

Chapter 14 – Wall Sheetrock

Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verify the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sheetrock staged in house is ½”; garage is 5/8” b. Stud centers are marked on the main and basement floors c. HVAC ducts, electrical boxes and pipe locations are marked on the floor d. Wall blocking is complete. See “Blocking for Sheetrock”, Section 10.5.3 e. Kitchen wall stud faces behind future countertop have been adjusted to the same plane f. King/Jack studs on sliding door closet framing have been checked and are straight and plumb to within 1/16”. g. Exterior wall studs adjacent sliding closet doors have been checked and are straight, plumb and in the same plane h. Poly vapor barrier is complete, and any inside corners are fully tucked and NOT stretched across corner i. All outside corner seams, holes and poly seams < two stud overlap are sealed j. Doorbell chime & thermostat wires have been poked thru the poly k. Bathroom vanity light wire, if not run into a box, has been poked thru the poly l. Cold air return boots don’t extend more than ½” beyond the face of the wall studs. m. Exterior basement walls covered with 1” foam and gaps between top of foamboard and upper plate are sealed n. Basement foamboard is secured tight to the exterior walls 2. Residual caulk/spray foam from window frames has been removed 3. Temporary stairway handrail has been removed
Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Develop an installation plan. 5. Determine length of 1st sheet in each row. Ensure ending piece will have at least 3 rows of screws and that end joint seams are staggered by at least 2 studs on adjacent rows
General Installation Rules	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Use 1 ¼” screws for house rock; 1 5/8” screws for general garage; 2 ½” screws for garage/house common wall 7. Screw heads should be slightly recessed below the surface of the sheetrock 8. All butt joints should be centered on a stud unless above window or door headers 9. Abutting ends should be “factory” edges as much as possible 10. All sheets must be secured to at least three studs (i.e. have 3 columns of screws), except for narrow pieces, pieces above windows or doors with headers and closet side walls 11. Each full sheet to have 7 screws on each end, 5 “in the field” and 2 in bottom plate between studs 12. Keep screws at the bottom of a stud 3”-4” above the floor 13. Install two screws in the baseplate between each stud 14. Undercut sheets to go between an installed edge and stud center or end blocking by ¼” 15. Undercut sheets to completely fill a gap between two parallel walls by ½” 16. Maintain a ½”-3/4” gap between sheetrock and outside edge of exterior door jambs. 17. Use an 1/8” shim to maintain a 1/8” gap between sheetrock and window frames 18. 19. Do not force sheetrock to fit 20. Keep basement sheetrock ½” off the concrete floor 21. Stagger end joints on each successive row a minimum of two and preferably three studs 22. Cut out cold air returns, switch boxes (mark in place, then saw sides) and plumbing pipes before fastening. 23. For narrow strips (posts, window openings, wall ends, sliding closet openings, etc.) fasten with 2 screws at each end and stagger in-between 12-16” apart 24. Cover ALL exposed wall foamboard, except in sill boxes, which will be covered with fiberglass 25. When cutting with a hand saw, cut facing the finish side and only on the push stroke
Installing Wall Sheetrock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. Start installation on top row of a wall, starting in a corner. Install red dimensioned areas first. Finish top row before starting bottom row on each wall. 27. Position pieces tight to ceiling rock. Hold piece to studs and install 1 -2 screws per stud before releasing 28. Mark stud centerlines before completing individual sheetrock installation 29. Upper rows should completely cover doors and windows, with a single sheet. Two butted scrap pieces can be used over backside of closet headers, but must extend down at least 6” below and beyond header 30. Save window cut-outs for sheetrocking window sills and bottom of window headers. Save sliding closet door cut-outs for covering upper portion of swinging doors close to adjacent wall corners. Cover corner to corner 31. Cut sheetrock out from window and door openings with a spiral saw. Use a vacuum to control dust 32. Quality check all sheets (refer to Quality Points on back side) and mark “OK” with scrap sheetrock. Begin quality checks as soon as each individual sheet has been installed 33. Keep upper screws 1 ½” down from ceiling rock 34. Keep screws no more than 1” away from corners 35. Measure and hand-saw cut out sheetrock for cold air returns before installation 36. Measure and hand-saw cut out sheetrock for wall switches before installation 37. Measure and record approximate electrical box centers before covering with sheetrock. Spiral saw cut after installation 38. Be sure thermostat and door chime wires (BUT NOT VANITY WIRE) are pulled thru hole in sheetrock. 39. Vanity wires should be left behind poly. It can be covered with sheetrock <p>(continued on next page)</p>

	<p>40. Install sheetrock on outside corners flush to the outside edge of the corner stud</p> <p>41. Cover the range plenum.</p> <p>42. Do not cover joist hangers below stairway closet platform with sheetrock. Cut just short of the hangers</p> <p>43. Replace stairway handrail when as soon as stairway is sheet rocked</p>
Window Frames	<p>44. Verify framing is free of protruding nails, caulk and spray foam</p> <p>45. Use window cut-out for covering sill and bottom of header; Use scrap for side pieces</p> <p>46. Cut 1 four window frame pieces.</p> <p>47. Use 1/8" shim to maintain a 1/8" gap between sheetrock and window frames for all pieces</p> <p>48. Install sheetrock tight to shims. Keep sill screws 2" away from window frames</p> <p>49. Step back and view window frame pieces for straightness and reveal. Investigate if not straight or if reveal is not even</p> <p>50. Measure side-to-side and top-to-bottom and cut 1 window edging strip per top, bottom and each side measurement.</p> <p>51. Clip corners to 45°</p> <p>52. Install edging strips. Push tight to window. Staple along inside row every 6", holding tight to window for each staple</p> <p>53. Complete installation by stapling every 6 – 9", with one staple end on strip, one staple end off strip. Pound down staples</p>
Misc	<p>54. Butt sheetrock up to the tub/shower nailing flange (DO NOT Overlap Nailing Flange)</p> <p>55. Install sheetrock above the door and one stud bay on either side of the door on the unfinished side</p> <p>56. Use 8' – 12" sheetrock scraps to cover interior horizontal wiring in unfinished side of basement. Cut all to same width</p> <p>57. Leave larger (no full sheets) pieces under stairway if homeowner desires</p> <p>58. Clean Floors</p>

Quality Points

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- All wall sheetrock pieces are installed.
- Basement foamboard is covered with sheetrock
- Joints are staggered a minimum of 2 and preferably 3 studs
- All sheets have been quality checked and verified "OK" :
- All screws are secured to wood
- Screws are not too deep or if too deep have extra screws 2" away
- Screw count for full sheets is seven on ends, five in the field
- Narrow sheetrock pieces have two screws on ends, staggered screws in the middle
- Lowest screws installed in studs are 3-4" off the floor
- Bottom row sheets have two screws between each stud secured to bottom plate
- There is a 1/2" - 3/4" gap between sheetrock and exterior door jambs No sheetrock is installed with broken corners
- All pieces have at least 3 columns of screws (exception-closet side walls and pieces over window and door headers)
- All windows and door headers are covered with a single piece of sheetrock (backside of closets are the exception)
- All interior penetrations (electrical boxes, cold air returns, plumbing, attic scuttle, bath fans, etc.) have been cut out (verify via house plan and marks on the floor)
- Furnace thermostat and doorbell chime wires have been fed through the sheetrock. Vanity wire has not
- Sheet rock edges on outside corners and sills do not extend beyond the edge of framing corner (up to 1/8" short of corner is ok)
- Basement sheetrock is installed 1/2" off floor
- Sheetrock around window frames is straight, i.e., fits tight to the frame, no bowing or bulging, sides are parallel
- All windows have edging strips installed tight to the window frames
- Sheetrock is not covering tub/shower nailing flange
- Sheetrock below stairway closet platform is not covering joist hangers

- Stairway handrail has been re-installed

- Wiring between studs on the interior walls of the unfinished side of the basement is covered, sizes uniform

- Full leftover 8' sheets from basement are brought upstairs for return to supplier
- Usable scraps (< full sized sheet) are under stairs, set on by 2X scrap.