# Chapter 5 – Sheathing, Erecting Exterior Short Walls

| Preparation | 1. Locate blocking between rim board and first/last I-joist in the basement. Transfer location of blocking to deck or rim board. (Maximum 32” centers.)  
|             | 2. Align bottom of assembled wall flush with the chalk line along entire length. Toenail through the bottom face of the bottom plate into the deck every 6’-8’ with 8d nails. |
| Install OSB Wind Bracing and Sheathing | 3. Check House Plan to see if OSB wind bracing is required. OSB wind bracing sheets not located at the wall end should be positioned centered on studs and flush with the bottom plate.  
|             | 4. If a short wall is the front wall of the house, sheathe the rest of the wall with OSB, except above windows and doors. **CAUTION:** Do not put OSB sheathing or wind bracing on either end of the short walls at this point.  
|             | 5. Using a T-square or measurements, draw a line on the OSB at all studs to ensure nails don’t miss. **Tack** wind bracing and any OSB sheathing to bottom and upper plates with an 8d nail in each corner.  
|             | 6. After all required OSB sheets have been nailed, pull the nails securing the upper plate to the deck. |
| Attach House Wrap | 7. Measure the width of house wrap and subtract 14¾” from the width—e.g., 18” - 14¾” = 3¾”.  
|             | a. Measure up that amount from the bottom of the wall and snap a line the length of the wall.  
|             | b. Staple the top of the wrap to that line at each stud, extending the wrap 12” past the end of the wall. For short walls do not staple wrap that will go under any end OSB. Leave this wrap loose, fold back over the installed sheathing and tape in place. |
| Install Foamboard Sheathing | 8. Install foamboard sheathing to short walls that are **not** the front wall of the house.  
|             | a. Install between OSB, over house wrap and flush to bottom of the bottom plate. Nail with 2” button nails, equally spacing seven in each stud at the edges of the foamboard, five in the **middle** stud, and two between each stud in the upper and bottom plates. Around windows and doors, nail only into King studs and into the header (2¾” away from opening). Do not nail into window sills.  
|             | b. Install ½” foamboard over OSB, flush on all sides. Nail with 1” button nails, equally spacing seven in each stud at the edges of the foamboard, five in the **middle** stud, and two between each stud in the upper and bottom plates. Tape all seams.  
|             | c. Do not install foamboard over OSB on any short wall that is the front wall of the house. This will be done after wall is erected. **CAUTION:** Install ½” foamboard over wind bracing OSB **only** if inspection is not required (see Construction Supervisor).  
|             | 9. Fold bottom of house wrap onto sheathing and tape with 3” Weathermate™ Construction tape every 3’-5’.
| Erecting the Walls | 10. Following the same procedure as long walls, apply two generous beads of caulk on the deck, raise the wall, and lean against the long wall braces.  
|             | 11. Align with the chalk line then put two 3¼” Paslode nails into each I-joist block, and one between each stud into the rim board.  
|             | 12. Remove brace on long wall to let walls come together, check that top plates are flush with each other at each corner.  
|             | 13. Nail the adjoining end studs every 12” from bottom to the top plate with 3¾” Paslode nails. **NOTE:** Be sure both walls are supported before removing long wall brace on the outside of the short wall.  
|             | 14. Install end-of-wall OSB on short walls, if required. Cover all OSB with ½” foamboard.
## Quality Points

### Chapter 5 – Sheathing, Erecting Exterior Short Walls

- Bottom plate tacked to deck
- Wind bracing and non-wind bracing OSB installed and tacked in position
- House wrap installed over OSB and under foam board, taped up over sheathing
- Foam board installed and properly nailed and taped
- Thick, double line of caulk laid on deck under bottom plate
- Wall bottom plate is properly secured along chalk line and lined up with 5 ½” marks on long walls
- Wall is secured to long walls at ends/corner is flush
- Temporary long wall braces are moved to the inside of the short walls and secured to hold walls in position
- All required OSB is nailed in place and covered with foamboard.