

BY PETER HEARD

Peel-and-Stick Trick

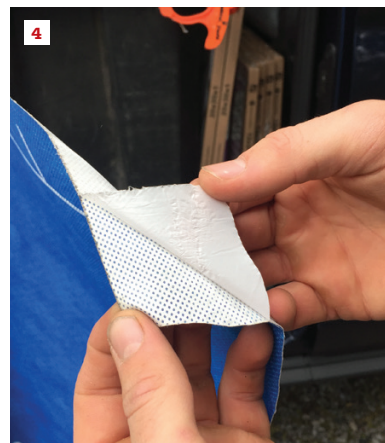
Fully adhered WRBs have definitely found a foothold in our industry. Products like Henry Blueskin, Grace Vycor EnV-S, and others are becoming more popular.

However, effectively installing any of these products requires a different mindset from that of simply rolling out and stapling up felt paper or conventional housewrap.

One thing that has taken some getting used to for me is the careful removal of the thin film covering the adhesive backing on the product. Like me, most contractors I know have chewed their fingernails down to the bone with worry over whether or not they're making money on the job. This "lack of claws" makes it especially tough to remove that film.

Here's my tip: Fold the corner of the product over on its face **(1)**. Using your thumb and forefinger, rake your thumb tip over the corner a few times **(2)**. That generally stretches and loosens the film enough that you can grab it with your stubby fingers or at least create an opening between the backing and the membrane to get your knife blade behind it **(3)** and peel it back **(4)**.

Peter Heard is the owner of North Country Carpentry & Restoration, operating on the east end of Long Island, N.Y. He is a frequent presenter at JLC Live and he instituted #tinytiptuesday on Instagram; follow him there @peter_heard.



Send us your tips: JLC, in partnership with our sister publication *Tools of the Trade* and Milwaukee Tools, is giving away a power tool each issue to the reader who sends us the best trade tip. Next month, we'll give away a cordless Milwaukee M18 Fuel 7¹/₄-inch Dual Bevel Sliding Miter Saw (photo, right). Send tips to JLC-Editorial@hanleywood.com with "Trade Tip" in the subject line. Any building trade qualifies. Don't sweat the grammar or writing. But please send us high-quality photos to explain your tip.

