of ZIP System rainscreen?

A: A roll of ZIP System rainscreen provides 260 square feet of coverage. A roll of ZIP System rainscreen is 48 inches in height (when placed on the wall), 65 feet in length, and is ¼ inch thick.

Q: Does it matter how ZIP System rainscreen is oriented when it is installed on the wall?

A: Yes, ZIP System rainscreen should be installed such that the 3-inch selvage edge is along the bottom. The entire selvage edge should overlap previous courses of ZIP System rainscreen. Along the bottom course, the selvage edge should freely hang over any flashings or be removed with scissors or a utility knife. ZIP System rainscreen should be installed with the drainage mesh against the sheathing, facing inward. Note the 'This Side Down' and 'This Side Out' markings when installing.

Q: Along the bottom course, can I fold the selvage edge back to perform as a pest screen?

A: The selvage edge should not be folded back along the bottom course of ZIP System rainscreen. Doing so would limit the drainage and ventilation provided by ZIP System rainscreen. Rather, install compatible products that are designed to prohibit pest traffic without limiting the drainage and ventilation benefits of ZIP System rainscreen.

Q: What fasteners are required for installation?

A: Plastic cap staples or plastic cap nails are required to install ZIP System rainscreen. The staples or nails should be a minimum ⅝" long and should be installed every 24 inches in the vertical and horizontal direction.

Q: What is the exposure limit for ZIP System rainscreen?

A: ZIP System rainscreen can be exposed for up to 90 days.

Q: How do I cut ZIP System rainscreen?

A: ZIP System rainscreen can be cut to size and trimmed to fit around penetrations with a utility knife or scissors.

Q: When installing tape over the vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen, does the tape need to be rolled?

A: When reservoir claddings are installed over ZIP System rainscreen, the vertical seams must be taped with ZIP System flashing tape to prevent mortar or plaster from entering the drainage mesh. In addition, taping the vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen is required to maintain continuity of the secondary water-resistive layer. Rolling the tape over the vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen is not required. However, ZIP System flashing tape must always be rolled when it is applied to ZIP System® wall and roof sheathing.

Q: Can this product be installed on outside and inside corners?

A: Yes, the drainage mesh is designed to easily contour around and into corners. Please refer to the installation manual for more details.

Q: Do I have to flash ZIP System rainscreen around penetrations and windows?

A: Since ZIP System rainscreen is a drainage medium or (for reservoir claddings) secondary water-resistive layer, penetrations, window rough openings, and other architectural details should not be flashed to the ZIP System rainscreen. These details should be flashed to the primary water-resistive barrier.

Q: Can open-joint cladding be installed over ZIP System™ rainscreen?

A: Open-joint cladding is not permitted to be installed directly over ZIP System rainscreen. Due to the permanent UV exposure, a UV stable material must be installed directly under the open-joint cladding.

Q: What wall claddings can be installed over ZIP System rainscreen?

A: ZIP System rainscreen can be used with a variety of wall claddings: stucco, adhered stone, lap siding, fiber-cement siding, brick veneer, and wood siding. Reservoir claddings require the vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen to be taped with ZIP System™ flashing tape prior to the application of the mortar or basecoat.

Q: Can this product be used on a roof?

A: No, ZIP System rainscreen is only permitted for use on walls.

Q: Is ZIP System rainscreen permitted for use below grade?

A: No, ZIP System rainscreen is not permitted for use in below grade applications.

Please visit [Huberwood.com](https://www.huberwood.com) or contact our technical department at 800-933-9220 Ext 2716 or at techquestions@huber.com with any questions or comments.