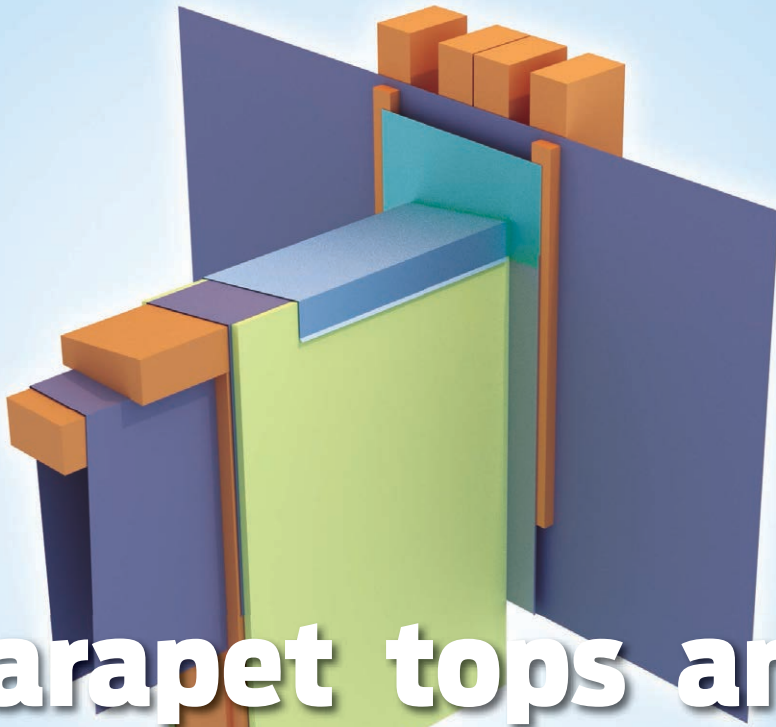


builder's mate



Parapet tops and junctions

The tops of timber-framed parapets and the junctions between parapets, balustrades and walls can be vulnerable to leaks and rot if not detailed and built properly.

The top of parapet walls designed to E2/AS1 must be finished with a metal or membrane cap flashing. Metal cap flashings should have a minimum 5° slope and overlap the cladding down each face of the parapet by a minimum of 50 mm (70 mm in very high wind zones and 90 mm in extra high wind zones). They should incorporate a separation layer to prevent corrosion between the metal cap flashing and the sloped timber support packer.

Membrane flashings should have a minimum 10° slope and cladding overlap as given for metal caps.

A tricky junction to detail and build in the correct sequence is the intersection of the parapet wall with an adjacent taller wall of the building. There are a number of key construction steps to follow, set out on page 2. >

WIN!

A Hitachi concrete and fibre-cement disc cutter



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Worth \$349!

INDUSTRY NEWS

Apprentice of the Year

William Harkness, a BCITO apprentice from Hawke's Bay, was named the Registered Master Builders/ Carters 2013 Apprentice of the Year after a tough 6-hour practical test in Auckland.

Homestar ratings

An independent study has shown that achieving a 6 Homestar rating will add 1.5% to the purchase price of a typical 3-bedroom house or add no extra cost at all if a house is made very slightly smaller.

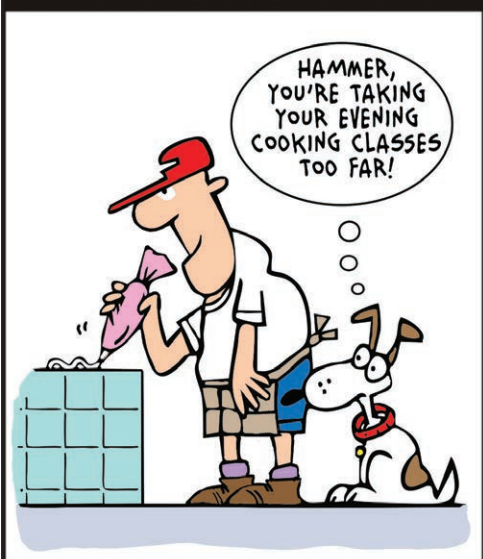
A 6 Homestar rating means less wasted energy and water. A separate independent analysis has shown that, for 5 and 6 Star ratings, paybacks are within the expected home ownership period – typically 7 years.

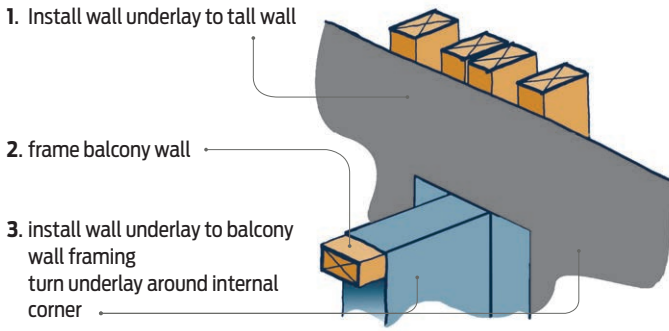
The burning truth

- The skin cancer melanoma, which can result from too much sun exposure, kills around 200 Kiwi men each year.
- In 2010, melanoma was the leading cancer among men aged 25–44.

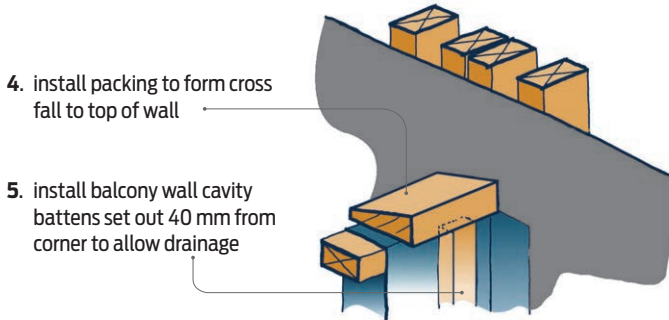
Don't forget the sunscreen, sunglasses and hat when you're on the job!

HAMMER 'N' NAILS

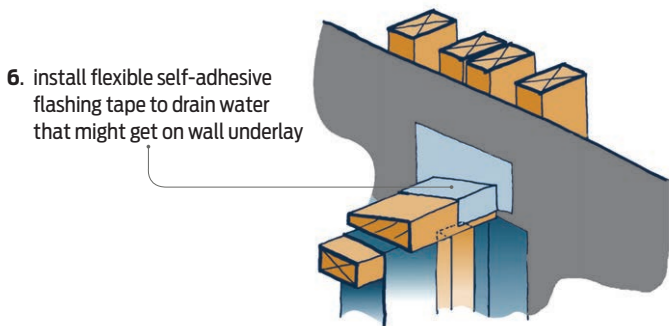




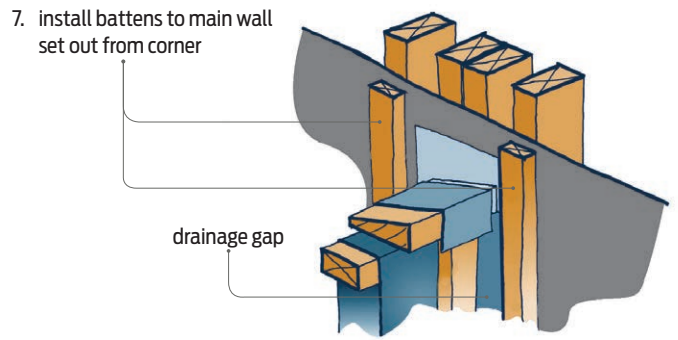
Steps 1 – 3



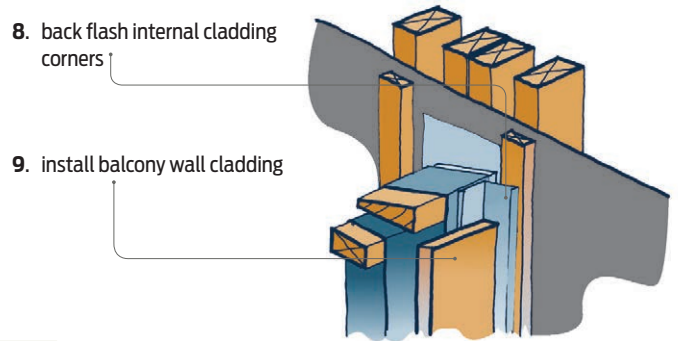
Steps 4 – 5



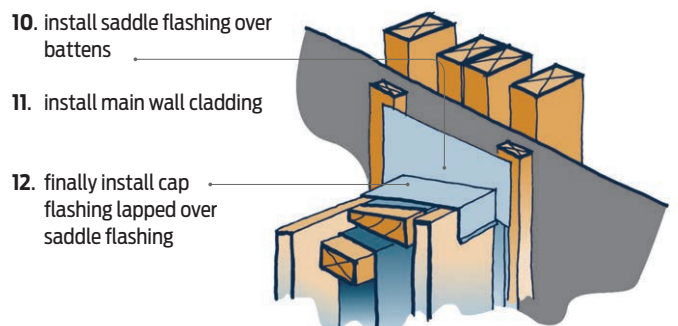
Step 6



Step 7



Steps 8 – 9



Steps 10 – 12



Mouth piece

The Licensed Building Practitioners (LBP) scheme was established to assess practitioners as having the right skills and knowledge for the design and/or building work they do.

Every two years when they relicence, LBPs need to show the Registrar of Licensed Building Practitioners that they are keeping competent. This is called Skills Maintenance.

The current Skills Maintenance framework is based on the system of '1 hour = 1 point'. LBPs can claim points for any training or learning activity they undertake, provided it relates to their licence.

The New Zealand public needs to have confidence in the LBP scheme. With this in mind, the Skills Maintenance framework has been reviewed to ensure that when LBPs renew their licence, the registrar has reliable evidence that they are currently competent. Going forward, changes will include:

1. A shift in focus to what was learned; LBPs will be asked to record what Skills Maintenance activities they did and what they learnt from them.

2. There will be four general categories of learning: Technical Skills and Knowledge; Regulatory Knowledge; Workplace Safety; and Professional Development. LBPs will have to show evidence of at least one learning activity in each general category.
3. LBPs will be able to claim 'on-the-job' learning, provided they can explain what and how it was learnt.

Over the next year, MBIE will be providing information on these and other changes, so LBPs will have plenty of time to become familiar with the new requirements before they become mandatory.

LBPs are encouraged to check their details on the public register. Providing the registrar with an email address is the best way to keep up to date with changes as they occur.

Mark Scully

Registrar of Licensed Building Practitioners
MBIE

Setting up and working on free-standing scaffolding



Fixed scaffolding is the safest option for working at height, particularly on walls of buildings, because it provides a secure, stable and safe working platform that can be left in place for the duration of the project.

Mobile platforms are more suited where a specific task on a small part of the building must be undertaken such as replacing a small to medium-sized window.

Some important safety rules need to be followed.

Free-standing scaffolds must:

- be erected level and plumb
- be on solid footings or supports
- be braced
- be tied to the structure if possible
- have guardrails and toe boards
- have the planks or decks secured to the scaffold structure
- have a solid working platform with enough space to do the job.

When working on or from a mobile scaffold, check that:

- the wheels or castors are locked before you climb on
- nobody is on it while it is being moved
- it always stays plumb and level
- the scaffold and any tools or materials used are well clear of power lines.

If a scaffold looks as if it has been modified or tampered with or damaged or it appears unsafe, don't use it until a competent person has checked it.

Notification and supervision

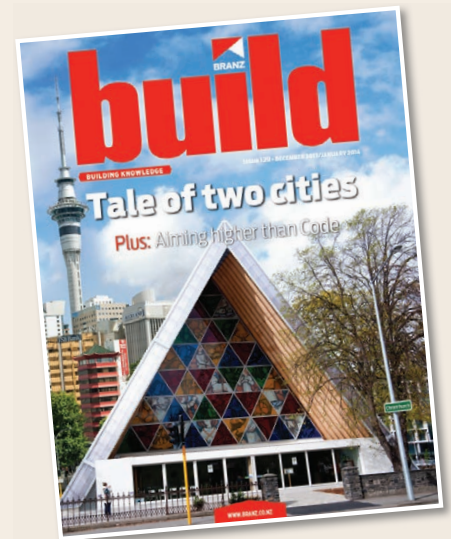
All free-standing scaffolds where a person or object could fall more than 5 metres must be erected, altered and dismantled by (or directly supervised by) someone with a Certificate of Competency for this. The erection must be notified to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

All scaffolds should comply with the Scaffolding, Access & Rigging New Zealand (SARNZ) *Best Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in New Zealand* or equivalent guidelines or a higher standard.

For more information, download the booklet *Best Practice Guidelines for Working at Height in New Zealand* (April 2012) from the website of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. You can also buy the standard AS/NZS 1576.1:2010 *Scaffolding – Part 1: General requirements* from Standards New Zealand.

build

“Do you get your free Build magazine?”



All building contractors who are in the business of building and have paid a Building Research Levy in the current year can receive BRANZ's *Build* magazine for free. This Levy is paid as part of the building consent fee on all construction projects over \$20,000. If you are missing out on your free copy of *Build*, call 0800 80 80 85 (press 2) or email vera.chan@branz.co.nz.



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Competition

Here's a tool.



What is it?

Win!

A Hitachi concrete and fibre-cement disc cutter



Worth \$349!

This Hitachi cutter features a powerful 1300 w motor and 125 mm blade. Maximum cut depth 30 mm. Tool Shed special price \$349.

The prize is provided courtesy of The Tool Shed.

All you need to do to win is tell us the name of the mystery tool (above).

Email your answer to buildersmate@branz.co.nz. Put "December Competition" in the subject line. The message should include your answer, your name, postal address and phone number. One entry per entrant please.

Don't forget to tell us where you picked up your copy of *Builder's Mate*! The winner will be the first correct entry drawn at 9 am on Friday 10 January 2014. Details will be posted on the BRANZ Ltd website (www.branz.co.nz) and in the next edition of *Builder's Mate* due out on 1 February 2014.



Winner of the October competition was Carl Oliver of Waipukurau. Carl wins a leather carpenter's apron and tools worth \$172. The mystery tool was an auto feed screwdriver for plasterboard.

Terms and conditions:

Entry is open to all New Zealand residents except employees and immediate families of BRANZ and The Tool Shed shops. The competition will close on Friday 10 January 2014. The prize is not transferable for cash. The judge's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

What's wrong in these PICTURES?



1 CONCRETE SLAB



2 SUBFLOOR INSULATION

2. There is a big gap between the polystyrene insulation and the underside of the flooring. The polystyrene should be fitted up to the flooring to stop air movement.

1. The set-out of the slab levels for this building means that the finished slab is below the natural ground level on one side. This could lead to weatherightness problems.

ANSWERS



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