



Plaisted Foundation Rock

Washed & Screened Rock Meets Residential Radon Mitigation Requirements

The Minnesota Department of Health predicts that one-third of all existing Minnesota homes have a radon level above the acceptable level of 4.0 pCi/L. Because of this, the Minnesota Residential Energy Code now requires all new residential construction to include a passive radon system. The new building code was added after determining it is much easier and far less costly to prepare the sub-grade to improve soil gas flow before a slab is cast.

For this region, the most economical method for improving soil gas collection beneath housing slabs is to use rock. Section AF103.2 of the Minnesota Residential Energy Code indicates that for subfloor preparation, a minimum 4-inch layer of clean gravel be used. Uniform sized, 3/4-inch rock is ideal as it allows the soil gas to move freely underneath the house. Smaller or fine gravel, or gravel that is not as uniform in size, will restrict air movement under the slab.



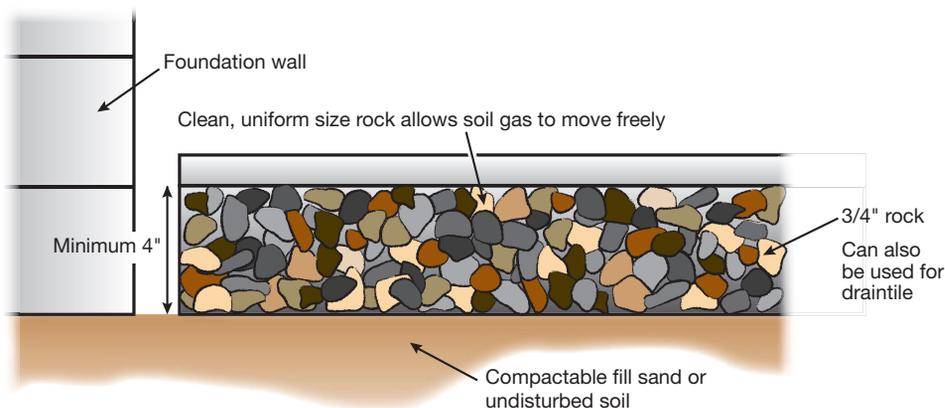
3/4" round rock

Source: Builders Association of Minnesota: Alternate Method for the Gas Permeable Layer Required for Passive Radon Systems in the Minnesota Residential Energy Code. Version 1.0, July 2009

Check the BAM website for updates to this guide and other resources: www.bamn.org/energycode

Ordering Information 763.441.1100

To obtain more technical information or for a price quote contact dispatch.



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THE SOIL EXPERTS.