

Chapter 5 – Framing Exterior Walls

Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assemble each wall on the deck, then erect in one complete section. Assemble long walls first, short walls after long walls are up. 2. Before separating upper and bottom plates, check for marks 5½” from each end on the inside edge of the <u>long wall</u> bottom plates. 3. Align these marks with the chalk lines of the adjoining short walls. Once the walls are lifted, this will help to properly position the wall end-to-end. 4. Remove the temporary nails connecting the plates and separate on the deck. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Separate the plates by about 8’—room for studs and components b. Be sure the words “Upper” and “Bottom” remain in the same orientation. 5. If not presorted, check all studs for crown. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Place studs with “crown up” and window and door components in position between the plates per marking on the upper and bottom plates. Check that king/jack pairs in components are not twisted. b. Make certain that the flush side of the window and door headers faces up. <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">NOTE: Set aside the straightest studs for the kitchen walls and bathroom tub wall.</p>
Assemble Walls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Preassemble 2x6 corners, ensuring that end and side surfaces are flush, nailing every 10”-12” along the length with 3¼” Paslode nails. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Place the “L” down at the ends of the <u>long wall</u>, flush with the ends and sides of the upper and bottom plates. b. Nail with three 3¼” Paslode nails into each piece of the corner. 7. Nail top and bottom plates to the studs and components <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Using a plastic speed square with a corner cut off, make a mark on the inside face of each plate at each layout mark to ensure the studs are square to the plates before nailing. b. Make sure the edges of the studs are flush with the ends of the plates, align with the marks, and nail with <u>one</u> 16d (or 3¼” Paslode) nail through the plate into the <u>bottom</u> third of the stud. c. Square the stud to the line and nail two more 16d (or 3¼” Paslode) nails, taking care to keep hands or body parts away from the nailer. Use a tool to twist the stud to square if necessary. 8. Field cut short-cut studs for under each window, measuring for length next to the nearest stud. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Transfer locations for these pieces from the bottom plate to the window sill. b. Nail with three 3¼” Paslode nails at each end. 9. Check the non-zero end of each wall for an extra stud near the second-last 24” o.c. stud. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If the two are in direct contact, screw them together with three 2½” deck screws. b. If the two studs are separated, fill the gap with multiples of ½” foamboard. Screw the studs together with three 4” TimberLok® screws to create a tight stud/foamboard “sandwich.”

Quality Points

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- All studs (3 nails) and components nailed in place and tight to plates
- Bottom plate straightened and secured to chalk line
- “L” corners in place and nailed
- Non-zero wall ends with extra studs are screwed together with deck screws and foam/stud “sandwiches” screwed with TimberLok® screws.