Airtight homes need designed ventilation

Comfort, energy performance and fresh air should be planned together.

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1 Control leakage

Airtightness limits uncontrolled air movement through the fabric and junctions.

2 Provide fresh air

Choose a suitable ventilation strategy for the building and occupancy, including background/supply, extract and purge provision.

3 Commission the system

Check airflow, controls, noise, access and balance where applicable. Installed equipment needs verified operation.

4 Explain everyday use

Provide clear occupant instructions, filter/cleaning requirements and maintenance arrangements.

5 Investigate damp

Check leaks, cold surfaces, moisture generation and ventilation faults. Do not blame sealing alone.

6 Use monitoring wisely

Temperature, humidity and other indicators can help identify problems; one reading does not establish overall indoor air quality.

Combine a continuous air seal with a commissioned, maintained ventilation system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document F

Use current product instructions and the approved project design. For regulations, confirm the UK nation, applicable edition and transitional arrangements.

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