

Air Seal an Attic Dropped Soffit or Large Opening

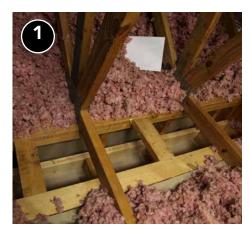
Job Aid for Air Seal Attic Floor Badge

Aligns with Standard Work Specifications 3.0101.1, 3.0102.9

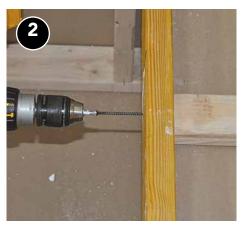
Cap and seal openings from the attic



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.			
	with the appropriate materials based on hol Top plates of all walls Tongue and groove ceilings	ngue and groove ceilings		
	Chases	AIR SEALING MATERIALS GUIDELINES		
	☐ Dropped soffits	HOLE/GAP SIZE	MATERIALS/NOTES	
]]]]]	Recessed lights Plumbing vent pipes Electrical penetrations Exhaust fans Dropped ceilings Stairwells Chimney/flue	1/4" or less (small)	Caulk	
		1/4" to 2" (medium)	One component foam or mastic	
		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"	
	Ductwork penetrations into attic Any other holes/penetrations in the attic plane/boundary			
	Work area cleaned.			

- 1. Relevant Standards: 3.0101.1, 3.0102.9
- 2. High-temp areas and attic hatches are addressed in separate badges.

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For more information, visit: energy.gov/scep

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