Air Seal an Attic Dropped Soffit or Large Opening

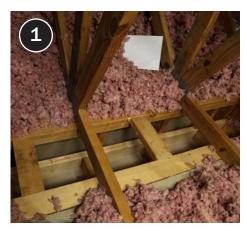
Job Aid for Air Seal Attic Floor Badge

Aligns with Standard Work Specifications 3.0101.1, 3.0102.9

Cap and seal openings from the attic



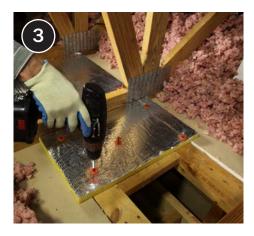
Soffits, coffered ceilings, and other design details can create lower sections in the ceiling line and often are not sealed or insulated properly.



For openings larger than 24 inches, support braces will be necessary.



If necessary, attach bracing across joists securely, spacing no more than 24 inches apart.



Apply sealant along top plates, bracing, and framing members prior to attaching rigid material and secure in place with mechanical fasteners.



Seal seams, edges, and the tops of all mechanical fasteners.



The pressure boundary is now aligned and ready for insulation.

CHECKLIST Air seal attic floor

DESIRED OUTCOME

Holes, penetrations, chases, cracks, gaps, and joints sealed to prevent air leakage and moisture movement between the attic and conditioned space.¹

Job Site Requirements²

	Existing insulation was removed as needed to access air sealing locations.			
	All wall cavities are enclosed on all sides (e.g., have top and bottom plates). Additional blocking was installed where necessary.			
	The following cracks, penetrations, and chases are sealed according to the work order to prevent air movement with the appropriate materials based on hole sizes according to the MATERIALS GUIDELINES table at right:			
☐ Tongue and a☐ Chases☐ Dropped soft	Top plates of all walls	AIR SEALING MATERIALS GUIDELINES		
		HOLE/GAP SIZE	MATERIALS/NOTES	
		1/4" or less (small)	Caulk	
	Recessed lights	1/4" to 2" (medium)	One component foam or mastic	
	 ☐ Plumbing vent pipes ☐ Electrical penetrations ☐ Exhaust fans ☐ Dropped ceilings 	2"-3" (large)	Two-component foam	
		3" or larger (extra-large)	Infill material installed that will not bend, sag, or move Support material (e.g., 2X4) installed for spans wider than 24"	
	☐ Stairwells			
	Chimney/flueDuctwork penetrations into atticAny other holes/penetrations in the attic plane/boundary			
	Work area cleaned.			



For more information, visit: energy.gov/eere/wap DOE/EE-2591 · May 2022

^{1.} Relevant Standards: 3.0101.1, 3.0102.9

^{2.} High-temp areas and attic hatches are addressed in separate badges.