

# pocket door rough opening

## proper framing and preparation



### note

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Failure to follow these pocket preparation instructions will lead to air leaks that will make its way into the home resulting in a less energy efficient installation. In some cases drafts will be felt by the home owner and even some sounds of rushing air can be heard and will lead to an unhappy home owner and depending on your market, failed blow tests.

### instructions

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- 1 ▶ Start the process by completing the exterior wall section. Whether it be 2x4 or 2x6.
- 2 ▶ Use the dimensions noted on the shop drawings to locate where the termination of the exterior wall on the pocket side will be. This dimension is called out as the "Pocket RO Width" on your shop drawing. This dimension is a critical one so it must be accurate.
- 3 ▶ Once the exterior opening is complete, you can now begin to frame up the interior wall side of the pocket opening. Do not stand it up in place and secure it at this point. Frame it on the floor and be sure to set it aside for now. "The Pocket RO Width" will be the same as the exterior wall side. Again, do not attach it to the structure until after the pocket door frame has been completely installed.
- 4 ▶ The inside of the pocket on both the interior and exterior wall sides require some preparation prior to installing the door frame. The exterior wall portion must be insulated consistent with the way the rest of the exterior walls are insulated. Once done, you must apply a piece of ½" OSB or plywood to studs on the interior side of the exterior wall pocket. While applying this, a bead of high quality sealant such as a polyurethane caulk should be applied to the perimeter of the sheeting prior to it being nailed into place. This sheeting should cover the entire inside of the pocket from floor to ceiling.
- 5 ▶ Once in place the sheeting should be painted flat black as it may be seen during door operation.
- 6 ▶ The interior side of the pocket wall that you have setting aside should be prepared in much the same way. ½" OSB or plywood sealed at the perimeter and painted black gets applied to this section of the pocket wall as well.
- 7 ▶ Now you are ready to call your installation contractor and have them install your door frame and panels. **Do not put the interior wall section in place yet.** That comes later after installation. This is done to allow for access to all frame and panel members before finishing the pocket wall.
- 8 ▶ Once the installation is complete you can now stand the interior pocket wall up and locate it per the shop drawings and then secure it place by nailing off to the structure and anchoring it to the floor. Be sure to anchor the interior post interlock which should be installed at this point and standing alone waiting to be mated to the wall. Apply shims and fasteners as noted in the installation instructions.
- 9 ▶ Next we recommend that you insulate the interior wall portion for a little extra comfort and sound control prior to sheet rock being applied over the wall. Note: when applying the sheet rock, it should be returned into the applied aluminum post interlock which acts as a sheet rock ground as well as an interlock for the last panel coming out of the pocket.
- 10 ▶ You have now completed the proper set up and fabrication of your pocket wall opening.