

# Did you know?

## Adhered masonry veneer requirements



**Q:**

How does the 2007 State Building Code address adhered masonry veneer?

**A:**

The 2007 State Building Code, which adopts the 2006 International Residential Code and the 2006 International Building Code, addresses these types of products in a similar manner.

IBC section 1405.9, titled “adhered masonry veneer,” states the veneer must comply with the applicable requirements in that section, and also sections 6.1 and 6.3 of ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402. The IRC is a little more difficult to track since there is no separate section. Table R703.4 does however address adhered masonry veneer, but would imply that everything in the table is meant for anchored veneer which has a similar application as brick. Table R703.4 does, however, reference footnote “z” which is specific to adhered masonry veneer. IRC Table R703.4 footnote “z” points to the same document as the IBC which is ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 sections 6.1 and 6.3.

**Q:**

What are the specific code requirements for installation of adhered masonry veneer?

**A:**

The model code gives little direction, other than the IBC, which addresses if the product is used in the interior, and supported with wood, then the deflection rating is required to be increased. Within the standard that is referenced in both the IRC and IBC, adhered veneer is addressed specifically in Section 6.1 and 6.3, Section 6.3.2.3 states that “... backing shall provide a continuous, moisture-resistant surface to receive the adhered veneer.”



The installation of adhered masonry veneer is addressed in the 2007 State Building Code, which adopts the 2006 International Residential Code and the 2006 International Building Code.

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### *Did you know?*

#### **Adhered masonry veneer requirements**

While this is a little vague, the general provisions of IRC R703.1 and IBC Section 1403.2 both state in part “... The exterior wall envelope shall be designed and constructed in a manner that prevents the accumulation of water within the wall assembly by providing a water-resistive barrier behind the exterior veneer.” The IRC then references Section R703.2 and the IBC points to Section 1404.2. Both sections are titled “Water-resistive Barrier.” Both the IRC and IBC state that a minimum of one layer of No. 15 asphalt felt complying with ASTM D226 or other approved water resistive barrier, shall be applied over studs or sheathing of all exterior walls.

There is no specific direction about how to install adhered masonry veneer products other than they need to be designed for differential movement and a weeps system as “specified in the standard.” There is no language on the clearance to grade, the type and weight of the lath, the lath attachment or a mix for the masonry that adheres the product to the substrate or lath. As a building official or designer,

manufacturer’s installation requirements and evaluation

reports, when available, are the only place to receive any direction for these types of products and or individual components.



**Q:**

**Do the provisions for stucco apply to these types of adhered masonry veneer products?**

**A:**

No. While it appears to be a similar application, the code addresses them differently. Manufacturer’s installation instructions will apply in almost all cases. ICC has acceptance criteria for precast stone veneer AC-51, this is minimum criteria a manufacturer must meet to gain an ICC evaluation report. AC-51 does not recognize the products the same as stucco either.

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