

Quick Reference Guide

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Chapter 13 – Ceiling Sheetrock

Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verify the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Blocking for sheetrock is complete (add as needed), see Sec. 10.5 “Blocking for Sheet Rock” b. Ceiling Poly is neatly tucked into corners (like an expert gift wrapper). Take the time to correct bunching, re-staple and tape holes with red poly tape as needed. c. All ceiling electrical box, HVAC duct & damper access locations are marked on the floor d. Truss centerlines are marked where trusses cross INTERIOR wall top plates.
Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. If starting point has not been pre-determined, develop an installation plan. Use as many full width sheets as possible. Minimum width along interior walls is 16”; along exterior walls is 12”. 3. Before sheeting the living/dining/kitchen area, snap a chalk line parallel to the exterior wall to indicate starting point (See Section 13.2.3 and Fig 13-1). 4. Develop an installation team plan (Cutting/carrying/marking truss centers, quality checking
General Installation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. All sheets must be secured to at least three trusses (i.e. have 3 rows of screws). 6. Each sheet must have 7 screws on each end and 5 “in the field” 7. Hold screws back 8-10” from interior walls and back 4” from exterior walls where trusses intersect (Fig. 13-2) 8. Abutting ends should be “factory” edges if possible and always centered on a truss 9. Measure “tight” and subtract ¼” for EACH wall abutting end 10. Stagger sheets at least two and preferably three trusses on adjacent rows. 11. Cutting sheets: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. write length on “drop “pieces and stack against wall in central location b. check “drop” stack before cutting a full sheet 12. Cut out the HVAC and bath fan openings before lifting the ceiling rock into place: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cut bath fan opening to the inside edge of the fan flange or up to ½” wider) b. Cut HVAC opening as tight to the duct as possible 13. Cut out the following after sheet is installed (do NOT install screws within 2-feet of area to be cut out: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Electrical openings with roto-zip spiral saw b. Attic scuttle with hand saw or roto-zip c. Cut HVAC damper openings with a 4 1/8” hole saw 14. To RotoZip: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Verify bit extends about 5/8” -¾” past base plate (depth) b. Locate box center (start zipping 4” out from this) or at truss where box is attached, move until bit contacts the outside of the box (feel and sound difference), then move in counterclockwise direction (DO NOT CUT INSIDE THE BOX as this could damage wiring)
Installation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Once 1st and last row widths have been determined in bedrooms and baths, and minimum sheet width of 16” has been verified, installation can begin at interior or exterior wall. For living room/dining and kitchen areas, installation can begin on either side of the snapped chalk line. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Measure to determine starting piece length for each row so as NOT to end up with too short a piece at the end. Center “joint” ends on a truss b. Measure location of any HVAC duct or electrical box centers before installing sheet c. Extend lift arms as needed to safely support pieces prior to lifting. d. Cut piece, put on ceiling lift and secure with enough screws to hold sheet in place (at least 10) but NOT within 24” of area to be roto zipped before removing lift e. RotoZip electrical boxes and finish installing screws (7 on the ends and 5 “in the field”) f. Mark truss center lines with pencil using T-square 18. Quality check entire sheet (refer to Quality Points on back side) and mark OK with scrap piece of sheetrock. Begin quality checks as soon as each individual sheet has been installed.
Assemble Scuttle Box Cover	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Locate the prebuilt scuttle cover (a ¾” x 25” x 27½” piece of OSB with foam board and poly) usually near the scuttle access. 16. Cut and fasten a piece of 25” x 27 ½” sheetrock to the OSB. 17. Finish scuttle opening with four 3-1/4” sheetrock pieces installed over the 2x6” perimeter <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Install flush to the top of the scuttle framing, stagger screws at edges about every 12”.

Quality Points

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- All ceiling sheetrock pieces are installed. No rows along interior walls are less than 16" wide or 12" wide along exterior walls.
- Screws along:
 - a. interior walls are installed 8"-10" away from the wall
 - b. exterior walls are installed at least 4" away from the wallRemove and replace or add if these minimums have not been met
- Sheetrock rows are appropriately staggered (minimum of two, preferably three trusses) and no piece has less than 3 rows of screws
- Openings for attic scuttle, electrical boxes, bathroom fan, HVAC ducts and duct damper accesses (basement) have been cut out (verify with house plan and markings on floor)
- Attic scuttle:
 - side pieces are installed and do NOT extend above top of framing
 - cover sheetrock is installed to OSB
 - Two stacks of foamboard (5" thick & 8" thick) are wrapped and ready to install
- All sheets have been quality checked and marked with an "OK" for the following:
 - 7 screws on the ends
 - 5 screws in the field
 - Screws are 12" away from interior walls perpendicular to trusses & 4" away from exterior walls perpendicular to trusses.
 - All screw heads are countersunk "slightly" below drywall surface. If not, drive in further and if they "spin", remove and replace -- into framing!
 - Screws that have completely broken through the paper covering of the sheetrock have been removed and replaced.