

## Site Readiness Guidance

### Unit Preparation

The building envelope must be completely finished. All external doors, windows and cladding must be fitted. All sanitary ware must be installed to the point where traps can be filled with water. Primary heating and ventilation systems must be installed.

Upon arrival on site, our Test Engineer reserves the right to postpone or abort any number of tests should the unit(s) not be adequately completed or suitable to carry out testing in accordance with ATTMA Technical Standard 1. The appropriate fee will still apply.

### Guidance

1. All penetrations through external walls, floors and ceiling should be permanently sealed.
2. All external door and window frames should be sealed with mastic.
3. In houses finished internally with "dot and dab" plasterboard, the gap between the bottom of the plasterboard and floor should be sealed at every floor level, alternatively the gap between the bottom of the skirting and the floor can be sealed with mastic.
4. In houses where storage cupboards have been built into the roof space, the doors, when closed, should provide an air tight seal from the roof space. Draught excluder should be fitted to the top, bottom and sides of the door frame.
5. In houses where there is a connecting door to the garage, the door when closed should provide an air tight seal from the garage. If the threshold is yet to be fitted, it is permissible to temporarily seal at the bottom of the door. Alternatively the test equipment may be fitted into the connecting door aperture, provided the main garage door can be opened to allow the free flow of air.
6. All service ducts and penetrations where the main services enter the building, particularly underneath kitchen units, baths and shower trays, behind toilets and sink pedestals should be permanently sealed.
7. All penetrations around SVP's and waste pipes passing through external walls and ceilings, should be permanently sealed. Ensure that the top, side and ends of all pipe/SVP boxing's are sealed. Bath panels should also be fully sealed.

8. The boiler flue and/or ducting from mechanical ventilation systems should be permanently sealed where they penetrate the wall or ceiling.
9. All recessed light fittings should be fully installed and fitted into position.
10. All electrical sockets should be fully installed and fitted into position.
11. Loft Hatches should be fully installed and closed.

All sealing should be carried out as first and second fixing progresses, whilst the penetrations and junctions remain accessible,

The “sealing” referred to above should be permanent and form part of the internal finish of the dwelling. Temporary use of tape, other than to seal areas of designed ventilation, is not permitted and will invalidate the airtightness test.

## **What we will do to help you on site**

- Apply temporary sealing to extractor fans and other designed ventilation
- Block chimneys and open flues
- Ensure all external doors and windows are closed
- Close all trickle vents or seal if not installed
- Provide manpower needed to set up and run test equipment to carry out air leakage diagnosis unaided.

## **What we will not do on site**

- Shut down and temporarily seal air handling systems
- Any form of sealing to fitted gas fires or log burners
- Remedial sealing work (unless contracted)

An airtightness test is a requirement under The Building Regulations Approved Document L1A and is designed to measure the air leakage of a building in its finished state and represent the energy performance of the building when occupied.

Removal of permanent sealing such as mastic after the conclusion of the test is the sole responsibility of the contractor. Removal of temporary sealing remains the responsibility of the Test Engineer.