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Continuing Education Course #368
Tiny House Part 3
Building Enclosure Design

1. How many numbered climate zones does the International Residential Code (IRC) divide the United States into?
 - a. 4
 - b. 6
 - c. 8
 - d. 10
2. What IRC climate zone is Chicago, Illinois located in?
 - a. 3A
 - b. 4A
 - c. 5A
 - d. 6A
3. According to the IRC, Washington D.C is located in a “warm-humid” climate zone.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. A U-factor of 0.40 converts to an approximate R-value of _____.
 - a. 2.5
 - b. 3.1
 - c. 3.3
 - d. 4.0
5. According to the course text, what rigid foam material has the greatest R-value per inch thickness?
 - a. Extruded Polystyrene
 - b. Expanded Polystyrene
 - c. Polyisocyanurate
 - d. All rigid foam materials have the same R-value per inch thickness
6. According to the course text, what is the most common way to combat thermal bridging?
 - a. Build a double stud wall assembly
 - b. Attach Larsen trusses to the outside of your existing walls
 - c. Build with structural insulated panels (SIPs)
 - d. Install sheets or blankets of insulation, typically rigid foam, over the entire exterior of the building’s walls
7. In IRC climate zone 4C, what is the requirement for window U-factor?
 - a. 0.32 and higher
 - b. 0.32 and lower
 - c. 0.30 and higher
 - d. 0.30 and lower

8. According to the IRC, what is the minimum requirement for floor R-value in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma?
- a. R-13
 - b. R-19
 - c. R-30
 - d. R-38
9. Air leakage in a house is typically measured using a _____.
- a. angiogram
 - b. manometer
 - c. piezometer
 - d. blower door test
10. According to the IRC, a Class I or Class II vapor retarder is required on the interior side of walls for a tiny house constructed in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- a. True
 - b. False
11. When using structural sheathing for a wall air barrier how are the seams or gaps between sheathing pieces usually air sealed?
- a. Tape or liquid-applied flashing
 - b. Tape or spray foam
 - c. Spray foam or liquid-applied flashing
 - d. Painter's caulk or tape
12. What is the minimum roof slope asphalt shingles can be installed on according to the IRC?
- a. 1:12
 - b. 2:12
 - c. 3:12
 - d. 4:12
13. According to the course text, why are metal roof panels often chosen as a THOW roof covering material?
- a. Because of their wind resistance and their shallow roof pitch adequacy
 - b. Because of their quick installation time
 - c. Because metal roof panels are one of only two roof covering materials allowed by IRC Appendix Q
 - d. Metal roof panels are rarely used on THOW
14. What is a difference between vented and unvented roof assemblies?
- a. Only the aesthetics are different. Both assemblies work the same way.
 - b. Vented roof assemblies are outside of the conditioned living space. Unvented roof assemblies are part of the conditioned living space.
 - c. Vented roof assemblies are allowed by the IRC. Unvented roof assemblies are not allowed by the IRC.
 - d. Vented roof assemblies are not allowed by the IRC. Unvented roof assemblies are allowed by the IRC.
15. What is one of the major challenges of using a vented roof assembly for a THOW?
- a. Carpenters don't prefer to build vented roof assemblies anymore.
 - b. It costs twice what an unvented roof assembly does and clients don't want to pay extra for something they don't see.
 - c. Most THOW have very narrow side roof overhangs to maximize the interior living area width. It's hard to fit vents in the available space.
 - d. There are no challenges regarding vented roof assemblies distinctive to THOW compared to traditionally sized houses.

16. Why is a normally common siding material like fiber cement rarely used for THOW?
- a. Its standard production lengths results in a lot of wasted material when used on a tiny house
 - b. The standard minimum order size for fiber cement siding is 1,000 square feet which is more than needed for most THOW
 - c. Due to its high weight and brittleness
 - d. It doesn't make sense to use a product that lasts so long for a house that likely will be lived in for only a fraction of that time
17. What two water-resistive barriers were referenced in the course text?
- a. Asphalt felt and house wrap
 - b. Wood and wood shakes
 - c. Wood and vinyl
 - d. Polyethylene sheets and asphalt felt
18. In early THOW why was gypsum board (drywall) rarely used as an interior finish material?
- a. Because it's hard to maneuver 4' by 8' sheets of drywall around in a small space
 - b. Because early THOW all looked like cabins and drywall isn't a typical cabin interior finish
 - c. Because of concerns about joint cracking and its high weight compared to wood
 - d. Trick question – drywall was used in THOW from the start
19. What are three methods/techniques/materials builders now use when installing gypsum board (drywall) in THOW?
- a. drywall nails, hanging drywall sheets so their edges don't land on structural members, metal corner bead
 - b. drywall adhesive and screws, heavy knockdown finishes, metal corner bead
 - c. drywall nails, heavy knockdown finishes, flexible corner products
 - d. drywall adhesive and screws, caulking, flexible corner products
20. Tongue and groove (T&G) wood boards are very popular ceiling finishes in tiny houses. What is one concern with their use?
- a. They are not an effective air barrier
 - b. They are hard to install on high ceilings
 - c. They come in limited wood species
 - d. They require annual maintenance
21. _____ is a concern with tile floors in THOW. One technique to reduce this concern is to use _____ under the tile.
- a. Cracking, uncoupling membranes
 - b. Weight, an extra sheet of plywood
 - c. Cracking, roofing felt paper
 - d. Weight, extruded polystyrene panels
22. Four categories of kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities are _____, _____, _____, _____.
- a. Particle Board, Plywood, Pre-Finished Plywood, and Solid Wood
 - b. Press Board, Plywood, Pre-Finished Plywood, and Solid Wood
 - c. Stock, Ready-to-Assemble, Semi-Custom, and Custom
 - d. Stock, Ikea, Semi-Custom, and Custom
23. What are two of the biggest issues with using RTA cabinets in tiny houses?
- a. RTA cabinets are the most expensive type of cabinet and they only come in a limited range of sizes.
 - b. RTA cabinets are often made of heavy high-density fiberboard and they only come in a limited range of sizes.
 - c. RTA cabinets (especially corner base cabinets) often are too big to fit through the entry door and are often made of heavy high-density fiberboard.

d. RTA cabinets have a very long lead time and high-density fiberboard deteriorates very quickly in warm-humid climates.

24. What are the two most commonly used THOW countertop materials?

- a. Stainless steel and wood
- b. Granite and stainless steel
- c. Laminate and granite
- d. Laminate and wood

25. According to the course text, why is built-in furniture popular in tiny houses?

- a. Because of limited storage space elsewhere
- b. Because of the low cost
- c. Because IRC Appendix Q requires at least one built-in furniture piece per tiny house
- d. Because built-in furniture doesn't slide around or tip over during THOW transport

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