

## Quick Reference Guide

March 2025  
Version 25 .0

### Chapter 13 – Ceiling Sheetrock

Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Verify the following:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sheetrock staged in house is ½"; garage is 5/8"</li> <li>b. Blocking for sheetrock is complete per Sec. 10.6..3</li> <li>c. Ceiling poly is tight to corners (not stretched across) Correct if necessary.</li> <li>d. All ceiling electrical box, HVAC duct &amp; damper access locations are marked on the floor</li> <li>e. Truss centerlines are marked where trusses cross INTERIOR wall top plates</li> </ol> <p>Verify coil stock has been installed at the base of the garage common wall.</p> </li> </ol>
Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Develop an installation plan. Use as many full width sheets as possible. <b>NOTE:</b> Minimum allowable sheetrock width is 16" along interior walls and 12" along exterior walls</li> <li>3. Before sheeting the living/dining/kitchen area, snap a chalk line parallel to the exterior wall to indicate starting point. Snap line ¼" greater than starting sheet width.</li> <li>4. Develop an installation team plan (installing/marking truss centers/quality control</li> </ol>
General Installation Rules	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. All sheets must be secured to at least three trusses (i.e. have 3 rows of screws).</li> <li>6. Each sheet must have 7 screws on each end and 5 in the field</li> <li>7. Screw heads should be installed straight in and slightly recessed below the surface of sheetrock</li> <li>8. Keep screws 1"-2" away from corners to prevent corner cracking</li> <li>9. Add additional screw 2" away from any screws driven too deeply</li> <li>10. Hold screws back 8-10" from interior walls and back 4"-6" from exterior walls where trusses intersect</li> <li>11. Abutting ends should be factory edges if possible and always centered on a truss (except over headers)</li> <li>12. Do not force sheetrock if fit is too tight – trim to fit. Do not install sheets with broken corners.</li> <li>13. Consult Construction Supervisor re: acceptability of sheets that break during installation</li> <li>14. Cut off and remove any torn sheetrock paper.</li> <li>15. Stagger sheets at least two and preferably three trusses on adjacent rows.</li> <li>16. Undercut sheets to go between an installed edge and truss center or end blocking by ¼"</li> <li>17. Undercut sheets to completely fill a gap between two parallel walls by ½" Spiral cut around all electrical boxes.</li> <li>18. Hand saw cut sheetrock for bathroom fan opening before installation. Perimeter of cut to be flush with inside edge of opening.</li> <li>19. Run a vacuum when using a spiral saw</li> <li>20. Cut a 4 1/8" hole for accessing all basement HVAC dampers</li> <li>21. Keep screws 24" away from electrical boxes until box is spiral cut</li> </ol>
Installing Ceiling Sheetrock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. Begin installation at an exterior wall corner</li> <li>18. Install Sheets perpendicular to the trusses             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Measure to determine starting piece length from corner or adjacent edge to a truss centerline.</li> <li>b. Determine location of any HVAC duct or electrical box centers before installing sheet</li> <li>c. Cut piece, load on ceiling lift and secure with enough screws to hold sheet in place (e.g., 2 screws per truss)</li> <li>d. Mark truss center lines before completing installation</li> <li>e. Complete screw installation</li> <li>f. Begin quality checks as soon as each individual sheet has been installed. Chalk "OK" on each sheet after quality checking</li> </ol> </li> <li>19. Cut and remove sheetrock over scuttle access along scuttle framing</li> <li>20. Upon completion of garage ceiling rock, install 3" wide sheetrock to cover upper &amp; top plates of exterior wall. Use ½" if available</li> <li>21. Drill a hole near garage door opener outlet box. Pull wire through hole.</li> </ol> <p><b>NOTE: Continued on next page</b></p>

Finishing Scuttle Box Covers	22. Install four sheetrock pieces to the perimeter framing of the house and garage scuttle boxes. Use ½” for house; 5/8” for garage. Install factory edge up, flush to top of framing 23. Locate OSB portion of scuttle box cover. Trace OSB perimeter on sheetrock and secure 24. Locate and install full height post
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## Quality Points

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- All rows along interior walls are at least 16” wide. No rows along exterior walls are less than 12” wide.
- All ceiling trusses are covered 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
  - Sheetrock scuttle covers are screwed to OSB and set aside for plasterer
- All sheets have been quality checked and marked with an “OK”
- Upper and bottom plates of exterior garage walls are covered with 3” sheetrock
- Garage door opener wire is pulled through ceiling sheetrock