

INSPECTIONS

Inspection of the work by qualified personnel at various stages throughout the construction process is essential to verify compliance with the IgCC, the IBC, related codes, and the approved plans. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to call for the required inspections before work is concealed and to provide access to such work. If inspections reveal that the work does not comply with the code, the inspector will typically notify the permit holder of the deficiencies requiring correction. When work is satisfactory, the inspector typically indicates approval with an inspection sticker or tag, or by signing a record-of-inspections card, also known as a permit card, authorizing work to proceed (Figure 4-8). [Ref. 103]



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Footing and Foundation Inspection

The IBC requires inspections of the footing and foundation elements that support the building, and the IgCC requires additional specific inspections of the foundation subsoil drainage system (if installed), foundation dampproofing or waterproofing, and under-slab vapor protection. The footing inspection is done after the footing forms and reinforcing steel are in place and prior to placement of any concrete. The inspector checks the forms to confirm that they are the correct size, such as correct width and depth, as shown in the plans and also confirms that the reinforcing steel is the correct size, correct grade, and placed in the proper location. Soil verification,

FIGURE 4-8 Inspection of foundation wall

either visually or by the introduction of soil engineering data supplied by the design professional, is a critical element for any foundation, as a failure here, caused by settlement or otherwise, can cost both time and money. Foundation walls can be constructed with many different types of materials, as noted in the code. Poured-concrete foundation walls, for example, are inspected prior to placement of the concrete. Masonry foundations are typically inspected prior to placement of backfill material. The application of the foundation dampproofing or waterproofing needs to be installed according to the manufacturer's installation instructions, as some materials may not be appropriate for all foundation methods. Additional inspections may be required for any reinforcing steel required in the cores of the masonry foundation walls (Figure 4-9).



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FIGURE 4-9 Inspection of footing