

TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

Method of material calculation for the External Thermal Insulation System - EWI

The calculation method for the EWI systems in the UK uses the following two methods.

Materials only

When we calculate the material quantity we use the standard method of;

General wall areas - Metre square rate

Window and door openings (these are called window and door reveals or returns)

Up to 150mm linear meter rate

Up to 300mm linear meter rate

Up to 450mm linear meter rate

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For example

A building of 2000m² has say ten openings of 1.8 x 1.25m (2.25m²)

General wall areas - 2000 – 10 x 2.25 = 1977.5m²

Reveals up to 150mm – 1.8 + 1.25 x 2 = 6.1m x .15 = .911m x 10 = 9.1m²

Total – 1977 + 9.1 = 1986 + 3% wastage = 2046m²

Where openings are of a lesser size than 2.25m², they are generally included within the general metre rate as it is considered one and the same as it is not considered as a benefit or loss in the calculation method.

Materials and labour

When we calculate the material and labour as a single unit, we use a different method;

General wall areas - Metre square rate

Window and door openings – unless the opening exceeds 4.05m² the rate is included within the general wall area rate.

Windows and door openings above 4.05m²

Up to 150mm linear meter rate

Up to 300mm linear meter rate

Up to 450mm linear meter rate

It is considered that for openings up to 4.05m², the additional labour element involved and the extra materials required e.g. beads and extra reinforcing mesh, cancel out each other and therefore the rate is considered the same as a general metre rate. (In the UK it is not acceptable to join beads mid length unless the opening is larger than the standard 2.5 / 3m bead length thus there is high % of waste)

An additional 3% wastage is considered normal for all instances of material calculations.

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Conclusion

CALCULATION OF MATERIAL:

While calculating the materials to be used, we do not take into consideration windows less than 4m². For larger windows, described above, these are calculated as an additional linear metre rate with the addition of an extra 3% for waste added to the amount as per the example above.

CALCULATION OF LABOUR:

Since the labour element for windows/doors is more complex and time consuming, it is accepted practice to include the openings within the overall general metre rate, as an all-inclusive figure. Therefore a 2000m² building will be calculated as 2000m² with the addition of 3% for material waste.

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