Choosing building insulation

Choose insulation to suit the location, required performance and complete build-up.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Start with the location

Roof, wall and floor applications have different loads, moisture exposure and detailing needs.

2 Thermal performance

Check declared thermal conductivity, installed thickness and the calculated U-value of the whole construction.

3 Fire requirements

Check the exact product and complete assembly. One material classification does not establish a wall or roof fire-resistance period.

4 Moisture and ventilation

Plan drying, vapour control and ventilation together. Insulation cannot repair water ingress.

5 Installation quality

Continuity at edges, joints and penetrations matters. Gaps and thermal bridges can reduce the expected benefit.

6 Compare evidence

Ask for current product data, application guidance and environmental declarations. Compare like-for-like scope and service life.

Before ordering: record the product, thickness, intended use and complete construction.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

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

Airtight window and door junctions

Keep the air seal continuous while retaining designed ventilation.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Agree the junction

Identify the air-control layer, outer weather seal, insulation and drainage routes on an approved detail.

2 Prepare the surfaces

Use clean, sound substrates. Confirm primer, temperature and moisture limits with the tape or sealant supplier.

3 Allow movement

Select compatible flexible products and the specified joint geometry. A surface bead alone may not seal the hidden junction.

4 Keep water routes open

Do not obstruct drainage holes, cavity trays or weeps. Inner airtightness and outer weather protection serve different functions.

5 Check ventilation

Maintain the ventilation strategy, including required background vents, extract and purge provision.

6 Verify before covering

Inspect corners and penetrations, photograph the work and use project air testing to find leakage.

Seal uncontrolled leakage; provide fresh air through the designed ventilation system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document F
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

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

Choosing a Principal Designer

Building Regulations duties in England: competence for the actual project.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Two distinct roles

The Building Regulations Principal Designer coordinates design compliance. The CDM Principal Designer manages design-stage health and safety risks.

2 Appoint for the work

Where required, the client appoints a designer with control of the design work. A professional title alone is insufficient.

3 Individual competence

Assess relevant skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours against the complexity and risks of the project.

4 Organisation capability

Check resources, supervision, management arrangements and the ability to coordinate the design team.

5 One organisation, both roles

This is possible if competent for both. The client must confirm the combined appointment in writing.

6 Higher-risk projects

Apply the additional higher-risk-building procedures and evidence requirements. Keep the appointment and competence assessment documented.

Select on demonstrated competence, clear responsibilities and control of the design.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: design and building duties

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

Buying plywood with confidence

Match the plywood grade, declared performance and exposure to the job.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 State the application

Specify structural sheathing, flooring, joinery or decorative use before choosing the panel.

2 Check structural evidence

Obtain declared strength and stiffness where load-bearing performance is needed. Confirm thickness, support and fixing design.

3 Match moisture exposure

Select the appropriate bond and use class. A moisture-resistant glue bond does not make timber immune to decay.

4 Check the supply

Confirm species, dimensions, tolerances, surface grade and traceable documentation for the delivered product.

5 Protect and detail

Store flat and dry. Provide the specified joint gaps, edge treatment and protection from prolonged wetting.

6 Review sustainability

Ask for chain-of-custody certification and product-specific environmental information. Country of origin alone is insufficient.

Before ordering: agree grade, thickness, exposure, quantity and delivery protection.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

APA: plywood and exposure classifications
GOV.UK: Approved Document A

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

Acoustic floors: the complete build-up

An added board is one component of a sound-control system.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Airborne sound

Mass, separation and sealed junctions work together to reduce transmission of voices and other airborne sound.

2 Impact sound

A suitable resilient layer helps limit footsteps reaching the structure. Keep perimeter isolation continuous.

3 Structural support

Confirm the deck and joists can carry all added dead and imposed loads. A topping board is not automatically a structural deck.

4 Ceiling and cavity

Specify cavity absorption, resilient support and ceiling layers as part of the tested or assessed assembly.

5 Avoid acoustic bridges

Rigid fixings, service penetrations and perimeter contact can bypass the isolation layer.

6 Use system evidence

Check the complete floor/ceiling test report and relevant project sound requirements. Do not assign a dB improvement to a board alone.

Performance belongs to the full assembly, including junctions and workmanship.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document E

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

Fire-protective coatings

Specify a tested application, with the required evidence.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Define the objective

Reaction to fire concerns burning behaviour. Fire resistance concerns an element maintaining specified functions for a period.

2 Match the substrate

Identify the exact surface, assembly, orientation and exposure. A test on one construction does not cover all materials.

3 Read the evidence

Obtain the relevant classification, test or assessment and its permitted scope. Check applicability to the project jurisdiction.

4 Specify the coating

Confirm preparation, primer, dry-film thickness, number of coats and any required topcoat.

5 Control application

Use the manufacturer procedure and inspection records. Measure thickness using the approved method.

6 Keep it maintained

Plan inspection and repair of damage. Do not describe a coated construction as fireproof.

Before specifying: obtain coating evidence for the exact substrate and application.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Firefree: product-specific technical guidance
GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)

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

Roof condensation: assess the build-up

A reflective roof or a metal fixing does not by itself diagnose the problem.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Find the moisture source

Check indoor humidity, air leakage, rain ingress and construction moisture before selecting a remedy.

2 Assess the whole roof

Review covering, insulation, deck, underlay, air/vapour control and any designed ventilation.

3 Check cold bridges

Fixings and junctions can create colder areas. Consider their effect within the thermal and condensation design.

4 Detail control layers

Make air-control layers continuous and place vapour-control measures according to the assessed construction.

5 Treat spray foam carefully

It is not a universal condensation cure. Existing roof condition and moisture risk require assessment before installation.

6 Verify the design

Use appropriate condensation or hygrothermal assessment, product evidence and inspection before concealing work.

Repair leaks and establish the moisture strategy before adding insulation.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

BSR: spray foam moisture research
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

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

SulfRock boards: selecting an application

Magnesium sulphate board use must follow the relevant system evidence.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Internal linings

Confirm the board, supports, fixings and finish for the proposed wall or ceiling.

2 External assemblies

Check whether the specified board and finish system are approved for the exposure and detailing.

3 Wet areas

Water resistance is not waterproofing. Specify an appropriate wet-area system where required.

4 Floors and roofs

Confirm structural suitability, span, loads and support. Do not assume any board can replace a structural deck.

5 Fire performance

Check the exact SulfRock board report and its classification scope. A board reaction-to-fire rating does not establish a wall, floor or IPS panel fire-resistance period.

6 IPS and HomePod

For panels incorporating Plixxent PU foam insulation, assess the complete panel and building details, including joints and openings.

Before specifying: obtain the current board report, application detail and system evidence.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)
GOV.UK: Approved Document A

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

New materials: promise and proof

Distinguish research potential from demonstrated product performance.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Graphene and composites

Material properties depend on form, quality and manufacture. A laboratory result is not a construction-product rating.

2 Aerogel products

Compare the supplied product, including thermal, fire, handling and durability evidence.

3 Responsive materials

Shape-memory and self-healing concepts require evidence for the intended temperature, loading and environment.

4 Digital design

Simulation can help screen options. Validate assumptions and confirm predictions with physical tests.

5 Environmental claims

Assess raw materials, processing, transport, lifespan and end-of-life options within a consistent scope.

6 Route to adoption

Require repeatable manufacture, quality control, usable details, approval evidence and supply-chain support.

Ask what has been tested, at what scale, and under which conditions.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

NPL: graphene and materials measurement

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

Fibre cement: benefits and limits

Select the exact board and detail the complete construction.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Fire

Use the declared reaction-to-fire classification. The complete assembly needs separate evidence for fire resistance.

2 Moisture

Products vary in exposure suitability. A durable board does not remove the need for drainage and weather detailing.

3 Movement

Allow for moisture and temperature movement using the specified joints and fixings.

4 Durability

Check freeze/thaw, coating and exposure requirements for the selected product.

5 Maintenance

Inspect joints, edges, coatings and fixings. Low maintenance does not mean no maintenance.

6 Safe working

Use the current safety data and dust-control method for cutting or drilling. Confirm product-specific handling requirements.

Use the manufacturer data for the exact board; avoid blanket protection claims.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Swisspearl: facade fastening systems
HSE: construction dust controls

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

Damp walls and heat loss

Moisture changes performance; there is no fixed percentage for every wall.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 What changes

Moisture can increase the thermal conductivity of porous materials and affect the thermal resistance of the wall.

2 Assess the whole wall

Heat loss depends on materials, thickness, moisture content, area, temperature difference and the whole building.

3 Locate the source

Investigate rain, plumbing, ground moisture, condensation and construction moisture.

4 Choose the repair

Repair the identified defect and consider how the construction dries. Do not cover over unresolved damp.

5 Review insulation

Check compatibility and moisture risk before adding insulation to an existing wall.

6 Measure where needed

Use suitable investigation or thermal assessment. A damp meter reading alone does not provide a whole-wall U-value.

Next step: identify the moisture source, repair it and reassess the wall performance.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: solid wall heat loss research
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

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

Choosing tiles for the job

Compare intended use, installation and verified performance.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Wall or floor

Confirm the product is intended for the proposed location and loading. A wall tile is not automatically a floor tile.

2 Wet and external areas

Check water absorption, frost suitability and the complete waterproofing/detailing strategy.

3 Slip risk

Specify suitable slip performance for expected water, contamination, footwear and use. Finish appearance alone is insufficient.

4 Substrate compatibility

Select the adhesive, grout, preparation and movement joints for the substrate and tile.

5 Layout and supply

Check size variation, batch shade, wastage and availability for repairs before ordering.

6 Tile or brick slip

Brick slips are a separate cladding selection. Confirm system adhesive, jointing, support, exposure and fire evidence.

Before ordering: confirm the tile or brick-slip system, substrate, exposure and installation detail.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)
HSE: construction dust controls

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

Waterproofing: checks before handover

Use a complete compatible system and record concealed work.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Substrate and falls

Check soundness, dryness limits, drainage falls and outlet levels against the chosen system design.

2 Product and preparation

Confirm compatible primer, membrane, reinforcement and protection. Follow mixing and application instructions.

3 Joints and penetrations

Use approved details for corners, movement joints, upstands, outlets and pipe entries.

4 Weather and thickness

Record application conditions, coverage and specified thickness. Allow the required cure before subsequent work.

5 Protect the membrane

Use the specified protection for traffic and later trades. Screed is appropriate only where the system requires it.

6 Choose the test

Agree the inspection and integrity-test method. Flood testing requires suitable construction, load checks and manufacturer approval.

Record the detail, inspect it and test by a method suitable for that system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

LRWA: liquid waterproofing design guidance
LRWA: technical guidance and testing

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

Board fixings: specify the system

The screw, board and support must work together.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Match the support

Choose the approved fixing for timber, steel or aluminium. Confirm engagement and pull-out capacity.

2 Match the exposure

Specify corrosion performance appropriate to the location, especially coastal and wet environments.

3 Use the fixing schedule

Board size, wind load, support spacing and edge distances determine the design.

4 Head position

Set the head as required by the product guide. Do not assume every board needs a flush or countersunk fixing.

5 Allow movement

Use the prescribed hole sizes and fixed/sliding points where applicable. Avoid over-tightening.

6 Inspect the result

Check damaged edges, alignment, missed supports and overdriven fixings before concealing or finishing.

Before installation: agree the fixing type, corrosion protection, support and fixing schedule.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Swisspearl: facade fastening systems

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

Coastal homes: moisture and insulation

Treat exposure, rain control and ventilation as one design problem.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Inspect the envelope

Check roof, render, cladding, flashings, openings and drainage for wind-driven rain paths.

2 Check hidden defects

Investigate damp insulation, leaks and timber condition before covering the construction.

3 Choose suitable materials

Specify fixings, coatings and products for the actual coastal exposure.

4 Insulation choices

Compare products and installation quality. Mineral wool or glass wool does not universally fail in coastal homes.

5 Air and moisture control

Plan airtightness, ventilation, vapour control and drying according to the whole build-up.

6 Assess spray foam

Do not use spray foam as a default repair. Obtain application-specific moisture and fire assessment where proposed.

Stop water entering, establish drying and then choose the insulation system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research
BSR: spray foam roof fire research

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

Wall thickness: design it properly

Thickness follows structure, insulation, fire and space requirements.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Identify the wall

Distinguish load-bearing, separating, external and internal partition walls.

2 Calculate structure

Height, loading, restraint, openings and material strength affect the required dimensions.

3 Design the envelope

Include insulation, weather protection, cavities and internal/external finishes in overall thickness.

4 Fire and sound

Check the complete construction against its required performance, including joints and services.

5 Coordinate openings

Design lintels, supports, reveals and window/door positioning within the selected wall system.

6 Keep dimensions clear

Label core, board and overall thickness separately. Use the current approved system drawing for IPS panels.

Before design approval: label core, board and finished overall dimensions on the drawing.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document A
GOV.UK: Approved Document E

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

Plumbing: a project sizing checklist

Pipe sizes depend on demand, layout and system conditions.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Water supply

Assess flow demand, pressure, pipe length and losses. Confirm the available supply before selecting sizes.

2 Hot water

Coordinate appliance output, storage, safety controls, heat loss and expected simultaneous use.

3 Waste and soil

Consider fixture discharge, branch length, gradient, venting and access for cleaning.

4 Rainwater

Size to roof catchment, rainfall design conditions, outlet capacity and overflow provision.

5 Materials and supports

Follow the selected system instructions for joints, spacing, movement, insulation and protection.

6 Test and record

Complete required pressure/leak testing, commissioning and handover. Tank and septic sizing need a site-specific design.

Use the applicable national guidance and a competent design; one table cannot size every home.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document H
GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)

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

Rodent signs: investigate safely

Droppings are a clue; shape and size alone do not confirm the species.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Look for several signs

Check gnawing, tracks, noises, nests and entry points alongside droppings.

2 Record without disturbing

Note locations and photograph from a safe position. Keep food, children and pets away from contamination.

3 Do not sweep dry waste

Avoid vacuuming or sweeping untreated droppings, which can disperse contaminated dust.

4 Plan safe cleanup

Wear suitable gloves and follow disinfectant instructions and established cleanup guidance. Do not mix cleaning chemicals.

5 Prevent recurrence

Remove food and water sources and arrange suitable rodent-proofing without blocking required building ventilation.

6 Escalate when needed

Use a competent pest contractor for substantial infestation, inaccessible contamination or uncertainty about safe control.

Confirm the problem, control the infestation and clean using a safe method.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

CDC: safe cleanup after rodents
HSE: rat-related infection risks

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

Modelled and measured energy use

Both are useful when their purpose and assumptions are understood.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Use the applicable assessment

Confirm the energy-assessment method and version required for this project. Record assumptions, product data and the rules applying at its application date.

2 What monitoring shows

Metered consumption reflects the occupants, weather, operating settings and building condition during the measurement period.

3 Compare fairly

Align floor area, time period, fuel, end uses, occupancy and weather before drawing conclusions.

4 Controls and evidence

Check how the applicable methodology treats the specified controls. Avoid a blanket claim that all controls receive no credit.

5 Check performance claims

A low measured bill does not establish Passivhaus certification or all required performance criteria.

6 Close the gap

Review design inputs, installation, commissioning and operation. Use the applicable assessment version and retain supporting records.

Use measured data to investigate performance; it does not automatically replace the required assessment.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Standard Assessment Procedure

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

Concrete cracks: identify and assess

Appearance alone does not establish the cause or structural significance.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Early-age cracking

Plastic shrinkage and settlement can occur before hardening. Review placement, evaporation, compaction and curing records.

2 Later-age movement

Drying, temperature changes and restraint can create cracking after hardening.

3 Loading and support

Structural loading or support movement needs engineering assessment. Do not classify solely from crack direction.

4 Corrosion and deterioration

Rust staining, delamination or spalling may indicate reinforcement problems or other deterioration.

5 Record the evidence

Map position, length and width; note change over time, exposure, leakage and associated distortion.

6 Choose a repair after diagnosis

Specify repair for the cause, activity and required performance. There is no single safe crack-width limit for every structure.

Restrict access and seek prompt engineering advice where distress, instability or falling concrete is suspected.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

ACI: causes and evaluation of concrete cracking
Concrete Society: repair selection

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

Facade glazing: combine the properties

Treatments, coatings and glazing units can be combined.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Safety and retention

Specify the required impact safety and post-breakage behaviour. Toughened and laminated glass serve different purposes.

2 Thermal performance

Compare glass and whole-window/facade performance separately, including frames and edge effects.

3 Solar control

Balance solar heat gain, daylight, glare and appearance. Low-E and solar-control coatings are not interchangeable.

4 Acoustics

Specify tested glazing configurations for the noise spectrum and facade requirements.

5 Pattern and privacy

Tint, reflective coatings and ceramic frit affect light and appearance; they do not automatically establish safety performance.

6 Engineer the assembly

Check wind loads, support, seals, thermal stress, fire requirements and replacement access.

Specify a complete glazing configuration and supporting test data, rather than choosing one category label.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Documents (England)

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

Fibre cement installation: key checks

Use the current instructions for the specific panel and support system.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Design the supports

Check alignment, bearing, spacing and fixing capacity against panel size and design loads.

2 Set the joint

Use the specified gap, profile and weather detail. An 8-10 mm open joint is not a rule for every board.

3 Fix each board correctly

Maintain required edge distances and fixing locations; support adjoining edges as specified.

4 Allow movement

Follow requirements for hole size, fixed/sliding points and tightening.

5 Detail the cavity

Ventilated cladding requires its designed airflow, drainage, cavity barriers and closure details.

6 Keep products distinct

Do not transfer fibre cement rainscreen instructions to SulfRock MgS or IPS panel joints.

The board name, system guide and approved drawing must agree before installation.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Swisspearl: facade design and installation manual
HSE: construction dust controls

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

Terrix render in coastal locations

Specify the product and complete system for the exposure.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Identify the finish

Terrix RD-PS-S is a polymer-silicate render for spray application. Confirm the current technical data for the supplied variant.

2 Assess the background

Confirm the substrate and carrier-board system are suitable. Deal with movement, cracks, contamination and water ingress.

3 Use compatible layers

Specify approved joint treatment, reinforcement, base coat, primer and finish as one system.

4 Detail rain control

Design openings, drips, copings, plinths and adjoining materials to manage exposed coastal conditions.

5 Application and care

Follow weather, drying and protection limits. Plan inspection and maintenance in the actual exposure.

6 Qualify the claims

Check the current technical data and declaration for the supplied RD-PS-S variant, including vapour permeability, water absorption and reaction to fire. Confirm the scope of the complete system.

Before specifying: confirm coastal exposure, the approved substrate and compatible Terrix system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Terrix: RD-PS-S product and technical data

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

Board thickness: select from evidence

Thickness alone cannot establish an approved use.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Choose the product first

Boards of equal thickness can have different composition, strength, density and exposure suitability.

2 Match the application

Check the intended use: lining, carrier board, sheathing, cladding or flooring.

3 Check support and loads

Span, fixing layout, support material, wind and impact requirements affect suitability.

4 Confirm system performance

Fire, acoustic and thermal results depend on the complete tested or assessed construction.

5 Include all layers

Distinguish nominal board thickness from finished assembly thickness, including coatings and insulation.

6 Use the approved schedule

Record product, thickness, support, fixings, joints and finish. Obtain approval before substitutions.

Select thickness from the product evidence and project design, not a generic application ladder.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Swisspearl: facade fastening systems
GOV.UK: Approved Document A

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

Hemp and steel: compare like for like

Compare the same property, test conditions and intended use.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Identify the material

Hemp fibre, rope and hemp-lime composites are different products. Steel wire, cable and structural steel are also distinct.

2 Choose the property

Tensile strength, stiffness, density and breaking load answer different questions.

3 Control the comparison

Use the same test basis, geometry, conditioning and loading method. Breaking loads alone are not material strength.

4 Consider the assembly

Knots, connections, flaws, manufacture and moisture can affect rope or component performance.

5 Require product evidence

For structural or lifting use, demand the applicable specification, test results, design and traceable certification.

6 Assess sustainability separately

Use a defined life-cycle scope. A renewable feedstock does not establish every environmental or durability benefit.

Before making a comparison: obtain certified values measured on an equivalent basis.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document A

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

Weather-resistant boards: the whole wall

A board cannot provide storm or flood protection by itself.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Name the product

Use the exact board and thickness. Do not transfer another manufacturer product claims to SulfRock or IPS.

2 Manage water

Specify the weather barrier, drainage, flashings and opening details appropriate to the wall system.

3 Design for wind

Check board, fixings, supports and connections for site exposure and design loads.

4 Check moisture limits

Distinguish occasional wetting, external exposure and prolonged immersion. They are not equivalent conditions.

5 Assess flood resilience

Consider the entire building, including structure, services, finishes and recovery. No board-only flood guarantee is made.

6 Inspect and maintain

Check joints, fixings, edges and damage. Keep records of the selected system and installation.

Weather resistance is product-specific; resilience depends on the complete building.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research
GOV.UK: Approved Document A

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

Airtight homes need designed ventilation

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

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

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.

Board fixing holes: finishing safely

Repair and finishing depend on the board and the fixing detail.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Check the fixing first

Confirm correct engagement and head position. Filling does not restore an overdriven or misplaced structural fixing.

2 Avoid automatic countersinking

Countersink only where the product instructions require it. Exposed cladding fixings may need a different arrangement.

3 Prepare without damage

Remove dust and loose material using the approved method. Control cutting and sanding dust.

4 Choose compatible filler

For SulfRock and IPS, distinguish internal joint filler from external joint treatment. Confirm the current approved products, reinforcement and finishing detail for each location.

5 Finish as instructed

Follow curing, primer and coating guidance. Generic acrylic paint is not suitable for every board or assembly.

6 Inspect and record

Check cracking, surface adhesion and fixing damage. Keep drainage paths, open joints and movement points clear.

Before finishing: verify the fixing condition, then use the approved repair and coating system.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

Swisspearl: facade fastening systems
HSE: construction dust controls

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

Liquid waterproofing: choose the system

GRP, polyurethane, PMMA and polyurea are families, not performance guarantees.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Define the use

Roofs, balconies, walkways and vehicle decks have different load, wear and fire requirements.

2 Assess the substrate

Review condition, movement, moisture, adhesion and compatibility with the existing covering.

3 Specify the build-up

Agree primer, reinforcement, membrane thickness, details, finish and protection.

4 Check installation limits

Temperature, humidity, cure and recoat windows vary by product. Some systems need specialist application equipment.

5 Review the evidence

Obtain relevant certification, fire performance, expected service conditions and maintenance information.

6 Agree verification

Set inspection, thickness checks and suitable integrity testing. Include safe access and future repair provision.

For HomePod: confirm the exact Remmers liquid-roof system and approved application details.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

LRWA: liquid waterproofing design guidance
LRWA: technical guidance and testing

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

Loft insulation and summer comfort

A roof can gain heat, but comfort depends on the whole home.

Build Supply | SulfRock | Intelligent Panel Systems | HomePod

1 Assess heat sources

Review roof and glazing solar gain, internal gains, shading and ventilation.

2 Choose the insulation line

Confirm whether the design insulates the ceiling or the roof slope. Coordinate all associated control layers.

3 Keep required airflow

Retain ventilation routes required by the assessed roof construction and the home ventilation strategy.

4 Install continuously

Avoid gaps and unintended compression. Detail the loft hatch, edges and service penetrations.

5 Coordinate safety

Maintain specified clearances around hot fittings and equipment. Check cables and access requirements before covering.

6 Set realistic expectations

Do not promise a fixed temperature reduction, bill saving or equipment lifespan without project-specific evidence.

Combine suitable insulation with shading and safe, effective ventilation.

REFERENCE GUIDANCE

GOV.UK: Approved Document F
GOV.UK: resistance to moisture research

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

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