

# Through Wall Flashing Overview

## 1.a Through Wall Flashing (TWF) Defined :

Through wall flashing is **above grade waterproofing**. It protects specific areas within exterior wall assemblies and creates an impervious barrier for water to follow to the face of the exterior finish. It protects areas within the exterior wall assembly starting from:

The face of the backing wall to the face of the exterior finish, Fig. 1.a.1, and or;

The innermost face of the structural wythe to the exterior face of the wythe, Fig. 1.a.2, and or;

The innermost part of a windowsill or door threshold frame in a wall assembly to the exterior face of the sill or threshold, Fig. 1.a.3.

Flashing from the innermost face of a single wythe wall or windowsills, or threshold frames in a wall assembly is a variation of TWF called **pan flashing**.

TWF requires **dedicated openings** in the exterior finish for water passage. In exterior wall assemblies these openings are called **weeps**. Without functioning weeps, a TWF would be as ineffective as a gutter without a downspout. TWF also requires **end dams** to close discontinuous sections. Without end dams a discontinuous TWF would be as ineffective as a gutter without an end cap. Furthermore **cants** are used to transition flashing membranes from vertical to horizontal planes and maintain a continuity of slope to drain. Transitioning membrane flashing with a cant helps reduce the occurrence of bladder bubbles and fish mouth, which are a common cause of leaking walls.

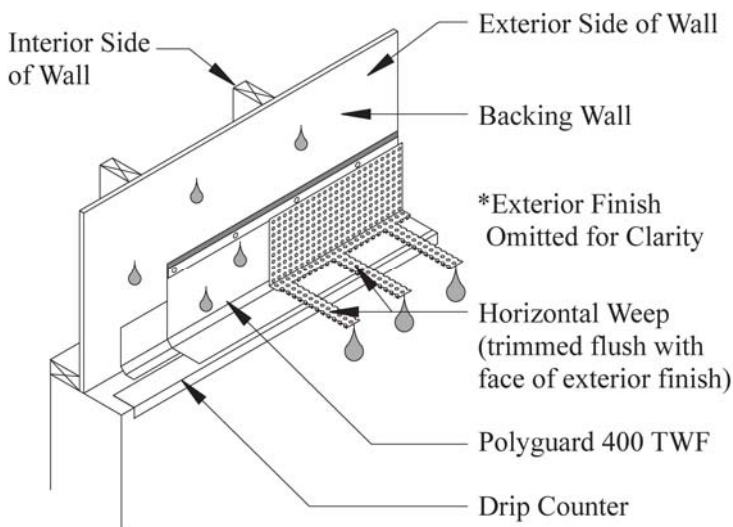
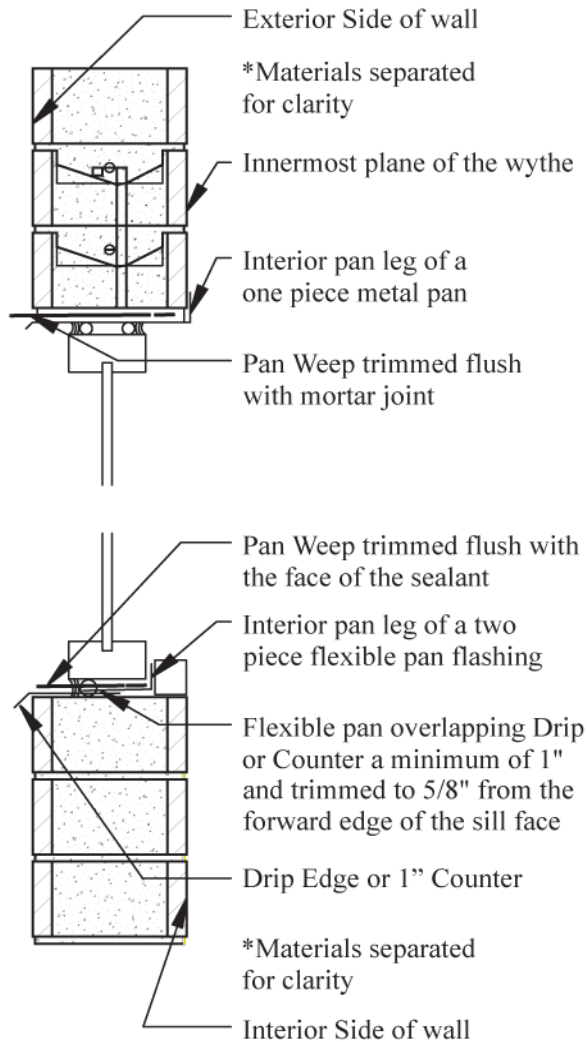
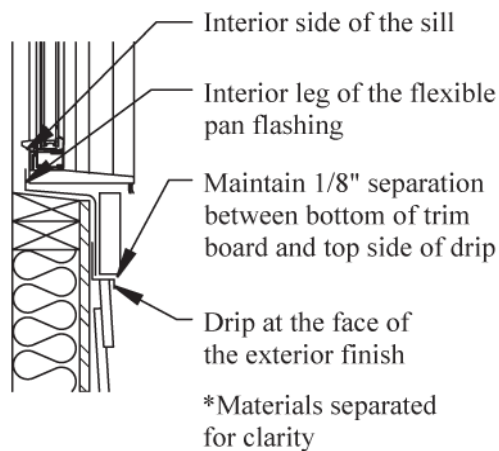


Figure 1.a.1 Exterior Wall Assembly



**Figure 1.a.2 Single Wythe Wall**



**Figure 1.a.3 Sill Assembly in an Exterior Wall Assembly**