LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA


Wall Stud Cutting and Notching

2016 California Building Code, Section 2308. *(also see 2016 California Residential Code R602.6)*

CBC 2308.5.8 Pipes in walls. Stud partitions containing plumbing, heating, or other pipes shall be so framed and the joists underneath so spaced as to give proper clearance for the piping. Where a partition containing such piping runs parallel to the floor joists, the joists underneath such partitions shall be doubled and spaced to permit the passage of such pipes and shall be bridged. Where plumbing, heating or other pipes are placed in or partly in a partition, necessitating the cutting of the soles or plates, a metal tie not less than 0.058 inch thick and 1-1/2 inches wide shall be fastened to the each plate across and to each side of the opening with not less than six 16d nails.

CBC 2308.5.9 Cutting and notching. In exterior walls and bearing partitions, any wood stud may be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of its width. Cutting or notching of studs to a depth not greater than 40 percent of the width of the stud is permitted in non-bearing partitions supporting no loads other than the weight of the partition.

CBC 2308.5.10 Bored holes. A hole not greater in diameter than 40 percent of the stud width may be bored in any stud. Bored holes not greater than 60 percent of the width of the stud are permitted in non-bearing partitions or in any wall where each bored stud is doubled, provided not more than two such successive doubled studs are so bored.

In no case shall the edge of the bored hole be nearer than 5/8-inch to the edge of the stud. Bored holes shall not be located at the same section of stud as a cut or notch.
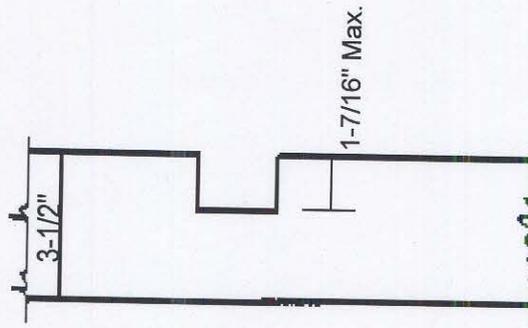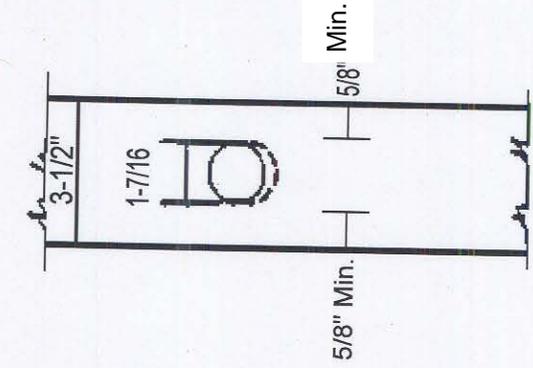

2x6 or wider walls

Bored stud is doubled, provided not more than two such successive doubled studs are so bored
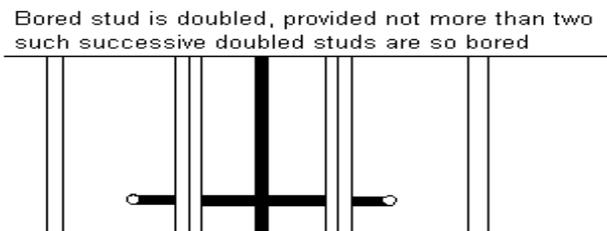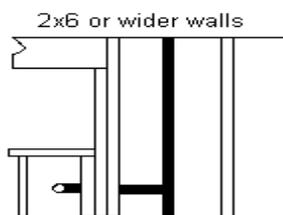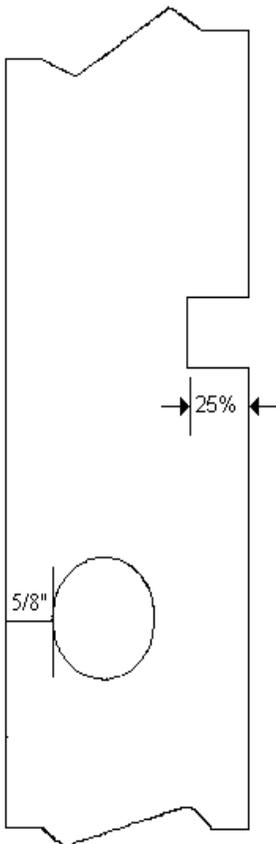
Updated 1/22/18

CUTTING & NOTCHING

3-1/2"

7/8" Max.
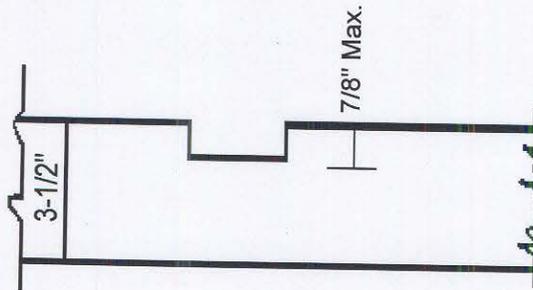
25% allowed exterior & bearing walls

3-1/2"

1-7/16" Max.

40% allowed any nonbearing wall

BORED HOLES

3-1/2"

2-1/8

5/8 Min.

5/8 Min.
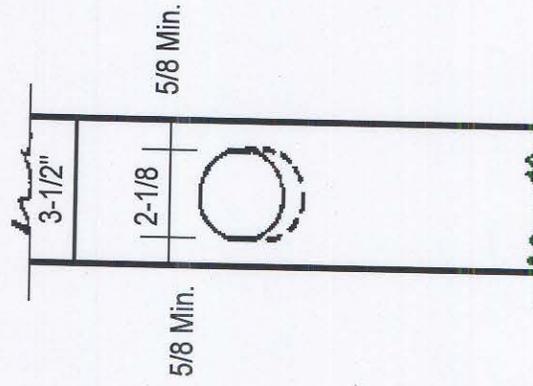
60% allowed any nonbearing wall or bored stud doubled not more than two successive doubled studs

3-1/2"

1-7/16

5/8" Min.

5/8" Min.

40% allowed any wall