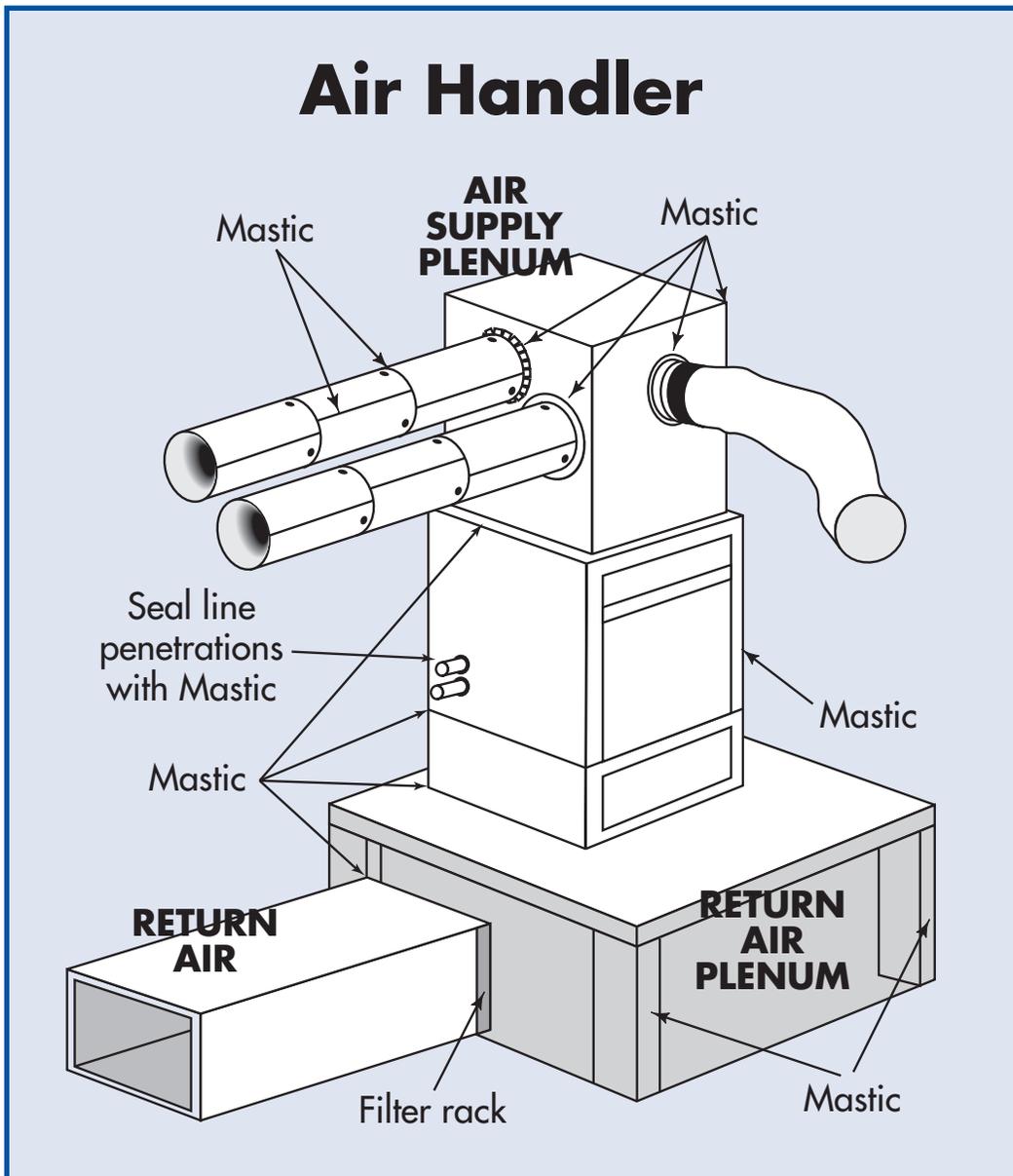


DUCT SEALING TIPS



Q. Why is sealing ductwork important?

A. An average home with leaking air ducts will waste hundreds of dollars each year. This waste is unnecessary and can be easily solved. Health and safety is the most important reason to seal air ducts properly. Air ducts are usually located in attics, crawl spaces, or basements. Air handling units are often located in the home's garage. If the return air plenum leaks, air is drawn from these areas directly into the home. This air is often contaminated with automobile exhaust, combustible gases, pesticides, fertilizer, mold, mildew, excess humidity and even radon.



Q. How do air duct leaks affect heating and cooling equipment?

A. Air duct leakage of 20% will lower the efficiency of the heating/cooling system by 50% or more. These leaks lower heating and cooling capacity, which forces the system to run longer, reducing its lifespan. Many indoor comfort complaints are due to poor air duct installation and sealing.

Q. How do I know if my home has air duct leaks?

A. Visually inspect the entire forced air heating / cooling system. Disconnected ducts and large holes are easy to find but many leaks are not readily visible. The most thorough method to determine duct leakage is a test of the home with a blower door. This test can be performed by most contractors and electric utility companies and will determine the amount and location of leaks.

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DUCT SEALING TIPS

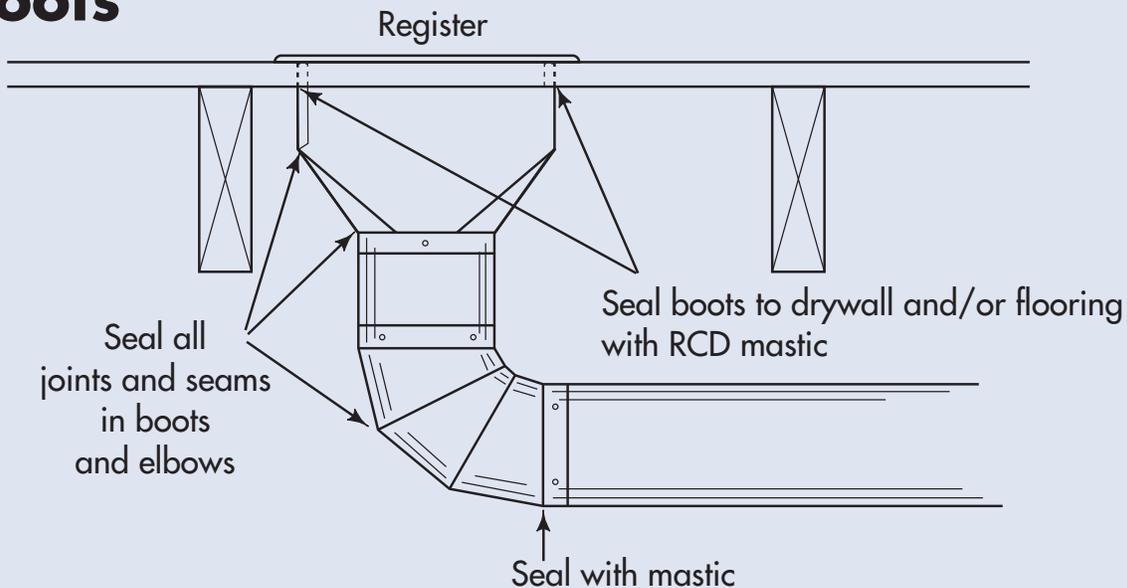


Q. What are the most important areas to seal?

A. Seal in this order:

1. Disconnected and damaged components.
2. Air handling unit to plenum connections.
3. All joints and seams through out the forced air system.

Boots



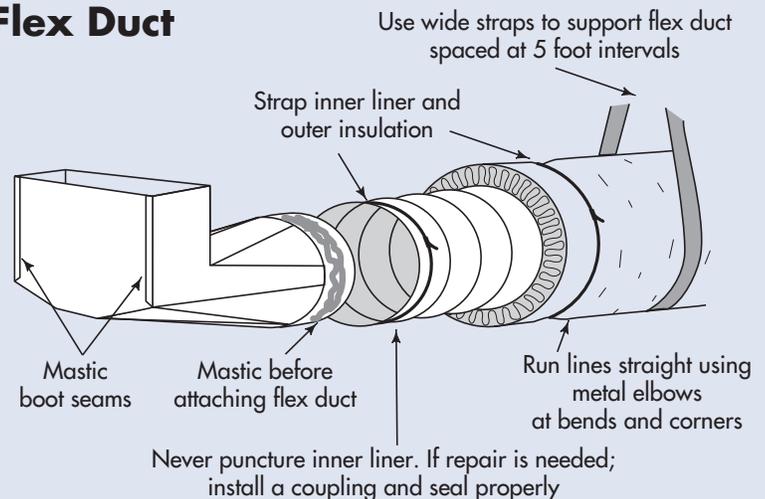
Q. Do building and energy codes address air duct leakage?

A. Yes, all building and energy codes require 100% sealing of air ducts.

Q. Why is duct leakage so common?

A. Many connections are just not sealed during the construction process. Many times air ducts are not installed with the proper support and over time the joints pull apart.

Flex Duct



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