ENERGY STAR Homes Northwest Tech Tips
FRAMING CRITICAL DETAILS

1. BOTTOM PLATES — Bottom plates of all exterior walls and party/common walls (ALL floors), and vertical members at foundation step downs are caulked, gasketed, or glued.

2. PLATES AT KNEE WALLS — There is both a top and bottom plate installed at every knee wall.

3. KNEE WALL BACKING — All knee walls are backed with a rigid material (e.g. wall to attic, skylight shaft, wall to porch roof, staircase to attic).

BAD
MAL HECHO
GOOD
BIEN HECHO
SKYLIGHTS — All knee walls are backed with a rigid material (e.g. wall to attic, skylight shaft, wall to porch roof, staircase to attic)

DROPPED CEILINGS — All dropped ceilings/soffits are capped with a rigid material on the attic side and/or the exterior wall

CAP CHASES — All shafts/chases are capped

TUBS/SHOWERS/FIREPLACES — Insulation is installed behind showers, tubs, and fireplaces on exterior, attic, and party walls and rigid sheathing or other supporting material is installed to hold insulation in place
FLOOR SYSTEMS — All floor system cavities between conditioned areas and unconditioned areas (e.g., floor/garages, bonus rooms/attic, cantilevers, porch/floor) are separated by blocking and air sealed.

COMMON WALL — Gypsum shaft walls (e.g., common wall, area separation wall) are capped, closed, or sealed at all exterior boundaries (i.e., top and sides) (MULTIFAMILY ONLY).

CANTILEVERS/OVERHANGS — Overhanging floor cavities are insulated before being enclosed with rigid sheathing. Sheathing is attached to the underside of the cantilever. This can be the exterior finish material if it is continuous and air sealed.

DOUBLE WALLS — Double wall conditions are backed with a rigid material on the exterior side of the interior wall, or are entirely filled with insulation.