

## 3.11 ADDITIONAL BLOCK SUPPORT

### Additional Block Supports

For short-term bracing and strapping needs, pieces of 1"x 2", 1"x 3" or 1"x 4" are frequently used. Plumbers strap may also be used. For vertical joints that have less than a 2 web offset, they will need to be glued, strapped, or both - on both sides of the wall. Bracing, strapping, and/or foam glue is beneficial around doors and windows to ensure they remain plumb and square during the concrete pour.

A simple piece of 1"x 2" wood furring can be attached with screws to either side of a joint that is the least bit questionable. Keep in mind that if strapping is used on one side of the wall, it is needed on the other side too.

When installing bracing and strapping, always attach it horizontally and do not over-tighten the screws. This will prevent distortion that may occur during the concrete pour while the walls settle and reduce the chance of stripping screws.



**!! HINT: While laying the block, use a broad felt tipped marker to indicate any areas which need to be strapped, both inside and outside !!**



**Rule of thumb: Do not over brace - However if you question whether an area should be braced or not -BRACE IT!**



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Bucks provide a surface for attachment of doors and windows and hold back concrete during the pour. They may be constructed from lumber, metal, or vinyl products. You can build them as you go, but to save time, we recommend you build all the necessary bucks before you start wall construction.



**Example of a Vinyl Buck**



**Example of Wooden Buck**



You will need to locate the height of windows prior to installing many courses. Once located, you can mark the footing, slab or beginning courses of block to indicate height, center and ends of each opening. Be sure you have referenced the rough opening sizes required and your bucks have been made to fit those dimensions. Take care to cut openings to correspond with buck materials you are using.



***Wise saying: Check plans twice, measure twice, cut once.***