Two Code Requirements. One Complete Drainage Strategy.

For exterior stucco walls, controlling water means more than stopping it from getting in. The wall also needs a way to drain moisture behind the cladding, and a clear path for that moisture to exit at the bottom of the assembly. The 2021 International Residential Code addresses both sides of the equation through **Section R703.7.3.2** for drainage behind the stucco and **Section R703.7.2.1** for weep screeds at the base of the wall.

SECTION R703.7.3.2

Create a Path for Moisture to Drain

For exterior plaster in Moist (A) and Marine (C) climate zones, the 2021 IRC provides two drainage options on the exterior side of the water-resistive barrier (WRB):

OPTION 1 — DRAINAGE SPACE: Provide a space or drainage material at least 3/16 in. (5 mm) deep.

OPTION 2 — DRAINAGE EFFICIENCY: Use a drainage system providing at least 90% drainage efficiency, tested in accordance with ASTM E2273 or Annex A2 of ASTM E2925, when used with the applicable WRB assembly.

Driwall™ Rainscreen Provides Continuous Drainage Behind the Cladding

Driwall™ Rainscreen creates a continuous drainage and ventilation space between the WRB and exterior cladding, allowing incidental moisture to move downward while promoting airflow and drying.
All thicknesses of Driwall Rainscreen provide drainage depths greater than the 3/16-in. minimum established by the prescriptive drainage space option of R703.7.3.2 when incorporated into a compliant wall assembly.

Even 1/8" can meet the performance path. Driwall Rainscreen 013-1 is only 0.13 in. thick, but testing demonstrates greater than 90% drainage efficiency in accordance with ASTM E2273 and Annex A2 of ASTM E2925. This allows the thinner drainage mat to satisfy the drainage-efficiency pathway of R703.7.3.2 in Moist and Marine climate zones when properly incorporated into the required wall assembly.

SECTION R703.7.2.1

Give Water a Way Out

Creating drainage behind the stucco is only half of the moisture-management strategy. Water also needs an exit point at the bottom of the wall.

Section R703.7.2.1 requires a corrosion-resistant metal or plastic weep screed at or below the foundation plate line on exterior stud walls and have a minimum 3-1/2-in. vertical attachment flange.

Driwall™ Weep Screed Completes the Drainage Path

Driwall™ Weep Screed is designed for use with a water-resistive barrier/ building paper and Driwall Rainscreen. Its 3-1/2-in. nailing and flashing flange corresponds with the IRC flange requirement, while its 0.875-in. V-shaped drip edge directs moisture downward and away from the wall. The PVC screed meets ASTM D1784, ASTM C1063 and ASTM D4216-99.

Driwall Rainscreen installation behind stucco cladding.

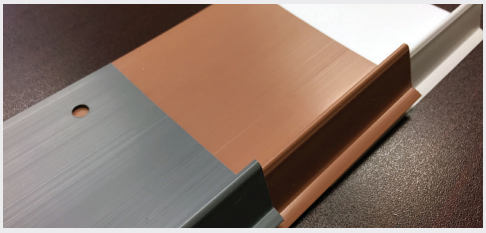
keene™ building products

Manage water from top to bottom with Keene Building Products' building envelope solutions engineered to drain, ventilate & protect

Driwall Rainscreen creates the drainage plane. Driwall Weep Screed provides the exit. Together, they provide a simple approach to managing incidental moisture behind stucco while helping designers and contractors address the drainage provisions of the 2021 IRC Sections R703.7.2.1 and R703.7.3.2.

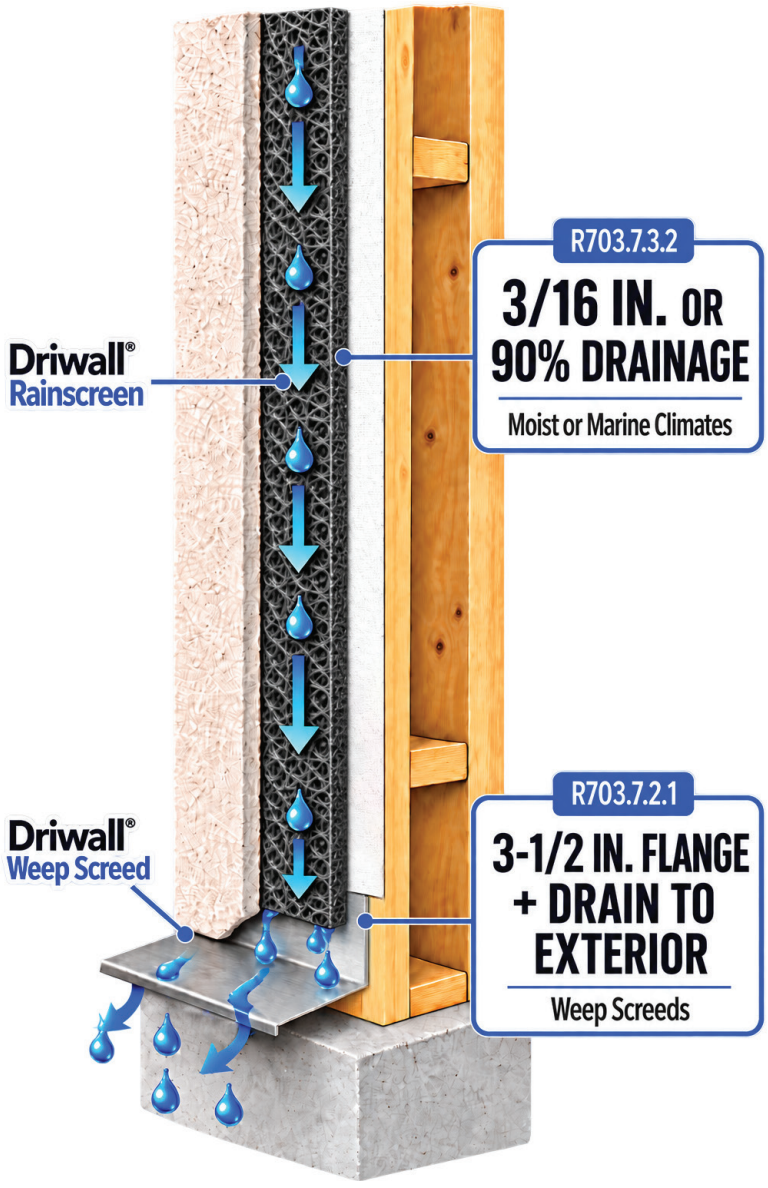
Driwall™ Rainscreen

- Driwall Rainscreen Products PASS multiple wall assemblies that require NFPA 285
- Drainage of excess moisture and ventilation in one product
- Lightweight and easy to handle
- Simple installation with mechanical staple hammer
- Polymer core resistant to most known corrosive chemicals, including solvents
- Wide rolls for fewer seams
- Core ABSORBS and RELEASES NO MOISTURE
- Provides no source for the promotion of MOLD, MILDEW or BACTERIA



Driwall™ Weep Screed

- 3 ½-Inch (89-mm) nailing and flashing flange
- Colors: gray, tan & white
- 0.875-Inch (22 mm) "V"-shaped drip edge
- Each piece is 60-Inch (1.524 m)
- Each piece sold individually
- PVC material meets ASTM standards D1784, C1063 and D4216-99



Code requirements shown are based on the 2021 International Residential Code. Always verify locally adopted codes, amendments, project specifications and required wall-assembly details with the authority having jurisdiction. Product selection alone does not establish compliance; products must be incorporated and installed as part of a compliant assembly.

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