Chapter 5 – Erecting Interior Walls

Preparation	 Start by erecting the longer walls that intersect the exterior walls. Before erecting these walls, install 2x4 blocking between the two exterior wall studs where the interior wall will be located. Place this 2x4 with the wide side flush with the interior surface of the studs and top 50" off the floor. HAND NAIL with two 16d nails through the studs into the ends of the 2x4. Wherever a flush sliding door intersects an exterior wall, install a similar block but with the top edge 83½" above the floor. This provides support for the door header at the end opposite that of the single Jack stud. CAUTION: For safety reasons, do NOT use a framing or finish nailer for these two steps.
Walls That <u>Do</u> <u>Not</u> Include a Flush Sliding Door	 4. For walls that do NOT include a flush sliding door, stand up each wall section and position the bottom plate in line with the chalk lines. a. Make sure the bottom plate is tight to the bottom plate of the exterior wall and then secure it to the floor using 3½" collated nails if they will hit an I-joist; otherwise, use 2½" deck screws. b. After checking that the end stud is plumb and tight to the exterior wall, nail at an angle through the exterior wall upper plate into the interior wall upper plate with 16d nails. c. Nail the end stud into the blocking installed in step 2 above. Check that the joints at the upper and bottom plates are tight.
Walls That Include a Flush Sliding Door	 5. For walls that DO include a flush sliding door: a. Measure the length of the upper plate and cut a 2x4 (or 2x6 if a 2x6 wall) 1%" shorter than that measurement. This will be the top plate for the closet wall. b. Nail that piece to the wall upper plate, extending it 2" beyond the end of the wall upper plate and 3%" short of the interior end. c. Stand the wall up, move into position as above, tight to the exterior wall, with the door header resting on the blocking installed in Step 3 above. d. Nail the bottom plate to the floor between the chalk lines with two 3%" collated nails if they will hit an I-joist; otherwise, use 2%" deck screws. Tack loose end of bottom plate in position. 6. Using a long, straight 2x4 (at least 8' long) against the closet upper and bottom plates, plumb the wall and nail the end of the upper plate into the exterior wall upper plate with 3%" collated nails. (The exterior top plate will be notched later.) Make certain king/jack side of closet is straight and plumb. 7. Using the same long 2x4 against the plates, move the door header against the 2x4 and mark the edge on the horizontal blocking. Then nail the header to the wall blocking at that mark with 3%" collated nails
For Remainder of Walls	 Continue to build the remainder of the interior walls, standing them up, positioning to the chalk line, and nailing with either 3¼" collated nails or 2½" deck screws. Install 2x4 blocking, as in Step 2 above, wherever two interior walls intersect and there is no stud at the point of intersection. Check that each wall is plumb before nailing it to the adjacent wall. When erecting a bathroom tub wall use straight studs. Make sure the tub space measures 60%" at the back, the front, and at bottom, top, and middle.

Quality Points

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- Wall bottom plates are properly secured along chalk lines, nailed with 3¼" collated nails if hitting an I-joist; otherwise, 2½" deck screws
- Walls are secured at ends, plumb at exterior wall intersections
- Door and closet components are straight and plumb with no twists.
- Tub space is 60%" at back, front, bottom, top, middle.