

Quick Reference Guide

Jan 2017
Version 2017.0

Chapter 3 - Cutting Exterior Wall Plates

Identify Full-Length and Pre-Defined Plate Lengths	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Refer to the Plate Layout Drawing for <u>hand-drawn</u> dimensions to identify predefined cutting lengths for both top and bottom plates:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Full-length plates labeled +/- should be used without cutting.b. Plates labeled with exact dimension should be cut as stated.2. Note which walls are long (i.e., extend to the edge of the deck) and which are short.
Cut Long Wall Plates	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Starting at <u>zero</u> end of <u>long</u> wall, lay one end of upper and bottom plates 5½" past the short wall chalk line <u>per</u> the Plate Layout Drawing. REQUIREMENT: Top plate joints MUST be over a stud or over door or window header.4. Field cut remaining upper and bottom plates per the <u>hand-drawn layout</u> to complete the wall.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Measure to the chalk line and add 5½"b. Joints between plates MUST be tightc. Both ends of the wall must be cleanly cut, square, and flushd. Tack top and bottom plates together with duplex nails5. Cut and place opposite long wall6. Mark the inside edge of the bottom plates 5½" from the end. This mark <u>must</u> align with the chalk line of the short wall (will aid wall construction)
Cut Short Wall Plates	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. As with long walls, consult Plate Layout Drawing for full-length and pre-defined plate lengths<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Set end of first set of plates tight to long wall chalk lineb. Cut/place intermediate plates and tack with duplex nailsc. Measure to opposite chalk line and field cut remaining pieces to fit8. Repeat with opposite short wall
Complete Plate Layout	<ol style="list-style-type: none">9. For each set of walls<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Mark the top face of the upper plates with "TOP", a number, and a compass orientationb. Full lengths of opposite walls <u>must be</u> equal. If >1/8", trim longer wall or move last stud mark of shorter wall (label "Do Not Move")10. Long walls must extend 5½" past the short wall chalk line at each end.

Quality Points

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