

FETCH

Revit Family Quality Checklist

A practical guide for building and auditing Revit content

fetchbim.com

v1.0 • 2026

Use this checklist when building new Revit families or auditing existing content. Each item reflects a deliberate decision, not an arbitrary rule. Items marked Fetch describe standards specific to the Fetch content platform.

01 Naming

Family name moves from generic to specific

This groups similar families in a logical way, e.g. '{Brand}_{ProductType}_{Descriptor}_{MaterialType}'

Type names reflect meaningful configuration changes only

Minor variations belong in parameters, not types

Single-type families use 'Default' as the type name

Parameter names use consistent prefixes that signal purpose

e.g. "ACTUAL_", "MAT_", "ENTER_", "INFO_"

Nested family names follow the same naming convention

No ad-hoc or legacy names carried over from other libraries

02 Parameters

Standard parameter set is complete for this family category

Don't add or skip without a clear reason

All parameters are in the correct parameter group

Groups should be consistent across all families in a category

Parameter groups are consistent with other families in the same category

Shared parameters used for dimensions and data that span multiple families

Critical for cross-family schedules

Unnecessary parameters are hidden from the user

Expose only what a user should directly modify

Tooltips are written for every visible parameter

Especially important for non-obvious inputs

Input validation used instead of large type catalogs where possible

Reduces user error, speeds up placement

Parameter values are correct and match real-world product data

No duplicate parameters or leftover test parameters

03 Reference Planes

Reference planes have a clear hierarchy

Use Named references for primary axes and strong for other important areas

Origin reference planes are set correctly

Affects how the family places and aligns in the project

IsReference is set appropriately on all reference planes

Weak references are used intentionally, not by default

All geometry is constrained to reference planes

Prevents geometry from drifting when parameters change

04 Graphics

Plan geometry is simplified with no unnecessary detail in plan view

Cluttered plans slow down production work

Small hidden line indicates back of family

Aids alignment in plan

All 2D elements follow standard drafting conventions

Family includes PBR materials with built-in images when possible

Avoids broken material paths across environments

No imported CAD geometry in the family

Check: Manage > Import/Link panel

No imported images that are not used for materials

No imported line patterns

05 Performance

Levels of detail configured for all views (Coarse / Medium / Fine)

Coarse LOD should be very simple

File size is within target range

Optimal: under 1MB, 1-2 nested. Complex: 1-1.5MB, 3-5 nested

Arrays only used when more than 3 objects and parameter range is large

Don't use arrays where basic visibility works fine

Voids avoided unless geometry requires it

Voids add computational overhead

Plan geometry is hidden in coarser detail levels

Family opens and regenerates without errors or warnings

Tested in a project file at multiple scales

06 Real-world Accuracy

Family is based on a real, purchasable product

Built-in constraints prevent configurations that can't be manufactured

Test edge cases in the parameter range

List price included and accurate

Enables budgeting and value engineering

Product code(s) included and match manufacturer's current spec

Overall dimensions verified against manufacturer documentation

07 Data & BIM

Family category is correct for scheduling and tagging

Wrong category breaks schedules

Electrical connectors included if family has electrical load

Plumbing connectors included if family has plumbing connections

Clash detection geometry included if family protrudes into adjacent space

Shared nested families used where a component should schedule separately

e.g. task light inside a cabinet

Family data aligns with specification system (MasterFormat, etc.)

08 QA / Final Check

Naming conventions pass regex pattern check

See Section 01 of this checklist

No warnings in Revit when family is loaded into a blank project

Family tested in a project with similar families with no conflicts

All types load and display correctly

Parameters all function as expected across the full range

Material assignments survive a family reload

Family reviewed by a second person before release

Fresh eyes catch what you miss

This checklist is based on the Fetch content strategy. For the full breakdown of the reasoning behind these standards, read our blog post at fetchbim.com.