

## FLETCHER INSULATION TAPES

### Application

This Installation Guide provides installation recommendations for all Fletcher Insulation tapes, for use in joining pliable building membranes in commercial and residential roofing and walling applications.

### Important Notes

Fletcher Insulation tapes are supplied in rolls of varying widths to allow easy installation when joining and/or repairing pliable building membranes.

Prior to installation, ensure the Fletcher Insulation tape product selected is suitable for the membrane being used and the project application either by referring to the product Technical Data Sheet available for download via [www.insulation.com.au](http://www.insulation.com.au) or by phoning Fletcher Insulation on 1300 654 444.

When using tapes to join and seal pliable building membranes, the method used must be safe and in accordance with relevant safe work practices, Australian Codes and Standards.

- All pliable building membranes shall be installed in accordance with AS/NZS 4200.2 with the designed function/s.
- The adhesive used in Fletcher Insulation aluminium foil and fabric-backed tapes is pressure sensitive and the adhesive bond is activated by applying firm pressure to the tape and the substrate. Pressure must be applied by using a plastic applicator blade, such as a squeegee or similar, otherwise the bond will not adhere to the surfaces.
- Ensure that all safety assessments are carried out relevant to the project and all site safety requirements are strictly adhered to.
- Foil products conduct electricity. It is important that all safety requirements are adhered to when installing such product. As a minimum, have your electrician disconnect the electrical supply prior to commencing the installation to ensure that the foil is not 'LIVE'. Reconnect the electrical supply after installation and then test to confirm that the foil tapes and membranes are not conducting electricity.
- Where cutting is required, use a sharp knife and straight edge.

### Materials required

- Prior to installation estimate the number and length of joins between membrane lengths to calculate the total length of tapes required for the installation.
- As a general rule allow for 5% wastage for simple areas and greater allowances for more complex areas.

### Tools



**Sharp knife**

For cutting tapes



**Tape measure**

To measure lengths required



**Straight edge**

For cutting



**Spatula/scrapper**

To apply pressure to tapes to activate adhesive



**Hard board**

Hard surfaced to provide backing resistance when applying pressure to tapes to activate adhesives



**Clothing & PPE**

Appropriate wear for site (refer sections below)



**Ladder**

Or scaffolding as needed

## PPE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be compliant with the requirements of the specific worksite. Check with site foreman or site representative to ensure that required PPE obligations are met. As a recommendation for handling and installing insulation materials, the following PPE is recommended:



### Eye protection

Suitable eye protection to AS 1336 reduces the risk of eye contact with dust or fibres.



### Gloves

Gloves are recommended, especially when cutting insulation.



### Work clothes

Loose fitting clothes, including long sleeved shirts, long pants and cap or hard hat.



### Dust mask

A dust mask is recommended when working in dusty areas.



### Safety shoes

Safety boots/shoes must be worn to protect feet.



### Fall protection

For roofing installation, harnesses must be installed and operational

## Safety



### Assess

Assess the building structure and site for any safety issues prior to commencing work.



### Check

Make note of the location of equipment in the soffit such as lighting luminaires and fire sprinklers.



### Electrical wires

Ensure the work area is safe from hazards including electrical cabling. Do not touch any live electrical cables.



### Isolate power

If accredited, isolate power at the circuit board where necessary and apply caution tags to circuit breakers.



### Electrician

If not accredited, ask appropriate site representative to isolate power at the circuit board where necessary and apply caution tags to circuit breakers.



### Height

Working at height can be dangerous, exercise caution when climbing ladders or accessing elevated platforms.

## Application of self-adhesive tapes

- Fletcher Insulation aluminium foil and fabric-backed tapes have a pressure sensitive adhesive so they must be applied using pressure. The more pressure applied, the more surface contact is achieved and the better the bond.
- The best way to apply this pressure is with the plastic spatula enclosed in the carton, or a smooth edged plastic applicator blade, such as a squeegee or similar.
- Follow the contours of the material. Do not try to flatten the contours out with the tape. Let the tape relax into and conform with the irregularities of the surface, then rub down. See Figures 1 and 2.
- When sealing angled joints in longitudinal direction, the tape should be applied in short sections to one side of the joint, rubbed down as far as possible into the joint and then applied to the other side. See Figure 3.

Figure 1

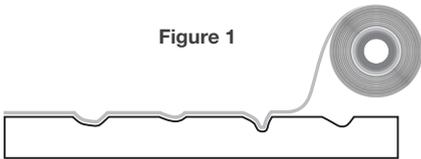


Figure 2

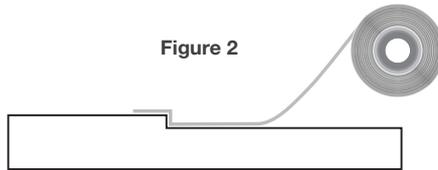
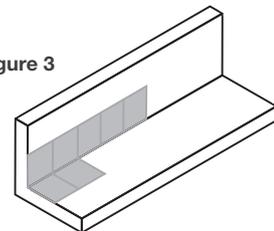
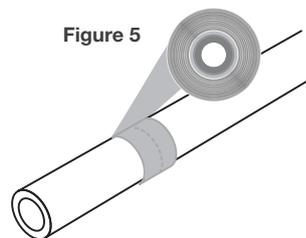
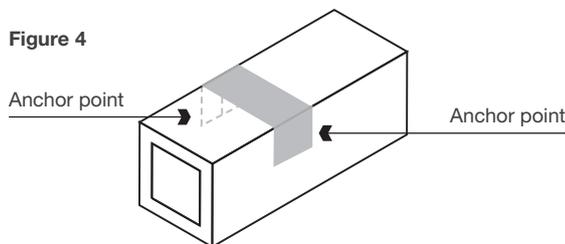


Figure 3



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email [info@insulation.com.au](mailto:info@insulation.com.au) or web [www.insulation.com.au](http://www.insulation.com.au)

- To enable maximum pressure to be applied with the plastic ‘squeegee’, the material should be positioned so that there is a hard, unyielding surface/board behind each joint.
- Care should be taken to ensure that the material joined by the tape is not likely to move or subject to movement. Flapping of the two surfaces joined by the tape creates enormous pressure on the joint and can lead to tape and membrane breakdown.
- For applications where longer tape runs are apparent, for best practice apply tape in sectional pieces at 500mm across the tape.
- It is important that the surface to which the tape is to be adhered is clean and free from any contamination such as dust, dirt, oil or silicones. If uncertain, clean the surface with a clean rag and mineral turpentine, then wait until dry before applying.
- Oxidisation of aluminium foil or leaching of plasticisers or similar from polymeric substrates can adversely affect the adhesive bond of the tape to that substrate.
- The smoothness of the material to be joined is also a factor. The more uneven the surface, the wider the tape should be and the greater the care in application.
- Fletcher Insulation tapes are not to be used as mechanical joining devices.
- Where possible, the length of the tape used should not only exceed the length of the joint, it should also continue around the next edge to provide an ‘anchor point’. See **Figure 4**.
- With pipework/penetrations, the entire circumference should be taped, with at least a 50% circumference overlap. See **Figure 5**.
- When finished, restore power, remove caution tags and test membrane to ensure electricity is NOT being conducted by the membrane when the job is complete.



### Application of self-adhesive tapes

- Any damage made to the Sisalation® pliable building membrane during installation, including holes and tears, must be repaired with at least a 72mm Fletcher Insulation Vapastop® 883 reinforced foil tape.
- Where the Sisalation® pliable building membrane is intended to act as a vapour barrier, tape and seal all overlapped joints, penetrations and discontinuities with at least a 72mm Fletcher Insulation Vapastop® 883 reinforced foil tape to prevent air movement.
- Fletcher Insulation tapes shall be cut back, terminated away from any hot flue to reduce fire hazard risk. This can be achieved by allowing a clear space of at least 50mm.

### Note

If your application/installation is outside these guidelines, please contact Fletcher Insulation prior to commencing the install to obtain written approval for your specific application.

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