Technical Datasheet

Visqueen Gas Barrier

Features & benefits

- BBA certified - third party accreditation
- Compliant with NHBC Foundation's NF94 guidelines for use in Type A membrane locations, provided there is no contact with uncured concrete or screed
- Compliant with the methane gas transmission rate, mass per unit area and thickness requirements of BS 8485:2015 + A1:2019 - industry standard for methane and carbon dioxide protection
- Also provides radon and damp proof membrane protection
- Dual jointing methods - depending upon specification, lap joints can be heat welded or taped

Product description

Visqueen Gas Barrier is a multi-layer reinforced polyethylene gas barrier with a 20 micron aluminium foil. Coloured blue on the upper surface & silver on the reverse. Supplied in single wound rolls (not folded), 2m x 50m.

Approvals and standards

- Third party accreditation (BBA 13/5069)
- Compliant with the methane gas transmission rate, mass per unit area and thickness requirements of BS 8485:2015 + A1:2019
- Suitable for all Characteristic Gas Situation (CS) ground gas regimes
- Compliant with NHBC Foundation's NF94 guidance for use in Type A membrane locations, provided that the barrier is not in contact with uncured concrete or screed.
- Conforms to the specification requirements of NHBC Amber 1 and Amber 2 applications
- Conforms to the specification requirements of BR 211:2023
- UKCA UKNI CE to EN 13967:2017
- Visqueen certified with Quality Management System ISO 9001:2015
- Visqueen certified with Occupational Health and Safety System ISO 45001:2018
- Visqueen certified with Environmental Management System ISO 14001:2015

Usage

Visqueen Gas Barrier is suitable for use in all types of buildings to prevent the ingress of harmful levels of ground gases e.g. methane, carbon dioxide and radon.

The barrier can be positioned above or below reinforced cast in situ concrete floor slabs or above precast suspended segmental subfloors, e.g. beam and block floor.

The barrier can also be used as a high performance radon membrane and/or damp proof membrane.

NHBC NF94 guidance: Radon, carbon dioxide, and methane
Visqueen Gas Barrier when installed with either taped or welded joints complies with NHBC Foundation's NF94 publication, Hazardous ground gas - an essential guide for housebuilders, in Type A membrane locations in precast suspended segmental subfloors and reinforced cast in situ concrete floor slabs (ground bearing, suspended or raft) provided it is not in contact with uncured concrete or screed during the build process.

For site or zone characteristic gas situations of CS4 and above, contact Visqueen Technical Office for further guidance.

The product is not intended for use where there is a risk of hydrostatic pressure.

System components

- VisqueenPro Double Sided Jointing Tape, 50mm x 10m
- Visqueen Gas Resistant Foil Lap Tape, 75mm x 50m
- VisqueenPro Detailing Strip, 300mm x 10m
- Visqueen TreadGUARD 1500, 1m x 2m
- Visqueen TreadGUARD 300, 2m x 75m
- Visqueen Ultimate Top Hat Units
- Visqueen NF-Detailing Strip, 300mm x 10m
- Visqueen NF-60 Lap Tape, 60mm x 45m
- Visqueen NF-150 Lap Tape, 150mm x 10m

Storage and handling

When storing Visqueen Gas Barrier care should be taken to:
- store in its original packaging;
- avoid exposure to direct sunlight and high or low temperatures for prolonged periods of time;
- store in a well-ventilated covered area to protect from rain, frost, humidity and mechanical damage;
- store away from possible ignition sources;
- store rolls of the barrier horizontally on a flat surface and not stacked.

Care should be taken to avoid accidental damage to the product when handling on site.

Care should be taken when handling the product in line with current manual handling regulations.

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Visqueen Gas Barrier

Preparation

Visqueen Gas Barrier should be installed on a smooth continuous surface e.g. grouted beam and block floor, a compacted blinding layer e.g. 50mm thick sand blinding, or smooth concrete blinding.

The substrate should be free from irregularities such as loose aggregates or other sharp protrusions, voids, projections or mortar deposits.

The barrier can be cut with a sharp retractable safety knife or robust scissors.

Hand rollers are required during lap joint formation and sealing barrier detailing. Typical hand rollers include 40mm silicone pressure roller and 6mm brass penny pressure roller.

Consult the project specification to ensure the correct method of lap joint formation for the project is followed (welded or taped).

Rolls of tape should be kept in a warm, dry location prior to use to ensure the tape is workable and can be more easily applied.

When installing the barrier in demanding site conditions, or where specified, use Visqueen NF-150 Lap Tape (in conjunction with the double sided tape) to seal the lap.

Installation

Installation of Visqueen Gas Barrier should be carried out by a competent contractor experienced with this type of product e.g. hold an NVQ Level 2 Diploma in substructure work occupations (Installation of Gas Membranes - Construction).

The installation should be subjected to third-party validation in accordance with BS 8485:2015 +A1:2019 and CIRIA C735.

The barrier should be loose laid on the substrate with the blue side up so as to avoid sunlight glare.

The barrier should be clean and dry at the time of jointing. It should be overlapped by at least 150mm, bonded with Visqueen Pro Double Sided Jointing Tape and sealed with Visqueen Gas Resistant Foil Lap Tape or Visqueen NF-60 Lap Tape. Alternatively lap joints can be heat welded to achieve an effective seal. The overlap in the barrier is typically 100mm and when hand welding, a 35mm weld is normally achieved. When hand welding, a roller must be used.

Airtight seals should be formed around all service entry points. Visqueen Preformed Top Hat Units are recommended for sealing service entry pipes. The base of the top hat and the upstand should be bonded using VisqueenPro Double Sided Jointing Tape and sealed with Visqueen Gas Resistant Foil Lap Tape or Visqueen NF-60 Lap Tape. The upstand should be secured with the supplied jubilee clip. Alternatively VisqueenPro Detailing Strip or Visqueen NF-Detailing Strip can be used to seal service entry points. The upstand should be secured with a jubilee clip.

Creating an effective gas barrier often requires complex three-dimensional detailing, such as around internal and external walls, corners, doorway thresholds, service pipes, party walls, and structural columns. Visqueen Detailing Strip (Pro or NF depending on the project specification) is gas resistant and can be used in place of the gas barrier to maintain continuous protection. The detailing strip lap joints should be firmly compressed using a hand roller to ensure an adequate bond is achieved. Visqueen Ultimate Preformed Units are also available.

If the barrier is punctured or perforated a patch of the same material should be lapped at least 150mm beyond the limits of the puncture and bonded with VisqueenPro Double Sided Jointing Tape and sealed with Visqueen Gas Resistant Foil Lap Tape or Visqueen NF-60 Lap Tape. Alternatively a patch can be formed using VisqueenPro Detailing Strip or Visqueen NF-Detailing Strip and lapped at least 150mm beyond the extents of the puncture.

Long periods of exposure to ultraviolet light will reduce the effectiveness of the barrier. The barrier should be covered by a protective layer e.g. Visqueen TreadGuard protection or other approved protection material, immediately after installation to prevent damage from following trades, ultraviolet light, etc. Care should be taken to ensure that the barrier is not punctured, stretched or displaced during or post installation.

Usable temperature range

When Visqueen Gas Barrier is installed with taped lap joints, the air temperature should not be below 5°C or falling to prevent the risk of surface condensation affecting the tape adhesion.

When ambient temperatures are above 25°C or rising, the barrier should be covered immediately after installation.

Additional information

When used in accordance BS8485:2015 + A1:2019 a subfloor ventilation system or pressure relief maybe required. To assist build sequencing, Visqueen Ultimate Gas DPC is available for gas protection through wall constructions. For further information or where protection against volatile organic compounds (VOCs) is required, contact Visqueen Technical Office on 0333 202 6800.

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The information in this datasheet was correct at the time of publication. It is the user's responsibility to obtain the latest version of the datasheet as it is updated on a regular basis. The information contained in the latest datasheet supersedes all previously published editions.

Property	Test method	Units	Compliance criteria	Result
Dimensions	BS EN 1848-2	m		2 x 50
Overall thickness including scrim mesh	BS EN 1849-2	mm	+/-10%	0.52
Mass	BS EN 1849-2	g/m²	-0%/+5%	400
Tensile strength - MD	BS EN 12311	N/50mm	MLV	350
Tensile strength - CD	BS EN 12311	N/50mm	MLV	350
Tensile elongation - MD	BS EN 12311	%	MLV	20
Tensile elongation - CD	BS EN 12311	%	MLV	21
Joint strength	BS EN 12317-2	N	MLV	332
Watertightness at 2kPa for 24 hours	BS EN 1928	-	Pass/Fail	Pass
Resistance to impact	BS EN 12691	mm	MDV	150
Dart impact	BS EN 2782	g	MDV	731
Low temperature flexibility	BS EN 495-5	°C	MDV	-40
Durability against ageing	BS EN 1296 and BS EN 1928	-	Pass/Fail	Pass
Durability chemical resistance	BS EN 1847	-	Pass/Fail	Pass
Resistance to tearing (nail shank) CD	BS EN 12310-1	N	MDV	358
Resistance to tearing (nail shank) MD	BS EN 12310-1	N	MDV	368
Resistance to static loading	BS EN 12730	kg	MLV	20
Water vapour resistance	BS EN 1931	MNs/g	MDV	240,000
Water vapour permeability	BS EN 1931	g/m²/d	MDV	0.0008658
Water vapour resistance factor	BS EN 1931	µ	MDV	120,000,000
Equivalent air layer thickness	BS EN 1931	SD in m	MDV	47,700
BS 8485:2015 + A1:2019 testing requirements				
Mass	BS EN 1849-2	g/m²	Average >370	400
Methane gas transmission rate	BS ISO 15105-1	ml/m²/day/atm	MDV	<0.15
Puncture CBR	BS EN 12236	N	MDV	1114
Tensiles yield strength MD	ASTM D4885-01	kN/m	MDV	12.5
Tensiles yield strength CD	ASTM D4885-02	kN/m	MDV	7.3
Resistance to static loading	BS EN 12730	kg	>MLV	20
Yield elongation CD	ASTM D4885-04	%	MDV	19
Tear resistance - trouser method A - MD	BS ISO 34-1	kN/m	MDV	48.2
Tear resistance - trouser method A - CD	BS ISO 34-1	kN/m	MDV	44.8
Tear resistance - angle method B - MD	BS ISO 34-1	N	MDV	53.5
Tear resistance - angle method B - CD	BS ISO 34-1	N	MDV	60.6

Health and safety information

Refer to the Visqueen Gas Barrier safety datasheet (SDS).

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About Visqueen

Visqueen is a leading provider of construction membrane technologies and design-based solutions for ground gas, structural waterproofing, damp proofing and fire protection.

We offer complete support at every stage of the specification, including the supply chain process. As the UK's principal technical authority, we are best placed to ensure that the principal designer and contractor specify the most technically suited, durable, and competitive solution to guarantee their project is protected for the lifetime of the building.

Visqueen is at the forefront of advanced membrane technology and innovation in the construction industry, earning the trust and loyalty of specifiers throughout the UK and Europe.

For more information, visit visqueen.com or contact our sales office at +44 (0) 333 202 6800 or enquiries@visqueen.com

Complete Range, Complete Solution

Passive Fire Protection | Gas Protection | Damp Proof Membrane | Air and Vapor Control | Stormwater | Damp Proof Course | Temporary Protection

Visqueen Technical Support

Visqueen offer a comprehensive full nationwide technical support. Our team of CSSW qualified technical support managers provide on site design-based solutions for specifiers, contractors and builders merchants, and will ensure that from design stage to installation the project is fully risk assessed and the specification is approved by all stakeholders.

Our Technical Office, can design, prepare and manage CAD detailing, together with assisting in quantity take offs, while offering advice on technical installations and product selection.

Competency & Design

Visqueen promotes competency in building design by ensuring that its technical team possesses the necessary skills, knowledge, experience, and ethical practices. The company adopts the "golden thread of information," ensuring all project data is digitally secure and accessible throughout a building's lifecycle. This approach aligns with the Building Safety Act and aims to foster accountability and compliance with evolving regulations, providing clients with confidence in the safety and reliability of their projects.

Visqueen CPD Seminars

Visqueen's CPD Seminars offer insights into Building Regulations, Standards, and industry guidance related to damp proofing, hazardous ground gas protection, and structural waterproofing. These one-hour seminars are tailored for construction design professionals and delivered by our Technical Support Managers. Visit our website to book a free CPD.

Visqueen Contract Design Services

Visqueen Contract Design Services offers a bespoke design service led by our team of Certified Surveyors in Structural Waterproofing (CSSW), providing experienced and specialised waterproofing design expertise for complex projects. We provide comprehensive support throughout the entire project, ensuring that all work meets the requirements of warranty providers and adheres to the highest standards of quality, reliability and current legislation.

Visqueen Training Academy

Based at our Derbyshire facility, the Visqueen Training Academy offers a variety of training programs across the UK. These include one-day product awareness sessions for distributors and builders' merchants, and intensive two-day courses for hands-on product installation training. Contact us for more information.

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