

Chapter 3 – Cutting Interior Wall Plates

Cutting Plates	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cut upper and bottom plates to match the layout on the deck.2. Recheck wall intersections to determine which will be “long” and which will be “short” at the intersection (this may be dictated by an adjoining door). NOTE: All closet side walls are typically the “short” wall in the layout and are typically 25” long.3. On walls that require multiple upper and bottom plates (or have a joint), stagger the upper and bottom plates by placing upper and bottom plates at opposite ends of the wall.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Join the ends of top and bottom plates on separate studs.b. The upper plate joint must be centered on a stud, not over a door.4. On walls that include both full-height and 42”-height sections:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Cut separate plates for each section.b. Cut the bottom plate to span the joint.5. If the wall will include a 3½” x 3½” full height post at the end of the 42” section, cut upper plate of 42” section 1½” short to accommodate the post.6. If the full-height post is not included at the end of the 42” section, cut the bottom plate 1½” short to accommodate other anchoring methods.7. Tack plates together with duplex nails, label plates with letter or number and compass orientation when in position on the deck. Label deck with matching number or letter
Label Short Wall Plates	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. For any 42”-height walls, label the TOP AND BOTTOM plates with “42” WALL/39” STUDS.9. For any short wall that supports the closet platform above the stairway, label the plates with “13¾” WALL/10¾” STUDS”.

Quality Points

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- Upper and bottom plates are tacked together with duplex nails
- Upper and bottom plates match layout on the deck and are marked with number/letter and compass orientation
- At intersection of two walls where one includes a door at the intersection end, the door wall abuts the adjoining wall
- On walls requiring multiple upper and bottom plates, plates are staggered, and plate ends are centered on top of studs, not over doors
- On walls including a post at end of 42" high section, upper plate is cut 1½" short
- On walls not including a post at end of 42" high section, bottom plate is cut 1½" short
- On 42"-height walls, plates are labeled "42" WALL/39" STUDS"
- On short wall supporting closet platform over stairway, plates are labeled with Wall height, Stud Lengths