



# Amherst Building Department

## Wall Framing Detail Standards

The following text and illustrated details are taken directly from the 2013 Residential Code of Ohio as adopted by the Amherst Codified Ordinance chapter 1313. The complete 2013 Residential Code of Ohio may be accessed through our website at [www.amherstohio.org](http://www.amherstohio.org).

**602.3 Exterior walls, design and construction.** Exterior walls of wood-frame construction shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and Figures 602.3(1) and 602.3(2) or in accordance with AF&PA's NDS. Components of exterior walls shall be fastened in accordance with Tables 602.3(1) through 602.3(4). Structural wall sheathing shall be fastened directly to structural framing members. Exterior wall coverings shall be capable of resisting the wind pressures listed in Table 301.2(2) adjusted for height and exposure using Table 301.2(3). Wood structural panel sheathing used for exterior walls shall conform to the requirements of Table 602.3(3). *Exterior walls shall be fireblocked in accordance with Section 602.8.*

Studs shall be continuous from support at the sole plate to a support at the top plate to resist loads perpendicular to the wall. The support shall be a foundation or floor, ceiling or roof diaphragm or shall be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.

**Exception:** Jack studs, trimmer studs and cripple studs at openings in walls that comply with Tables 502.5(1) and 502.5(2).

**602.3.1 Stud size, height and spacing.** The size, height and spacing of studs shall be in accordance with Table 602.3.(5).

### Exceptions:

1. Utility grade studs shall not be spaced more than 16 inches (406 mm) on center, shall not support more than a roof and ceiling, and shall not exceed 8 feet (2438 mm) in height for exterior walls and load-bearing walls or 10 feet (3048 mm) for interior nonload-bearing walls.

2. Studs more than 10 feet (3048 mm) in height which are in accordance with Table 602.3.1.

**602.3.2 Top plate.** Wood stud walls shall be capped with a double top plate installed to provide overlapping at corners and intersections with bearing partitions. End joints in top plates shall be offset at least 24 inches (610 mm). Joints in plates need not occur over studs. Plates shall be not less than 2-inches (51 mm) nominal thickness and have a width at least equal to the width of the studs.

**Exception:** A single top plate may be installed in stud walls, provided the plate is adequately tied at joints, corners and intersecting walls by a minimum 3-inch-by-6-inch by a 0.036 -inch-thick (76 mm by 152 mm by 0.914 mm) galvanized steel plate that is nailed to each wall or segment of wall by six 8d nails on each side, provided the rafters or joists are centered over the studs with a tolerance of no more than 1 inch (25 mm). The top plate may be omitted over lintels that are adequately tied to adjacent wall sections with steel plates or equivalent as previously described.

**602.3.3 Bearing studs.** Where joists, trusses or rafters are spaced more than 16 inches (406 mm) on center and the bearing studs below are spaced 24 inches (610 mm) on center, such members shall bear within 5 inches (127 mm) of the studs beneath.

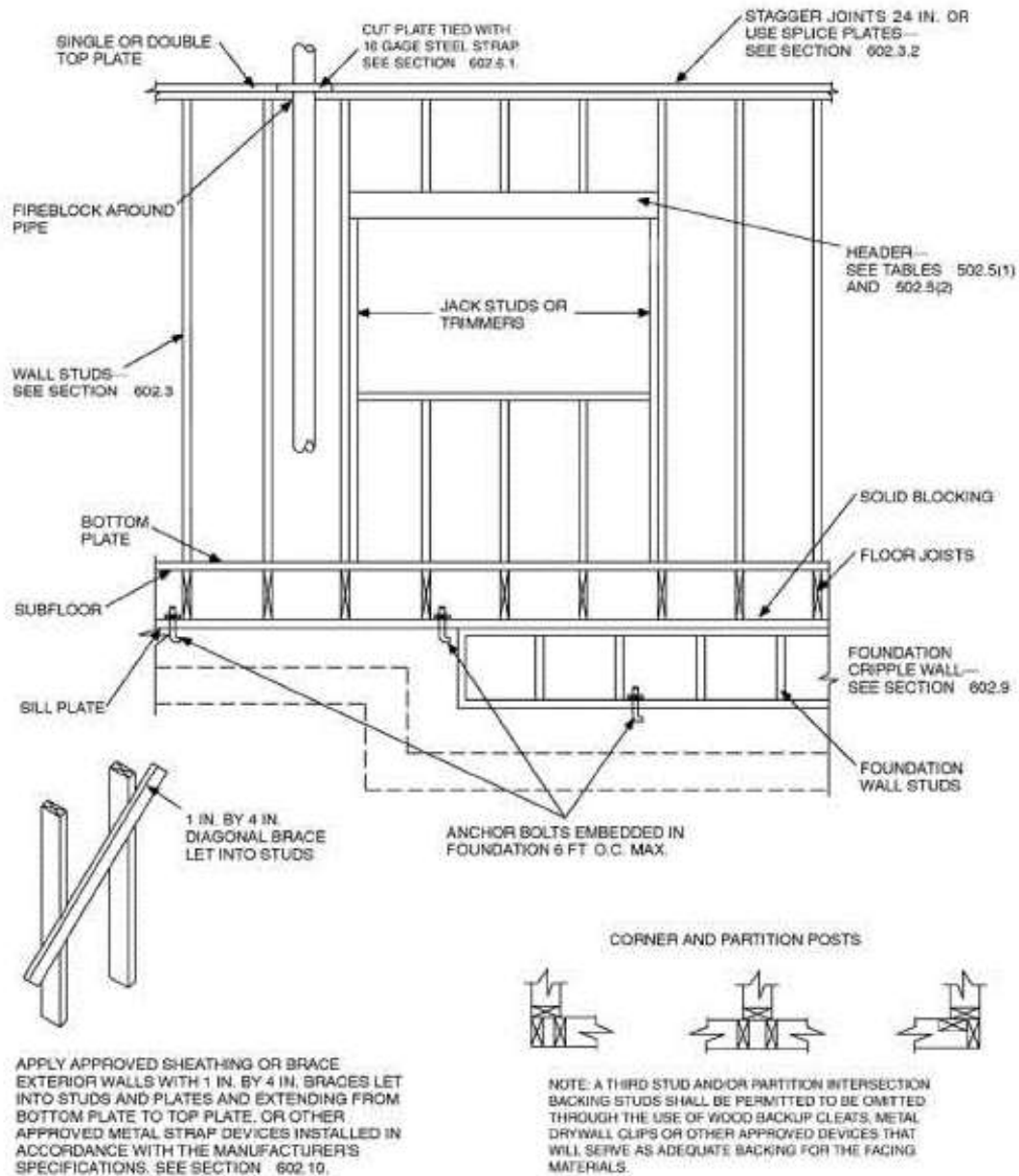
### Exceptions:

1. The top plates are two 2-inch by 6-inch (38 mm by 140 mm) or two 3-inch by 4-inch (64 mm by 89 mm) members.

2. A third top plate is installed.

3. Solid blocking equal in size to the studs is installed to reinforce the double top plate.





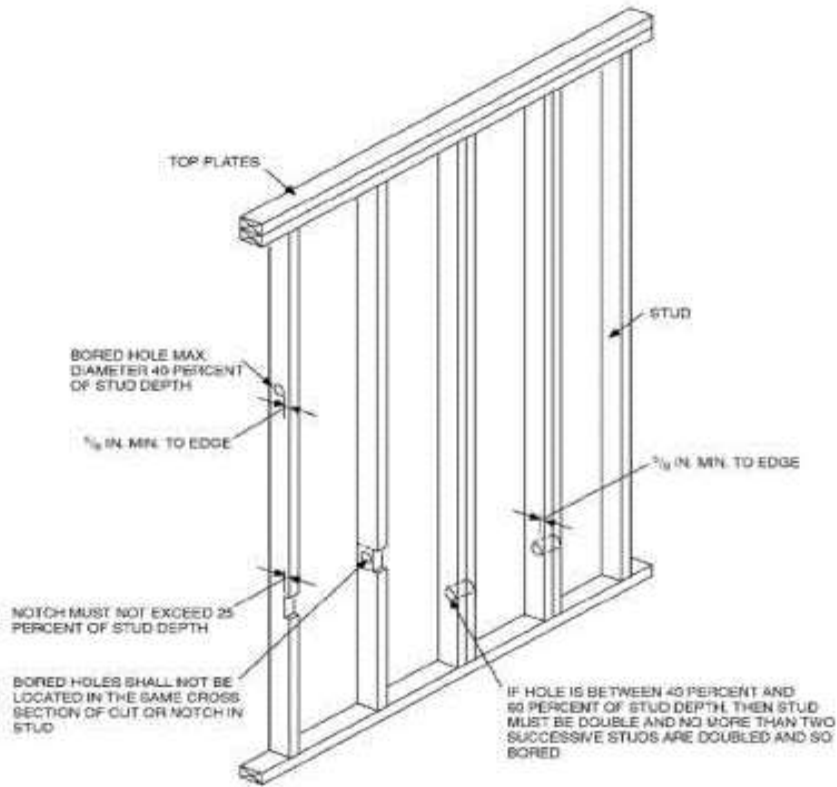
For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

**FIGURE 602.3(2)  
FRAMING DETAILS**

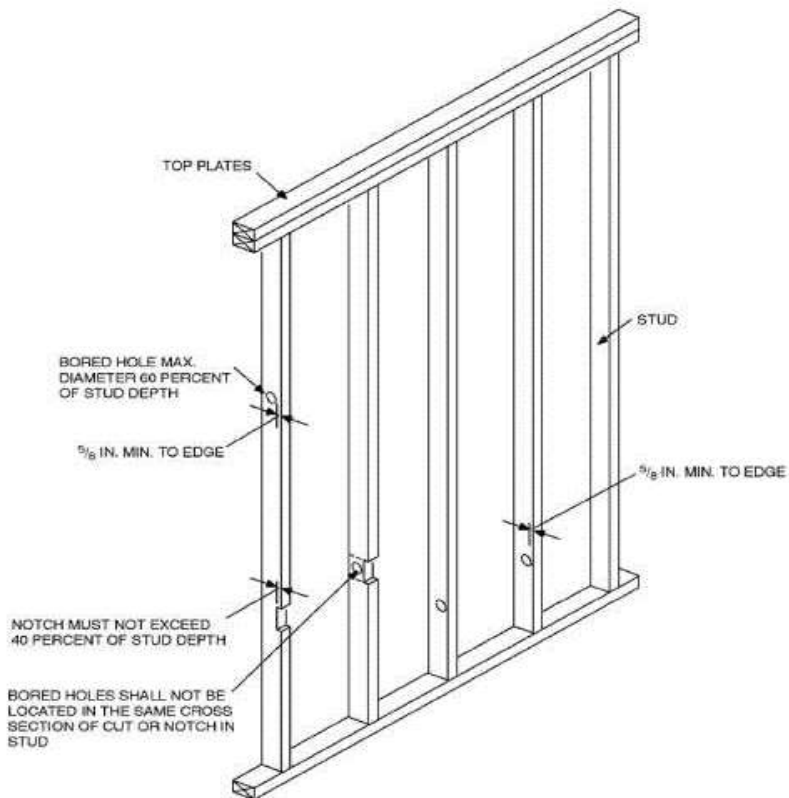
**602.6 Drilling and notching-studs.** Drilling and notching of studs shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Notching. Any stud in an exterior wall or bearing partition may be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of its width. Studs in nonbearing partitions may be notched to a depth not to exceed 40 percent of a single stud width.
2. Drilling. Any stud may be bored or drilled, provided that the diameter of the resulting hole is no more than 60 percent of the stud width, the edge of the hole is no more than 5/8inch (16 mm) to the edge of the stud, and the hole is not located in the same section as a cut or notch. Studs located in exterior walls or bearing partitions drilled over 40 percent and up to 60 percent shall also be doubled with no more than two successive doubled studs bored. See Figures 602.6(1) and 602.6(2).

**Exception:** Use of approved stud shoes is permitted when they are installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

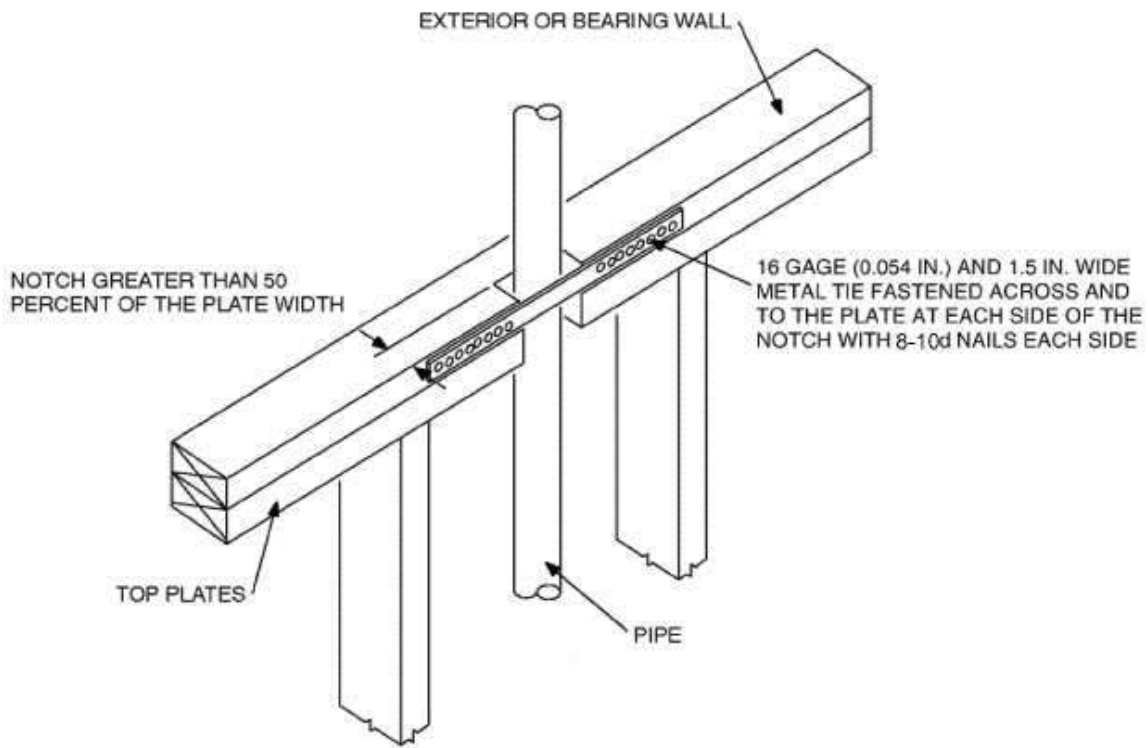


**FIGURE 602.6(1)**  
**NOTCHING AND BORED HOLE LIMITATIONS FOR EXTERIOR WALLS AND BEARING WALLS**



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

**FIGURE 602.6(2)**  
**NOTCHING AND BORED HOLE LIMITATIONS FOR INTERIOR NONBEARING WALLS**



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

**FIGURE 602.6.1  
TOP PLATE FRAMING TO ACCOMMODATE PIPING**

**602.6.1 Drilling and notching of top plate.** When piping or ductwork is placed in or partly in an exterior wall or interior load-bearing wall, necessitating cutting, drilling or notching of the top plate by more than 50 percent of its width, a galvanized metal tie not less than 0.054 inch thick ( 1.37 mm) (16 ga) and 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) wide shall be fastened across and to the plate at each side of the opening with not less than eight 10d ( 0.148 inch diameter) having a minimum length of 1 1/2 inches (38 mm) at each side or equivalent. The metal tie must extend a minimum of 6 inches past the opening. See Figure 602.6.1.

**Exception:** When the entire side of the wall with the notch or cut is covered by wood structural panel sheathing.