

WALL SHEATHING

OSB Wall Sheathing Works.

Oriented Strand Board (OSB) is the wall sheathing you can count on to support your construction projects – and your bottom line.

WHY OSB?

The fact is, a rigid wall system is the best way to strengthen a wood frame structure. And in either diaphragms or shear walls, OSB sheathing uses an engineered manufacturing process to provide superb performance in racking and deflection strength. Under all types of exterior cladding, OSB provides extra thermal resistance and acoustic control. In addition, OSB is highly workable. It's easy to saw, drill, nail, plane, file, glue, paint, or sand.

OSB WALLS STAND TOUGH AGAINST THE ELEMENTS.

Depending on where you live, Mother Nature has a habit of testing wall systems with an occasional earthquake or high winds. Studies show that wood



Standing tough in diaphragms and shear walls.

frame structures with OSB-sheathed walls perform well against seismic forces or racking shear – much better than concrete or masonry. Where high winds are of



Install OSB wall panels horizontally or vertically.

concern, OSB wall sheathing provides peace of mind because of its strength and density.

YOU'LL FIND NO SURPRISES BEHIND OSB WALLS.

OSB's engineered manufacturing process ensures panel uniformity. And that removes uncertainty from every construction project. No core voids. No knotholes. Just performance. Panel after panel. By reducing waste, OSB can help ensure protective walls around your profit margin. And compared to insulated sheathing products, OSB provides increased rigidity and may be quicker to install since it requires fewer nails.



Structural Board Association
Representing the OSB Industry

GRADES & RATINGS

OSB wall sheathing is recognized under all major model building codes for exterior and interior walls. Ratings and certifications are clearly marked on each panel.

OSB is manufactured to meet the performance requirements of the voluntary product standard PS2-92 Wood Based Structural Use Panels, CSA 0325 Construction Sheathing (and/or CSA 0437 OSB and Waferboard). OSB is certified to meet these standards by APA – *The Engineered Wood Association*, TECO/PFS, PSI, or other major wood certification organizations. In addition, OSB is regulated in all model building codes – BOCA, CABO, ICBO, ICC, NBCC, and SBCCI.

All OSB is manufactured to meet the Exposure 1 durability classification, which means panels are appropriate for use where construction delays may occur. Structural 1 panels are for use where shear and cross-panel strength are extra important, such as areas with high winds or seismic activity. Design values are now available for OSB. Contact the Structural Board Association for more information. For enhanced wall performance and use under stucco, SBA recommends selection of panels with greater span ratings than the minimum required.

SPAN RATINGS

Application	Stud Spacing	Span Rating	Common Thicknesses
Horizontal	16"	16/0, 20/0	5/16", 3/8"
		Wall-16	5/16", 3/8"
Vertical	16"	20/0, 24/0	3/8"
		Wall-24	15/32", 1/2"
Horizontal	24"	20/0, 24/0	3/8", 15/32", 1/2"
		Wall-24	3/8", 15/32", 1/2"
Vertical	24"	24/0, 24/16, 32/16	7/16", 15/32", 1/2"
		Wall-24	7/16", 15/32", 1/2"
RECOMMENDED UNDER STUCCO			
Horizontal (Edges Blocked)	16"	24/16	7/16"
Vertical	16"	32/16	15/32", 1/2"
Horizontal (Edges Blocked)	24"	24/16	7/16"
Vertical	24"	40/20	19/32"
Minimum Panel Width	24"	48" – When Used as Bracing	

Note: Under stucco use two layers of sheathing membrane and install adequate flashing or rain screen to prevent water entry into wall cavity.
(1" = 25.4 mm)

SPACING OF PANELS

Space panels 1/8" apart on all four edges and 1/8" away from window and door opening frames. Include an expansion joint on all walls longer than 80 feet. (24 m approximately)

INSTALLATION & FASTENING

Standard 2 x 4 frame construction with wood or steel invites quick and easy installation of OSB wall sheathing in vertical and horizontal applications. Make sure to check stud spacing before selecting panels. During installation, ensure that framing around openings is protected by sheathing paper and proper flashing is installed over doors, windows and at changes in vertical direction. Keep bottom edge 8" above grade at all times. Oversize panels are available for increased flexibility. Minimum fastening schedule is 6d nails spaced 6" o.c. at supported edges, and 12" o.c. intermediate. Nails should be 3/8" from panel edge.

Remember

Extra fastening, closer spacing, and tie downs are required in high wind or seismic areas. Other requirements may also apply. Check with the local building authority for any special requirements.



Structural Board Association
Representing the OSB Industry

25 Valleywood Drive, Unit 27 • Markham, Ontario, Canada L3R 5L9 • Tel: (905) 475-1100 • Fax: (905) 475-1101

Web Site: www.osbguide.com

E-mail: info@osbguide.com

Member of the
Wood Panel Bureau



Member of the Sustainable
Forestry Certification Coalition

Printed in Canada
EL808 09/01/5000