



ZIP System™ Rainscreen - Drainage and Ventilation Mat  
INSTALLATION MANUAL

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**ATTENTION:** This installation guide is intended to provide general information for the designer and end user. The following guidelines will help you safely and properly install the ZIP System™ rainscreen – drainage and ventilation mat. We urge you, and anyone installing this product, to read these guidelines to minimize any risk of safety hazards and to prevent voiding any applicable warranties. This manual is a general installation guide and does not cover every installation condition. Proper installation shall be deemed to mean the most restrictive requirement specified by Huber Engineered Woods (HEW), local building code, engineer or architect of record, or other authority having jurisdiction. You are fully and solely responsible for all safety requirements and code compliance. For additional information contact Huber Engineered Woods LLC.



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## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // OVERVIEW

The ZIP System™ Rainscreen - drainage and ventilation mat is an entangled mesh drainage medium with a fabric covering on the exterior side of the mesh. The polymer mesh provides a lightweight, yet rigid drainage medium designed to increase the drainage efficiency of the wall assembly. The fabric performs as a second layer of water-resistive barrier (WRB) when stucco, adhered stone, or other absorptive cladding is to be installed over ZIP System rainscreen. Vertical seams must be taped to meet this requirement. When installed over ZIP System® sheathing, ZIP System rainscreen provides a ¼ inch drainage gap to allow the drainage of excess moisture between the sheathing and the wall cladding. The additional drainage gap provided by the entangled mesh can improve drying potential and ventilation.



## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // OVERVIEW

Install ZIP System rainscreen when using absorptive claddings such as wood shakes, fiber cement siding, or mortared claddings. Follow the cladding manufacturer's installation requirements.

In addition, the vapor-permeable fabric covering of ZIP System rainscreen replaces the need for an additional layer of Grade D water-resistive barrier for absorptive claddings. Thus, ZIP System rainscreen satisfies the drainage and second water-resistive barrier requirements for stucco, adhered stone, or other absorptive claddings when installed over ZIP System sheathing.

A nominal 3-inch selvage edge can be found along the bottom of the roll. This selvage edge offers adequate overlap when installed above previous courses of ZIP System rainscreen. Due to the overlap, the horizontal seams of ZIP System rainscreen do not need to be taped. Always install ZIP System rainscreen horizontally with the selvage edge at the bottom.





## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // NOTES & LIMITATIONS

-  ZIP System rainscreen must be installed with the entangled mesh facing the interior side of the wall assembly.
-  ZIP System rainscreen is only intended for wall applications.
-  Stucco and adhered stone applications should not be directly adhered to the ZIP System rainscreen without a lath. Ensure the lath is properly installed per the manufacturer's requirements and complies with ASTM C1063.
-  Only use approved fasteners to install ZIP System rainscreen.
-  Install ZIP System rainscreen in the horizontal orientation, only.
-  ZIP System rainscreen is not intended for below-grade applications.
-  ZIP System rainscreen shall be covered with a permanent cladding system within 90 days.
-  Open-joint cladding systems cannot be installed over ZIP System rainscreen without first installing a UV stable wall covering.

## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // NOTES & LIMITATIONS

-  When original claddings are removed, new water-resistant barriers must be installed in accordance with local code requirements. This must be done prior to the installation of the new cladding.
-  ZIP System rainscreen is not considered to be a replacement for furring/nailing strips if installing a cladding that requires the use of blocking or furring/nailing strips.
-  ZIP System rainscreen is not to be covered with exterior paint or other fluid-applied coverings.
-  ZIP System rainscreen does not replace the need for properly installed and taped ZIP System® sheathing.
-  ZIP System rainscreen is not to be installed as the primary water-resistant barrier.



## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // GENERAL INFORMATION

### ROLL SIZE

Each roll of ZIP System rainscreen is 65 feet (~20 meters) in length and 48 inches (1.2 meters) wide. Therefore, each roll of ZIP System rainscreen provides 260 square feet of coverage. The total thickness of the ZIP System rainscreen is ¼ inch (6.35 millimeters).

### FASTENER REQUIREMENTS

ZIP System rainscreen must be installed with minimum 5/8 inch cap nails or cap staples. Button caps are required to provide enough holding power to properly anchor the rainscreen. For stucco or adhered stone, it is recommended to use corrosion-resistant fasteners.

### FASTENING

Fasteners should be placed every 24 inches in both the horizontal and vertical directions. Along inside and outside corners, install fasteners 3 inches away from the intersecting wall.

For stucco and adhered stone applications, install fasteners within 1 inch of the ZIP System rainscreen's vertical edge. This will allow the ZIP System™ flashing tape to cover all button cap fasteners along the seam.

Do not install fasteners through window flashings, door flashings, pipe or mechanical penetration flashings, or any other flashing.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fasteners may penetrate the flashing substrate if the flashing substrate satisfies nail sealability requirements confirmed by ASTM D1970.

## CORNER INSTALLATION

ZIP System™ rainscreen should be installed tightly against all outside and inside corners. Outside corners should not be cut along the corner seam. Instead, ensure a continuous course of ZIP System rainscreen is installed around the outside corner.

For inside corners, it may be necessary to cut ZIP System rainscreen to allow proper cladding installation. However, if the ZIP System rainscreen is cut along the inside corner and will be covered with stucco or adhered stone, tape the resulting vertical seam with a piece of ZIP System™ flashing tape.

## CONTINUOUS VENTILATION

To provide the best potential for ventilation and drying, continuous airflow should be maintained throughout the wall assembly. Achieving this may require additional detailing at the top of the wall and around architectural details. ZIP System rainscreen provides a ¼" drainage gap between the sheathing and the cladding. Trim pieces or channels with dedicated vent openings may need to be installed at the top of the wall to allow air to flow freely and vent out of the top of the wall assembly. It is recommended to discuss this with the architect or designer of record.



## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

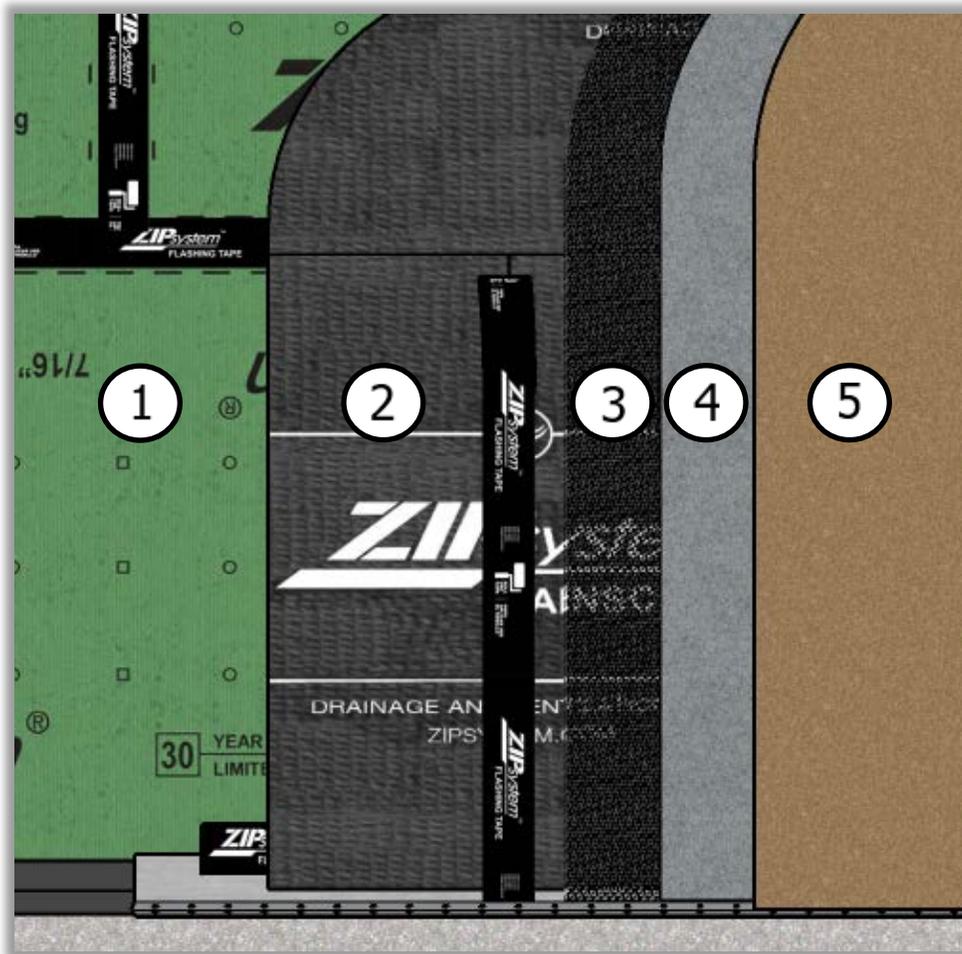
### STUCCO

1. Ensure the ZIP System® sheathing is properly installed. A ZIP System seam sealing and flashing product shall be installed over all ZIP System panel seams. All windows, doors, and penetrations shall be properly flashed.<sup>1</sup>
2. Start at the bottom of the wall and position the ZIP System rainscreen against the wall with the mesh against the ZIP System sheathing. Trim the selvage edge along the bottom course and directly above any transition to maintain drainage. Install the following courses above the previous course in shingle fashion. Fully overlap the selvage edge over the previous course of ZIP System rainscreen. ZIP System rainscreen should terminate over the weep screed.
3. Mechanically fasten the ZIP System rainscreen with approved fasteners. Place one fastener every 24 inches and avoid fastening through flashing.
4. Trim ZIP System rainscreen around all windows, doors, and penetrations.
5. Tape all vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen to prevent the mortar or scratch coat from entering the drainage plane.



<sup>1</sup> For more information, please refer to the [ZIP System Sheathing and Tape Installation Manual](#).

6. Install metal lath per the manufacturer's requirements complying with ASTM C1063.
7. Apply stucco in accordance with manufacturer's requirements being sure to implement proper drainage accessories.<sup>1</sup>



1. ZIP System® Sheathing
2. ZIP System™ Rainscreen
3. Metal Lath
4. Scratch Coat
5. Finish Coat

<sup>1</sup> Ensure the installed stucco does not compromise the drainage and ventilation characteristics of ZIP System rainscreen.

## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

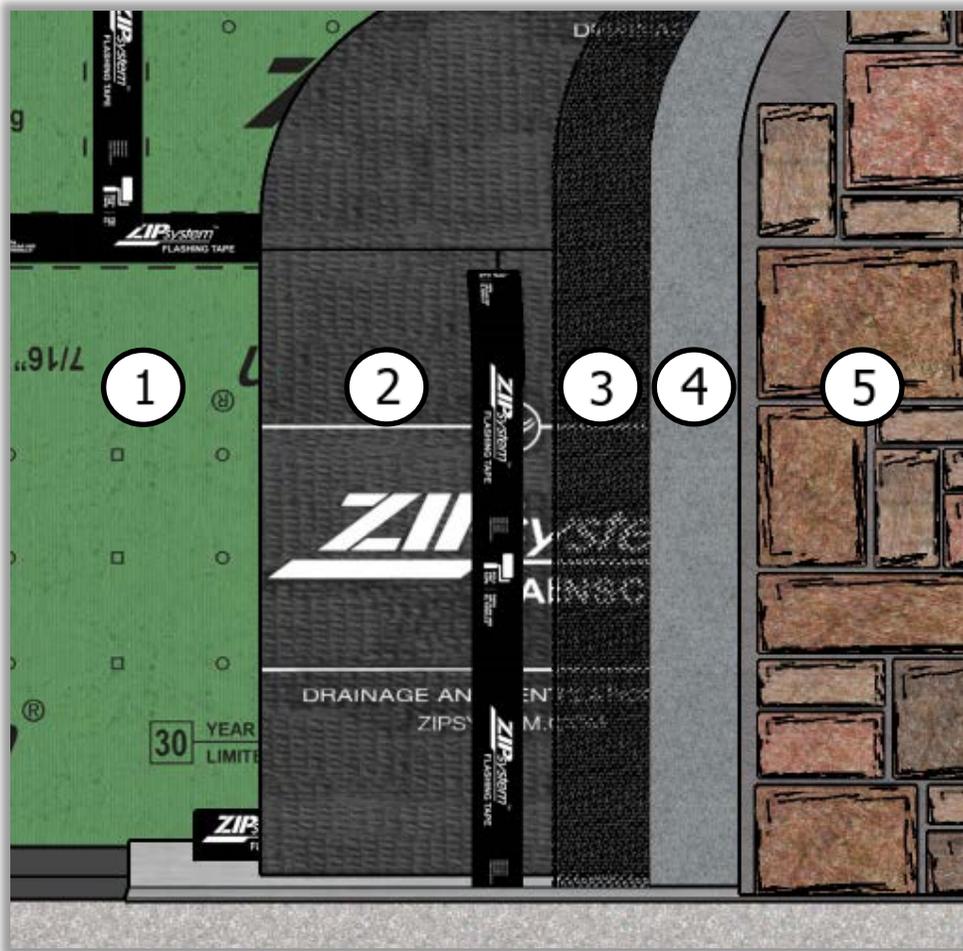
### ADHERED STONE OR TILE

1. Ensure the ZIP System® sheathing is properly installed. A ZIP System seam sealing and flashing product shall be installed over all ZIP System panel seams. All windows, doors, and penetrations shall be properly flashed.<sup>1</sup>
2. Start at the bottom of the wall and position the ZIP System rainscreen against the wall with the mesh against the ZIP System sheathing. Trim the selvage edge along the bottom course and directly above any transition to maintain drainage. Install the following courses above the previous course in shingle fashion. Fully overlap the selvage edge over the previous course of ZIP System rainscreen. ZIP System rainscreen should terminate over the ledge or flashing.
3. Mechanically fasten the ZIP System rainscreen with approved fasteners. Place one fastener every 24 inches and avoid fastening through flashing.
4. Trim ZIP System rainscreen around all windows, doors, and penetrations.
5. Tape all vertical seams of ZIP System rainscreen to prevent the mortar or scratch coat from entering the drainage plane.



<sup>1</sup> For more information, please refer to the [ZIP System Sheathing and Tape Installation Manual](#).

6. Install metal lath per the manufacturer's requirements complying with ASTM C1063.
7. Apply stone or tile in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements being sure to implement proper drainage accessories.<sup>1</sup>



1. ZIP System® Sheathing
2. ZIP System™ Rainscreen
3. Metal Lath
4. Scratch Coat
5. Mortar and Stone

<sup>1</sup> Ensure the installed stone or tile does not compromise the drainage and ventilation characteristics of ZIP System rainscreen.

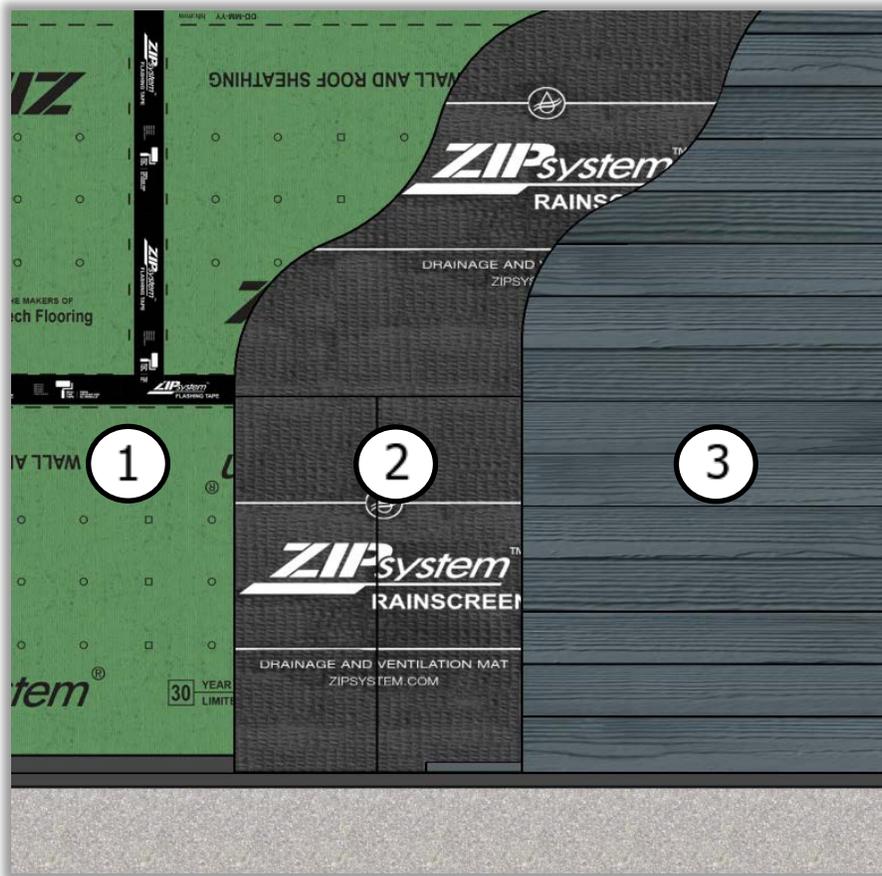


# ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

## FIBER CEMENT/LAPPED SIDING

1. Ensure the ZIP System® sheathing is properly installed. A ZIP System seam sealing and flashing product shall be installed over all ZIP System panel seams. All windows, doors, and penetrations shall be properly flashed.<sup>1</sup>
2. Start at the bottom of the wall and position the ZIP System rainscreen against the wall with the mesh against the ZIP System sheathing. Trim the selvage edge along the bottom course and directly above any transition to maintain drainage. Install the following courses above the previous course in shingle fashion. Fully overlap the selvage edge over the previous course of ZIP System rainscreen. The bottom edge of ZIP System rainscreen should terminate over the bottom-of-wall flashing or trim.
3. Mechanically fasten the ZIP System rainscreen with approved fasteners. Place one fastener every 24 inches and avoid fastening through flashing.
4. Trim ZIP System rainscreen around all windows, doors, and penetrations.
5. Install fiber cement or lapped siding according to the siding manufacturer's requirements.

<sup>1</sup> For more information, please refer to the [ZIP System Sheathing and Tape Installation Manual](#).



1. ZIP System® Sheathing
2. ZIP System™ Rainscreen
3. Cement Fiber/Lapped Siding

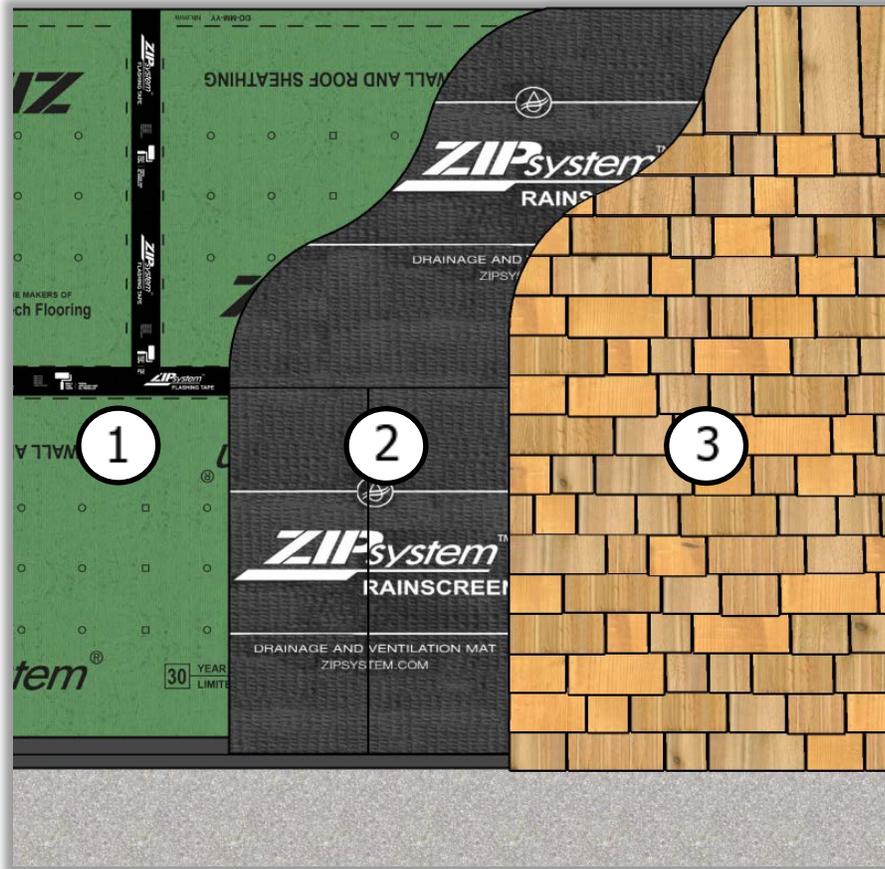


## ZIP SYSTEM™ RAINSCREEN // INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

### WOOD SIDING

1. Ensure the ZIP System® sheathing is properly installed. A ZIP System seam sealing and flashing product shall be installed over all ZIP System panel seams. All windows, doors, and penetrations shall be properly flashed.<sup>1</sup>
2. Start at the bottom of the wall and position the ZIP System rainscreen against the wall with the mesh against the ZIP System sheathing. Trim the selvage edge along the bottom course and directly above any transition to maintain drainage. Install the following courses above the previous course in shingle fashion. Fully overlap the selvage edge over the previous course of ZIP System rainscreen. The bottom edge of ZIP System rainscreen should terminate over the bottom-of-wall flashing or trim.
3. Mechanically fasten the ZIP System rainscreen with approved fasteners. Place one fastener every 24 inches and avoid fastening through flashing.
4. Trim ZIP System rainscreen around all windows, doors, and penetrations.
5. Install wood siding according to the siding manufacturer's requirements or in accordance with building code. If horizontal furring strips are required, install the horizontal furring strips over ZIP System rainscreen. Ensure the furring strips are fastened into framing members and do not block drainage and ventilation of ZIP System rainscreen.

<sup>1</sup> For more information, please refer to the [ZIP System Sheathing and Tape Installation Manual](#).



1. ZIP System® Sheathing
2. ZIP System™ Rainscreen
3. Wood Siding

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