

2.5.2 Additional Temporary sealing (Deviations)

Temporarily sealing items is not a method of compliance. Temporary sealing items not listed in 2.5.1 may result in the report being rejected by the Competent Person's Scheme and/or building control.

It is never acceptable to temporarily seal the following items:

- Sockets (Electrical, Switches)
 - Electrical sockets should never be temporarily sealed. Any test that has temporary sealing on sockets will be immediately rejected.
- Downlights
 - Downlights may be designed to draw in air and must never be temporarily sealed for an air test. Selection of downlights should be considered as part of the overall design of the building.
- Bath panels & shower trays
 - Bath panels and shower trays are not the air barrier line of a property and must never be temporarily sealed. Areas behind bath panels and shower trays should be permanently sealed before, or during fitting.
- Loft hatches & access panels
 - Loft hatches and access panels shall be fitted before the test is conducted. It is never acceptable to temporarily seal a mal-fitting loft hatch or access panel
- Doors
 - Doors to unconditioned storage areas should be closed and not temporarily sealed. This includes doors to garages.
 - It is never acceptable to temporarily seal a cupboard door, including boiler / water tank cupboard or kitchen cupboard doors. Doing so and declaring the result as final may result in your competence being questioned by your competent person's scheme.
- External doors and window frames
 - External doors and window frames shall have seals fitted before the test is conducted. It is never acceptable to temporarily seal a mal-fitting door or window, even if the seal has not yet been fitted.

The above list is not exhaustive. If the item to be sealed is not 'designed ventilation' it shall not be sealed.

Temporary sealing a broken or missing component can only be carried out as an exception and only where it is not possible to fix or install a single broken or missing component (i.e. a single missing downlight or a single ill fitting light switch) and never 'gaps and cracks'.

Components that are not going to be fixed that are sealed for the purpose of the test (such as bath panels, gaps in external doors) will result in the report being rejected.

Building Control shall seek an explanation from the testing company should any deviations be present.