

HOW TO VERIFY NEW CONSTRUCTION COMPLIANCE

 New construction and FORTIFIED Home: Hurricane

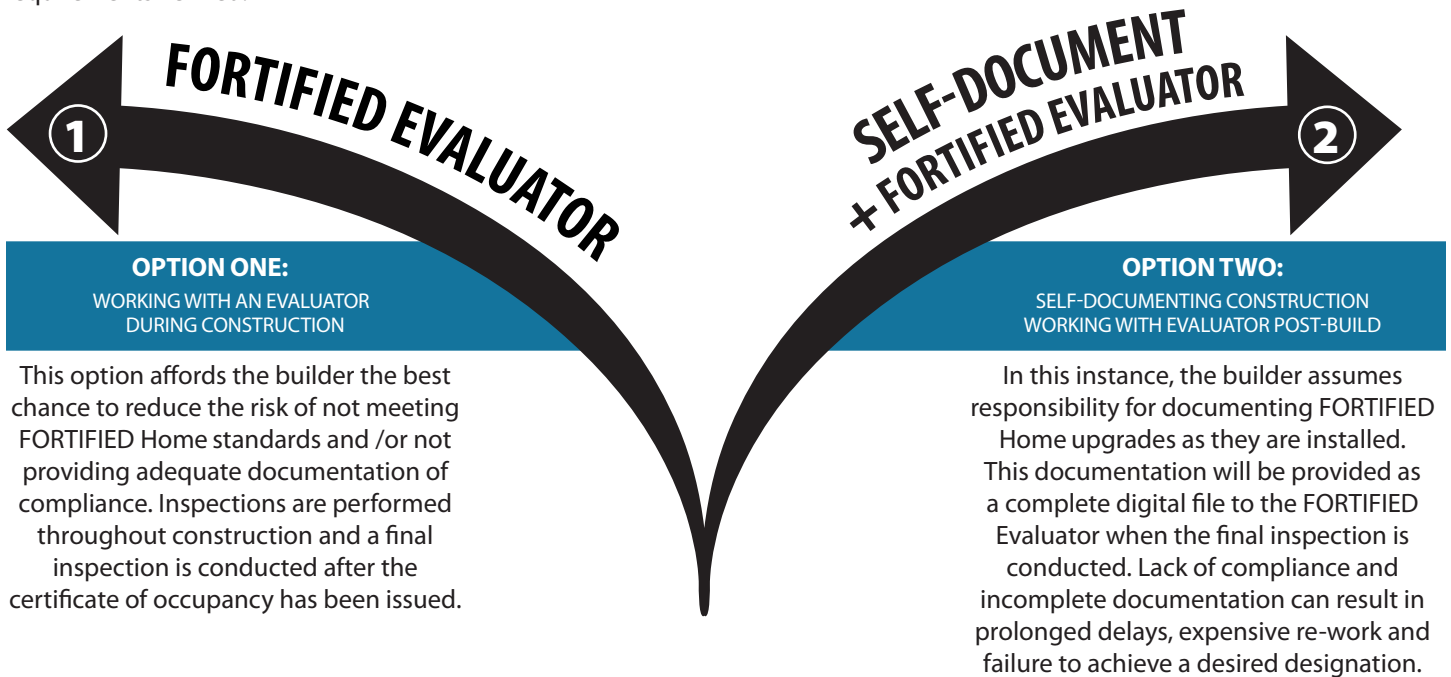
Builders of FORTIFIED new homes add significant value for their clients. The highly desirable FORTIFIED Home™ designation offered by IBHS is available exclusively to builders through a partnership with a certified FORTIFIED Evaluator in order to properly document compliance with FORTIFIED requirements.

FORTIFIED Evaluators will follow the outline below to collect data in the field about the house for which the FORTIFIED Home: Hurricane program designation is being sought:



1. CHOOSE A PATH

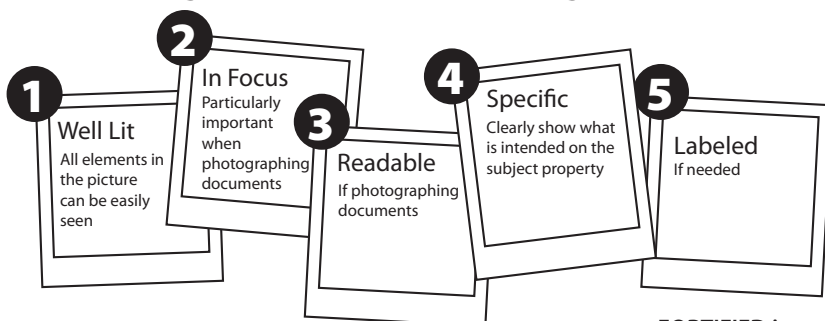
Builders have two options to document FORTIFIED requirements. A FORTIFIED designation will only be issued after a certificate of occupancy has been received from the jurisdiction having authority and a FORTIFIED evaluation has been completed and all requirements verified.



2. CREATING A DOCUMENTATION FILE

Documentation is the key to a FORTIFIED Home designation. High quality photographs are preferred. All documentation must be provided by the builder to the FORTIFIED Evaluator in digital format for submission to IBHS. For new homes, engineering and installation compliance forms for key structural systems are required. Compliance form templates are available from your FORTIFIED Evaluator. Several other types of documentation, such as product cut sheets, invoices, estimates, packaging and labels, may also be required as proof of compliance along with inspection forms completed by the evaluator.

Use these guidelines when taking compliance photos:



Good, quality photographs are critical for verifying compliance. Take as many photographs as needed to adequately capture the intended FORTIFIED requirement. Visual examples of suitable photographs are available at: disastersafety.org/fortified_verify_new_home

FORTIFIED LEVELS AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

The goal of this documentation process is to compile a fair, accurate and complete photographic record of each house, with documentation of specific features to verify compliance with FORTIFIED requirements.

| | | | |
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| BRONZE | Roof deck thickness | <input type="checkbox"/> | Take photos of the plywood/OSB grade stamp indicating minimum 7/16 in. roof deck thickness. |
| | Roof deck attachment (fastener type and spacing) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Photos of the maximum 6 in. o.c. nail spacing along panel edges and in the field. Stage photos to include tape measure indicating nail spacing and to verify use of a (minimum) 8d ring shank nail. |
| | Installation of qualified sealed roof deck system on the top side of the deck | <input type="checkbox"/> | If taping the seams, take photos after the seams are taped and before 30# felt is installed; |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | If using self-adhered membrane, take photos after installation; |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | If using synthetic underlayment, take photos indicating button cap nails were used and sealing of horizontal and vertical seams of the underlayment with an appropriate tape or adhesive. |
| | If gables are present, verify sheathing type and thickness | <input type="checkbox"/> | Take photos of the plywood/OSB grade stamp that indicate minimum 7/16 in. sheathing. Verify and document that gable end vents have a temporary cover to be used when a storm approaches and the permanent hardware for attaching the cover. |
| | Verify framing type and dimensions of all eave and gable overhangs | <input type="checkbox"/> | Photos of each overhang should show: open or closed, vented or unvented, and soffit material used. Pictures of framing are also required. CRITICAL: if overhang is over 12 in., photograph intermediate framing support of vinyl/aluminum soffit material. |
| | If gable overhangs are present, document framing method | <input type="checkbox"/> | If outlooker framing is present, photograph the required connection at the adjacent roof framing and at the top of exterior gable end wall. Note: Outlookers are framing members that run over the top of the gable end wall and should be used to support gable plywood overhangs greater than 12 in. |
| Document roof covering and roof vents | <input type="checkbox"/> | Document roof covering material and installation, installation of drip edge; verify and document that roof mounted vents meet TAS 100 (A). Provide photos of installation and a signed Roof Compliance Letter. Metal roof systems require engineering documentation for wind speed and exposure category. | |
| SILVER | Document anchorage of porches/carports – Provide photos for the following connections | <input type="checkbox"/> | Roof framing to beam |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Beams to columns |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Columns to structure below |
| | Verify and document window and exterior door design pressures, impact rating (if applicable), make and model(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Window/door design pressures must be appropriate for location and exposure and photos indicating DP and impact rating are preferred. Other documentation options include invoice indicating window/door type along with technical information, such as manufacturer's product information or an appropriate product approval, indicating DP and impact rating. |
| | Verify and document garage door design pressure and impact rating | <input type="checkbox"/> | Document make and model. Verify that garage door design pressures are appropriate. Photos of labels indicating DP and ,if windows are present, impact rating are preferred. |
| | If gables are over 48 in. tall, document bracing installation. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Document installation by providing photos of the method of bracing at the top and at the bottom of the gable end and the connection of the triangular gable end to the supporting wall below. |
| | Verify and document presence of opening protection systems | If windows/exterior doors are not impact-rated products: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | Verify that opening protection system meets appropriate impact-resistant standards, document make and model of product, and verify that all openings are protected. | |
| GOLD | Engineer and Contractor Compliance Letters | <input type="checkbox"/> | Provide completed Engineer and Contractor Compliance Letters for gable end bracing and for the continuous load path for porches/ carports. |
| | Document load path connections | Document by providing photos of typical: | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Roof-to-wall connection |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wall above to wall below connection |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lower wall to foundation | |
| Engineer and Contractor Compliance Letters | <input type="checkbox"/> | Provide completed Engineer and Contractor Compliance Letters for continuous load path. | |