

Blower Door Testing and Mechanical Ventilation

The Florida Building Code (FBC) requires blower door testing for all residential dwelling units. This would include single family houses, town houses, duplexes, and **each** condominium and apartment unit where the building is three stories or less. The FBC further requires mechanical ventilation if the blower door test has a result of less than seven (7) air changes per hour (ACH), and the Energy Code requires that the ACH be three (3) or less, thus mechanical ventilation is now required in all the above referenced dwelling units. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide direction on who can perform the testing, what needs to be submitted to the Building Inspection Division (BID), and when it needs to be submitted.

PLAN REVIEW

How you will be achieving mechanical ventilation must now be shown on one of the mechanical drawings. Please provide a clear, distinctive note so the plan reviewer doesn't have to hunt or guess at your intent, and possibly reject your submittal. It is not our intent to scrutinize your design, just to ensure you are providing mechanical ventilation.

The plans will now be required to show the volume of the dwelling unit. This is the thermal envelope volume, and would not include any unconditioned space.

Who can perform the blower door test

Individuals with the following certifications/licensures will be approved:

1. Individuals defined under FL 553.993 (5) or (7)
 - Energy Auditor or Energy Rater
 - Currently Certified through RESNET or BUILDING PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE
2. Individuals licensed under FL 489.105 (3) (f), (g) or (i);
 - Class A Air Conditioning Contractor
 - Class B Air Conditioning Contractor
 - Mechanical Contractor
3. Individuals who have obtained blower door testing certification from a recognized agency

What needs to be submitted and when

The attached Blower Door Test Form is to be completed by the tester along with tester's certifications. The Blower door test form is required to be signed by the license holder or the certificate holder. The blower door test form is to be provided to the Village of Royal Palm Beach before a Certificate of Occupancy will be issued.



Village of Royal Palm Beach
1050 Royal Palm Beach Blvd.
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

Permit #:

Blower Door Test Form
For Prescriptive and Performance Method

Job Information:

Builder: _____
Community: _____ Lot / Bldg # : _____
Address: _____ Unit # : _____
City, State, Zip: _____

Air Infiltration Test Results

CFM (50) = _____
Volume = _____
ACH (50) = $CFM(50) \times 60 / \text{Volume} =$ _____
 Pass Fail

Passing results must be 5 ARCH(50) or less

Certification of Test Results

R402.4.1.2 Testing. The building or dwelling unit shall be tested and verified as having an air leakage rate of not exceeding 5 air changes per hour in Climate Zones 1 and 2, 3 air changes per hour in Climate Zones 3 through 8. Testing shall be conducted with a blower door at a pressure of 0.2 inches w.g. (50 Pascals). Where required by the *code official*, testing shall be conducted by an approved third party. A written report of the results of the test shall be signed by the party conducting the test and provided to the *code official*. Testing shall be performed at any time after creation of all penetrations of the *building thermal envelope*.

Authorized Third Party

I hereby certify that the above Air Infiltration Test results demonstrate compliance with Florida Energy Code requirements in accordance with the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation R402.4.1.2 5th Edition (2014).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Company: _____ COJ BDT #: _____