



Figure 3-20: Examples of counterflashing options

are often installed by other tradespeople, such as masons, during the initial construction of a building. It is important that designers understand the nature and porosity of the cladding or wall materials used and specify through-wall flashings, when appropriate. Adding through-wall counterflashing after the fact is challenging but may be necessary to properly weatherproof and seal building surfaces that can affect the roof system or building.

Common metals used for through-wall flashings are copper and stainless steel. Longevity of the through-wall flashing material is important; the service life of a material should match that of the building's wall cladding. For

masonry walls, aluminum should be avoided because of the high alkaline content of the wall and risk of corrosion.

Counterflashing at Penetrations: Counterflashing is also used to complete the roof system at roof penetrations, such as roof curbs, skylights, pipe or conduit penetrations, or chimneys. A “slip” type counterflashing is commonly used at curbed mechanical equipment or skylights; it is slipped under the curb’s counterflashing to cover and protect the roof’s base flashing membrane at this location. Sheet-metal rain collars are typically fastened to pipes, flues or conduit, which do not occur through a roof curb, to shield the penetrations’ base flashings.