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# 2012 Wood Frame Construction Manual: Wind Load Distribution on Buildings – Load Paths

**Presented by:**  
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## Learning Objectives

At the end of this program, participants will be knowledgeable of:

1. Be able to describe how loads are distributed to buildings both vertically and horizontally
2. Be able to describe several different load paths that are critical to improved building performance during high winds
3. Be able to recognize problems in building framing that might present construction challenges to framing continuous load paths
4. Be able to recognize construction defects that could potentially fail under high wind loads

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## WFCM

- ❖ **Basis for this webinar series is the 2012 Wood Frame Construction Manual (WFCM)**
- ❖ **Basis follows WFCM Prescriptive Provisions (Chapter 3).**
- ❖ **Prescriptive provisions are provided for:**
  - Connections
  - Floor systems
  - Wall systems
  - Roof systems
- ❖ **Provisions provide construction details and load tables**
- ❖ **WFCM also has engineering design in Chapter 2**

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## Agenda – Webinar 2

### ❖ Vertical load paths

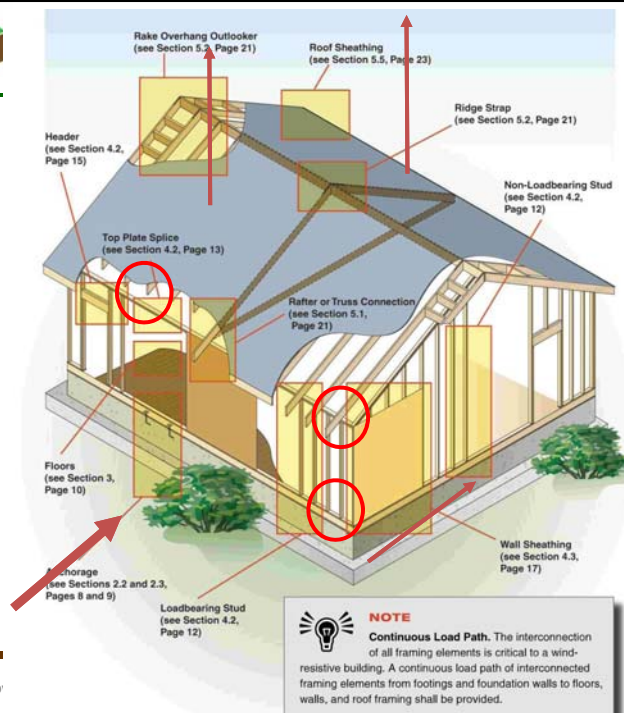
- Roofs
- Floors
- Walls
- Foundations

### ❖ Lateral load paths

- Shearwalls
- Hold downs

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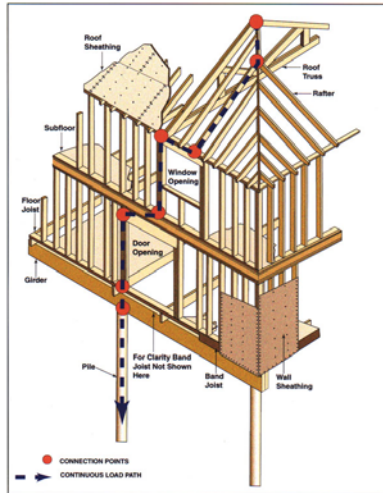
### Wind Loads and Load Paths

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## Load Path Example



- ❖ Load path must be continuous
  - ❖ Continuity is created by connections
  - ❖ Load path always ends in supporting soil
  - ❖ A building has hundreds of load paths
- Source: FEMA

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## Design vs Construction Sequences

- ❖ Construction sequence
  - Build from bottom up
- ❖ Design premise
  - Design from the top down
- ❖ Load path discussion
  - Follows the design premise even though that is not what is observed in the field

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## Connections (WFCM 3.2)

- ❖ **Lateral and shear forces**
- ❖ **Uplift**
- ❖ **Overturning**
- ❖ **Load path connections are needed for:**
  - Roof to wall
  - Wall to floor
  - Wall to wall
  - Floor to sill
  - Sill to foundation

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## Roof Systems (WFCM 3.5)

- ❖ **Roof framing**
  - Open ceiling plans that eliminate collar ties or ceiling joists must have ridge beam
- ❖ **Roof sheathing**
  - Sheathing support must be fully supported by roof framing members
  - Sheathing edges must be supported by blocking or edge clips
- ❖ **Roof diaphragm bracing**
  - For wind speeds > 130 mph, must block and nail @ panel edges perpendicular to roof framing in first two bays

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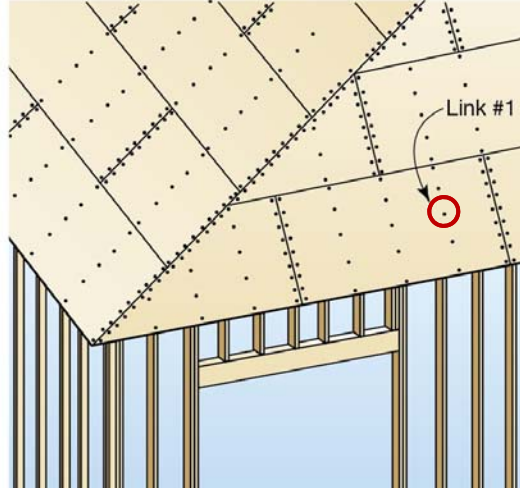
## Roof Sheathing to Framing Connection

**Nailed connection of roof sheathing to roof framing**

**Design considerations**

❖ **Must have adequate strength to resist:**

- Withdrawal of nail shank from roof framing
- “Head pull-through” (when sheathing pulls over head of fastener)



Source: FEMA

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## WFCM Roof Sheathing Requirements

**Table 3.10 Roof Sheathing Attachment Requirements for Wind Loads**

**Exposure B**

| 700-yr. Wind Speed 3-second gust (mph) |  |                            | 110   | 115 | 120 | 130 | 140 | 150 | 160 | 170 | 180 | 195 |
|--|--|----------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| STRUCTURAL SHEATHING                   |  |                            |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|  |  |                            | E   | F   | E   | F   | E   | F   | E   | F   | E   | F   |
| Sheathing Location <sup>1</sup>        | Rafter/Truss Framing Specific Gravity, G | Rafter/Truss Spacing (in.) | Maximum Nail Spacing for 8d Common Nails or 10d Box Nails (inches, o.c.) <sup>2</sup> |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Interior Zone                          | 0.49                                     | 12                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 16                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 19.2                       | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 24                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  | 0.42                                     | 12                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 16                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 19.2                       | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  |
|  |  | 24                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   |
| Perimeter Edge Zone                    | 0.49                                     | 12                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   |
|  |  | 16                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   |
|  |  | 19.2                       | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 4   |
|  |  | 24                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 4   | 4   | 4   |
|  | 0.42                                     | 12                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   |
|  |  | 16                         | 6   | 12  | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 4   | 4   |
|  |  | 19.2                       | 6   | 12  | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 4   | 4   | 3   |
|  |  | 24                         | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 6   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 3   | 3   |

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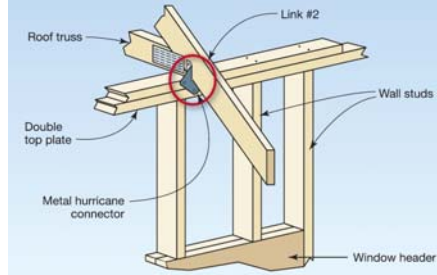


## Roof Framing to Exterior Walls

Connection between the roof framing member (truss or rafter) and top of the wall below for resistance to wind uplift – connectors must attach to both top plates

- ❖ Metal connectors are available → follow manufacturers' guidance
- ❖ Fastener schedule should be called out in design plans

Source: FEMA

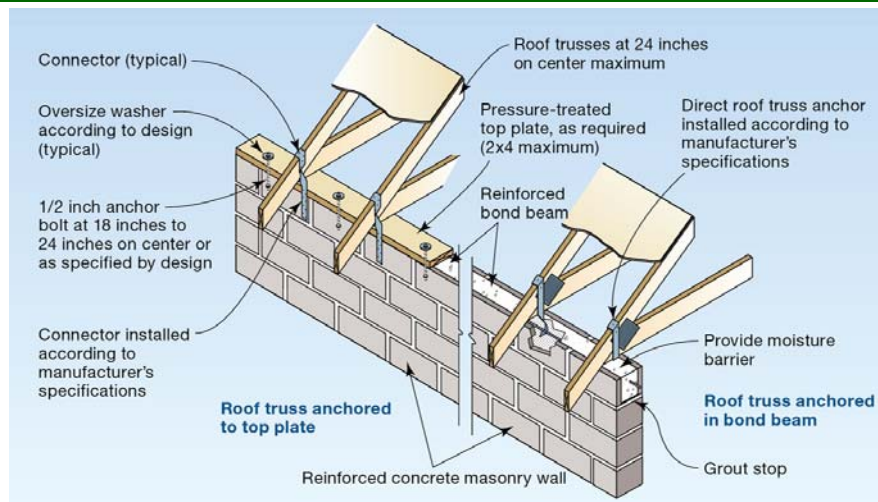


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## Roof Framing to Exterior Walls



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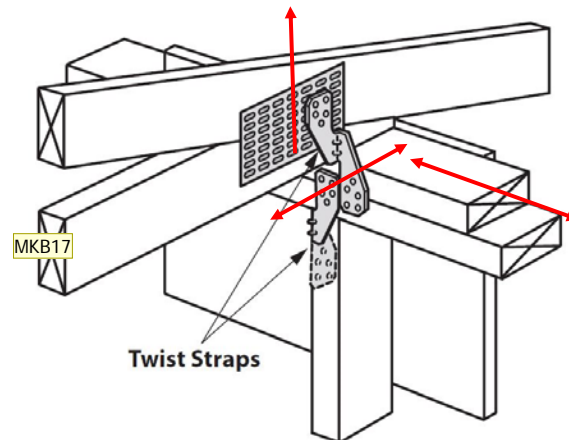
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## Roof to Wall Connection

**Figure 3.2k Roof to Top Plate Uplift Connection**



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## Uplift Failure



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## Roof Diaphragm Blocking



Source: Simpson Strong-Tie

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## Floor Systems (WFCM 3.3)

### ❖ Floor joists

- Lateral stability requirements
- Cantilever length restrictions

### ❖ Floor sheathing

### ❖ Floor nailing

- 8d common nails, 6" oc. edge, 12" o.c. field

### ❖ Floor diaphragm bracing

- For wind speeds > 130 mph, must block and nail @ panel edges perpendicular to floor framing in first two bays (see next slide)

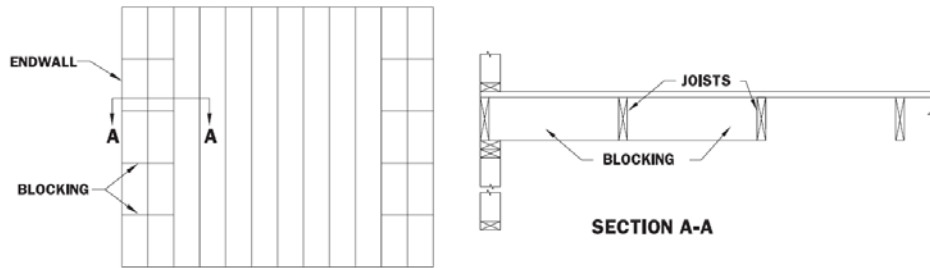
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## Floor Bracing Detail

**Figure 3.7b Floor Bracing Endwall**



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## I-Joist Web Bracing



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## Wall Systems (WFCM 3.4)

### ❖ Studs

- Limitations on wall heights
- Requirements for attaching headers to studs to accommodate loads
- Limitations on stud notching

### ❖ Walls

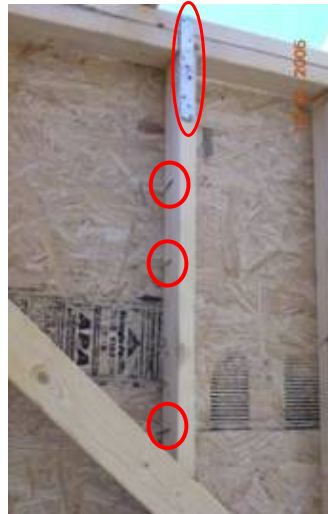
- Double top plate splice requirements
- Wall sheathing coverage and nailing is specified for shear walls
- Holddowns are required at ends of shear walls to resist overturning

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## Inadequate Connections



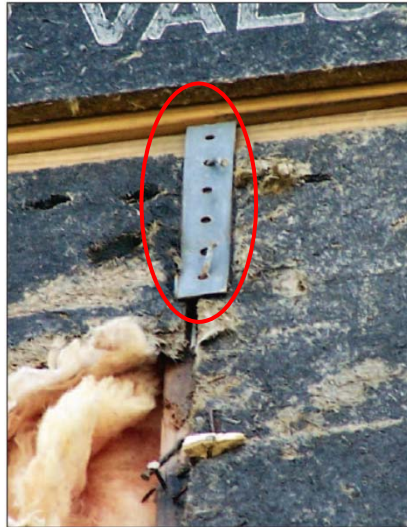
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## Inadequate Connection

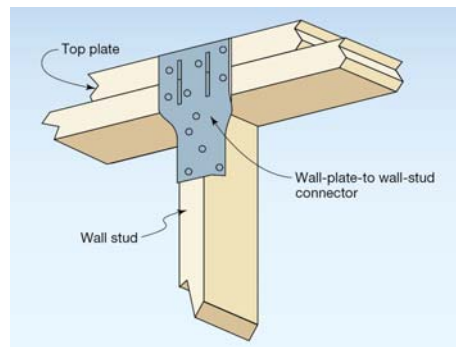
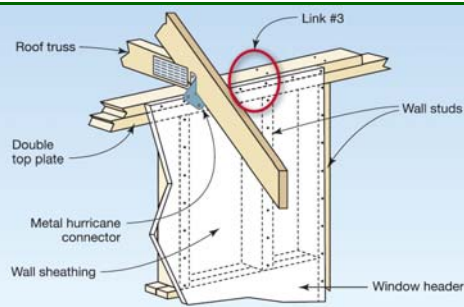


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## Top Wall Plate to Wall Studs



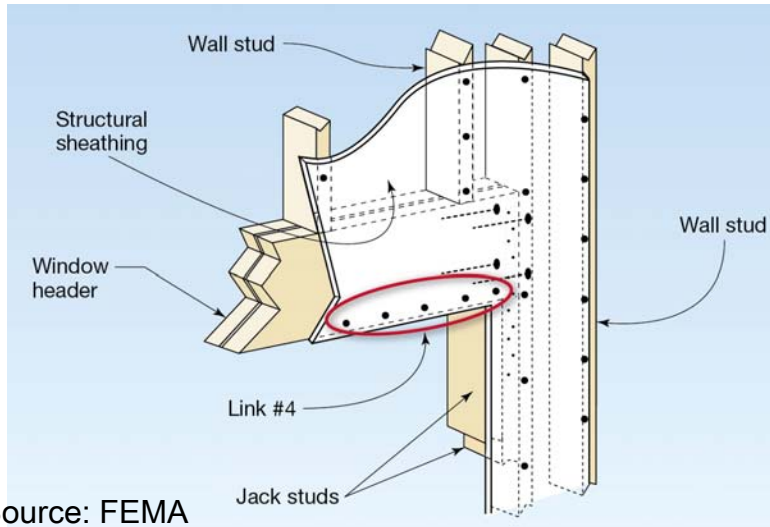
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## Wall Sheathing to Window Header



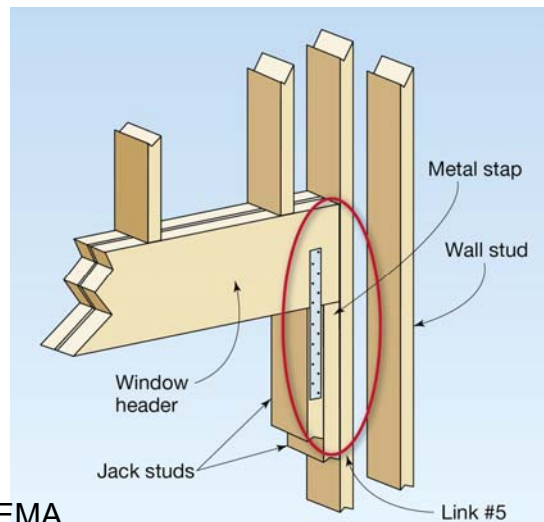
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## Window Header to Exterior Wall



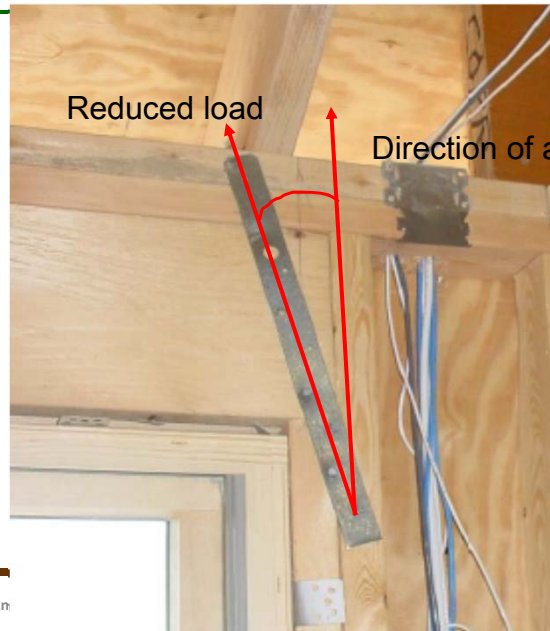
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## Reduced Strap Capacity

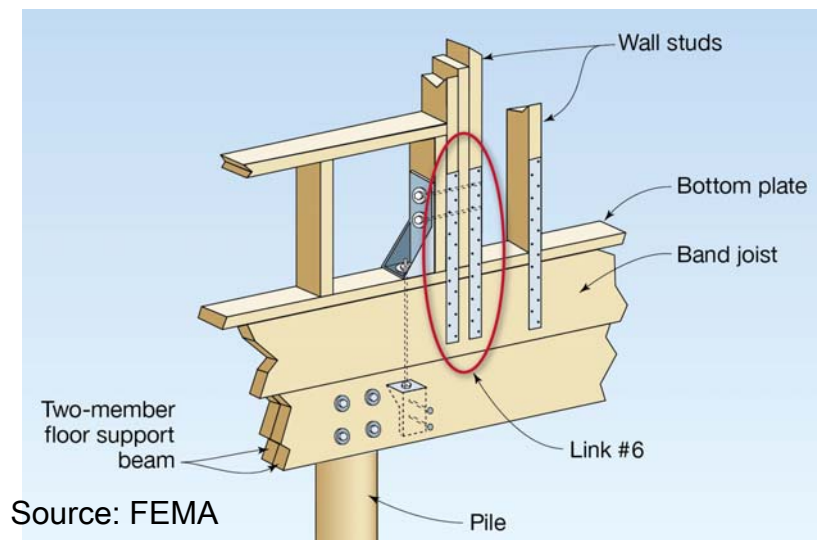


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## Wall to Floor Framing



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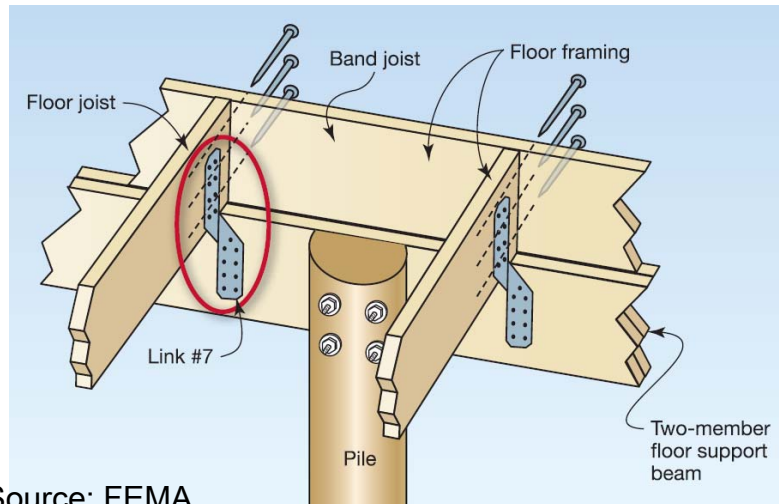
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## Floor Framing to Support Beam



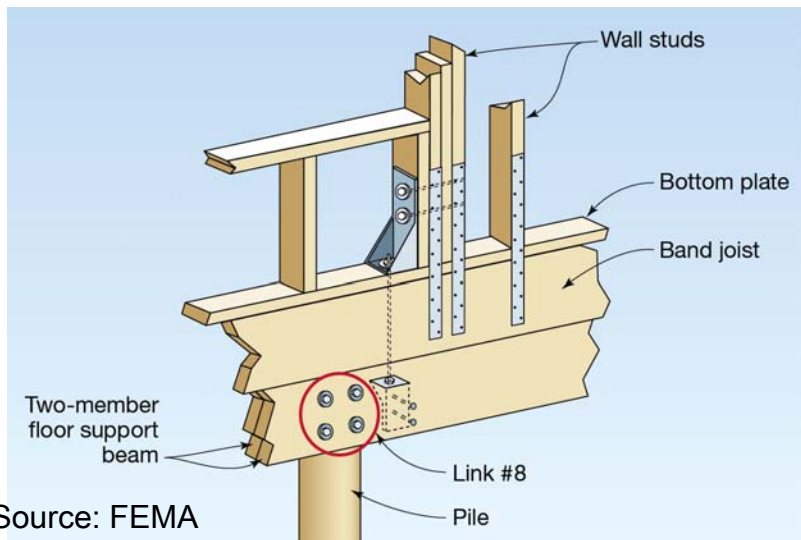
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## Floor Support Beam to Foundation (Pile)



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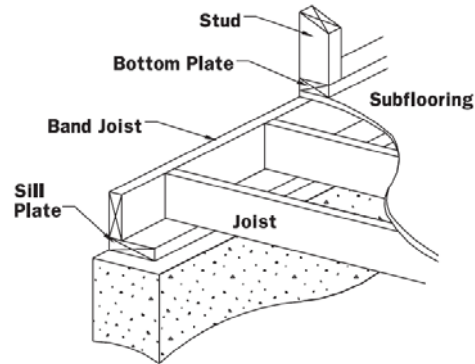


## Wall to Foundation Connection

**Figure 3.4e Joist Framing on a Foundation Sill Plate**

Many variations of wall to foundation connection:

1. Sill to foundation
2. Band joist acts like beam and spans across piers or piles
3. Cantilever over wall
4. Band joist behaves like ledger board

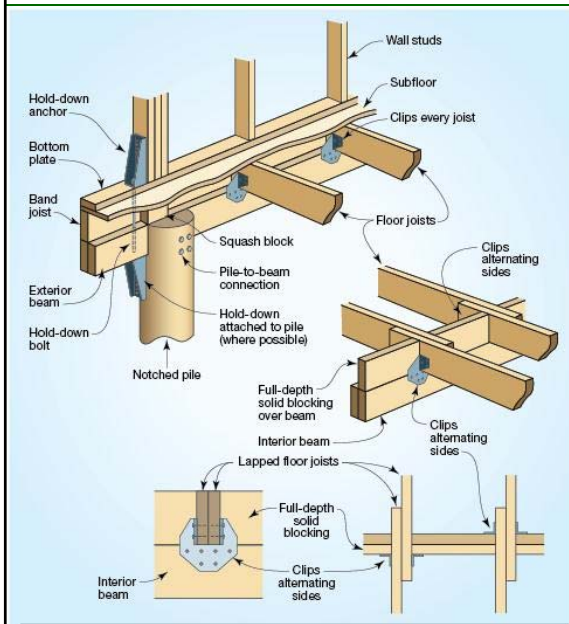


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## Floor to Foundation Connection



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## Sliding Failure



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## Diaphragms

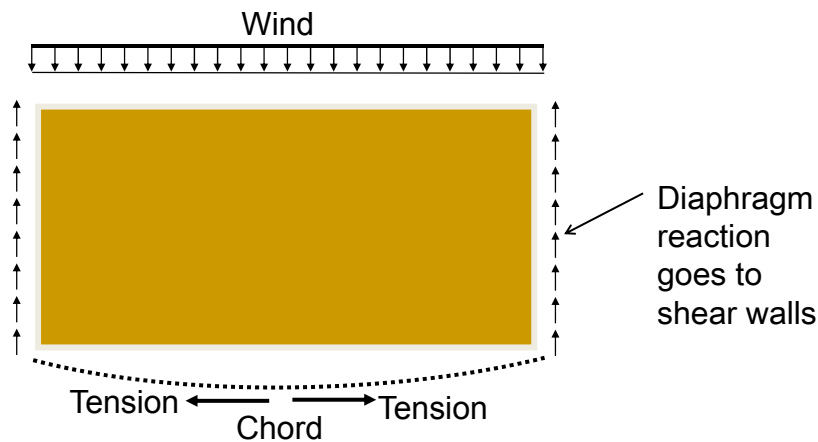
- ❖ Boundary edges
- ❖ Blocking
- ❖ Layout of panels – horizontal or vertical

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## From Diaphragms to Shear Walls

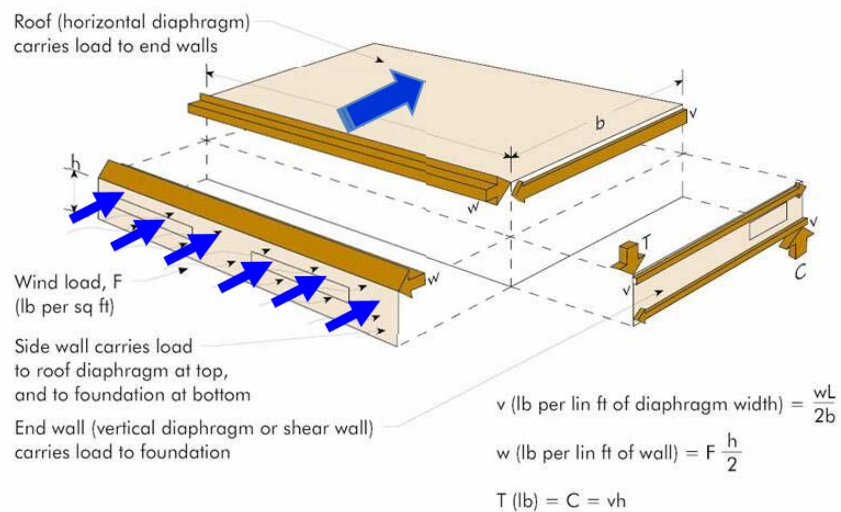


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## Distribution of Loads into Shear Walls



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## Shear Wall Methods

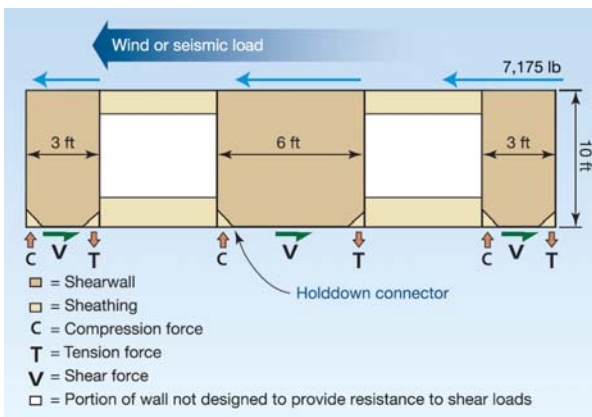
- ❖ Perforated
- ❖ Segmented
- ❖ Shear transfer around openings
- ❖ Wood structural panels used for shear and uplift
- ❖ Wind/Seismic Commentary (2008) and WFCM Section 3.4.4

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## Lateral and Uplift Loads on Shear Walls



- ❖ The shear wall that includes connections designed to resist forces from wind acting perpendicular to the shear wall. This causes tension and compression in the shear wall connections
- ❖ Desirable to align shear wall ends with piles for more efficient load transfer

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## Uplift and Lateral Failure



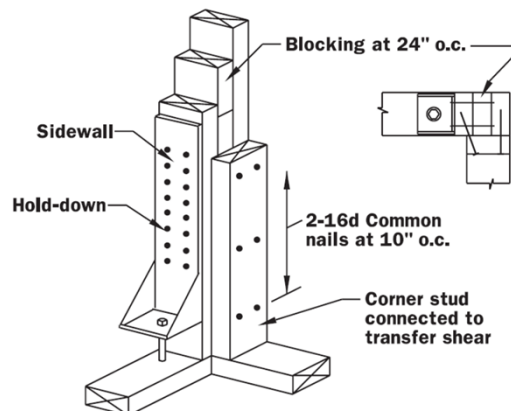
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## Shear Wall Hold down

**Figure 3.8a Corner Stud Hold-down Detail - 3 Studs With Blocking**



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## Wall Sheathing for Shear and Uplift

**Table 3.4B Shear Walls Resisting Uplift and Shear<sup>1</sup>**

(Prescriptive Alternative to Table 3.4)

**Exposure B**

| 700-yr. Wind Speed 3-second gust (mph)                                       |   | 110  | 115               | 120                                   | 130 | 140 | 150 | 160 | 170 | 180 | 195 |
|--|---|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Wood Structural Panel Shear Wall Requirements                                |   | Top & Bottom of Panel Nailing Requirements |                   | Maximum Roof Span (ft) <sup>2,3</sup> |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Sheathing Thickness  | Shear Wall Nailing  | Rows of Nails                              | Nail Spacing (in) |                                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 7/16" OSB or 15/32" plywood with species of plies having G <sub>z</sub> 0.49 | 8d Common Nails @ 4" panel edge spacing and 12" field edge spacing  | 1 <sup>4</sup>                             | 4                 | -                                     | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   |  | 3                 | 36                                    | 32  | 24  | 12  | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   | 2 <sup>5</sup>                             | 6                 | 36                                    | 32  | 24  | 12  | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   |  | 4                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 32  | 28  | 20  |
| 7/16" OSB or 15/32" plywood with species of plies having G <sub>z</sub> 0.49 | 8d Common Nails @ 6" panel edge spacing and 12" field edge spacing  | 1 <sup>4</sup>                             | 6                 | -                                     | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   |  | 4                 | 36                                    | 32  | 24  | 12  | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   | 2 <sup>5</sup>                             | 3                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 32  |
|  |   |  | 6                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 28  | 20  | 16  | 12  |
| 15/32" OSB or plywood with species of plies having G <sub>z</sub> 0.49       | 10d Common Nails @ 6" panel edge spacing and 12" field edge spacing | 1 <sup>4</sup>                             | 6                 | -                                     | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  |   |  | 4                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 32  |
|  |   | 2 <sup>5</sup>                             | 3                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  |
|  |   |  | 6                 | 36                                    | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  | 36  |

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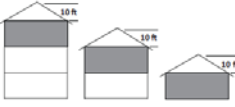
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## Segmented Shear Wall Sheathing

**Table 3.17A Segmented Shear Wall Sheathing Requirements for Wind**

**Exposure B**

| 700-yr. Wind Speed 3-second gust (mph)  |                                 | 110   | 115  | 120  | 130  | 140  | 150  | 160  | 170  | 180  | 195  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Shear Wall Line Beneath   | Building Dimension, L or W (ft) | Minimum Length of Full Height Sheathing on Exterior Shear Walls Perpendicular to Building Dimension, L or W (ft) <sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|  | 12                              | 1.8   | 2.0  | 2.2  | 2.5  | 2.9  | 3.4  | 3.8  | 4.3  | 4.9  | 5.7  |
|   | 16                              | 2.4   | 2.6  | 2.9  | 3.4  | 3.9  | 4.5  | 5.1  | 5.8  | 6.5  | 7.6  |
|   | 20                              | 3.0   | 3.3  | 3.6  | 4.2  | 4.9  | 5.6  | 6.4  | 7.2  | 8.1  | 9.5  |
|   | 24                              | 3.6   | 4.0  | 4.3  | 5.1  | 5.9  | 6.8  | 7.7  | 8.7  | 9.7  | 11.4 |
|   | 28                              | 4.2   | 4.6  | 5.0  | 5.9  | 6.9  | 7.9  | 9.0  | 10.1 | 11.4 | 13.3 |
|   | 32                              | 4.8   | 5.3  | 5.8  | 6.8  | 7.8  | 9.0  | 10.3 | 11.6 | 13.0 | 15.2 |
|   | 36                              | 5.5   | 6.0  | 6.5  | 7.6  | 8.8  | 10.1 | 11.5 | 13.0 | 14.6 | 17.1 |
|   | 40                              | 6.1   | 6.6  | 7.2  | 8.5  | 9.8  | 11.3 | 12.8 | 14.5 | 16.2 | 19.0 |
|   | 50                              | 7.6   | 8.3  | 9.0  | 10.6 | 12.3 | 14.1 | 16.0 | 18.1 | 20.3 | 23.8 |
|   | 60                              | 9.1   | 9.9  | 10.8 | 12.7 | 14.7 | 16.9 | 19.2 | 21.7 | 24.3 | 28.6 |
|   | 70                              | 10.6  | 11.6 | 12.6 | 14.8 | 17.2 | 19.7 | 22.4 | 25.3 | 28.4 | 33.3 |
|   | 80                              | 12.1  | 13.2 | 14.4 | 16.9 | 19.6 | 22.5 | 25.6 | 28.9 | 32.4 | 38.1 |

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## Moment Frames

Moment frames are used when there is not enough shear wall length or there are large openings in the walls.

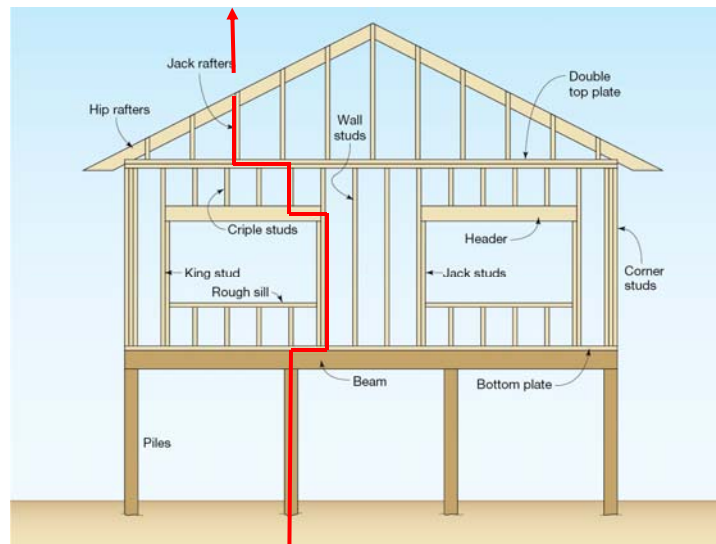


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## Summary – Vertical Load Paths



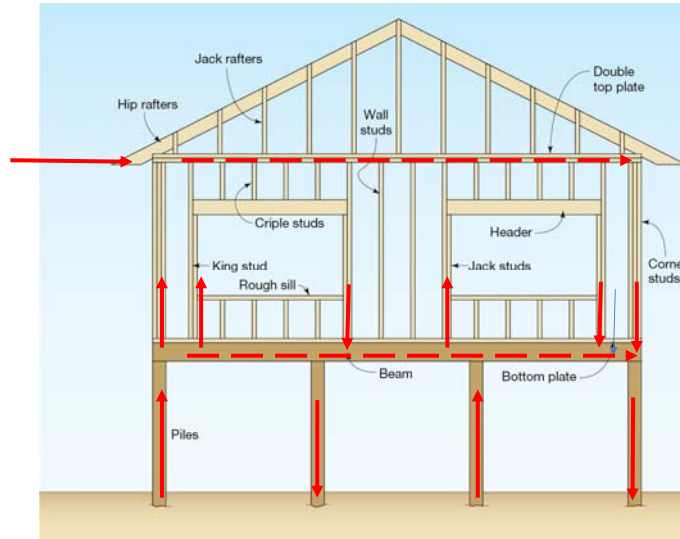
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## Summary – Lateral Load Paths



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# Questions?



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## THANK YOU!

### Follow up email with:

- SurveyMonkey, presentation links and info. on Certificates

### Instructor: William L. Coulbourne, PE

- Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 WFCM: Wind Speed and Design Pressure Determination According to ASCE 7-10
- Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 WFCM: Wind Load Distribution on Buildings – Load Paths
- Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 2012 WFCM: Connections
- Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 2012 WFCM: Foundation Design to Resist Flood Loads and WFCM Calculated Wind Loads
- **NEW! Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide (DCA 6)**
- **NEW! Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> AWC's Code Conforming Wood Design**
- <http://www.awc.org>

