

Cold-formed metal framing rough-in inspection checklist

Cold-formed metal framing rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against AISI cold-formed steel standards, the applicable building code. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The framing foreman walking each wall line ahead of the board crew, or the GC's superintendent releasing walls before rock or sheathing. When: After walls are stood and before any face is closed in, while a wrong-gauge stud or missed bridging row can still be pulled and fixed.

Layout and track

- ☐ **Wall lines match the plan and openings are located**
Top and bottom track snapped to the layout, wall lengths and rough openings checked against the framing plan before studs go in. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Track anchored with the specified fastener and spacing**
Anchor type, size and spacing along the track compared to the design, fasteners hitting solid substrate and not sitting in a slab joint or edge crack. 2 photos required

Studs and spacing

- ☐ **Stud gauge and depth match the design**
Bundle labels or the mil marking on the stud checked against the framing schedule for that wall, not assumed from the run next door. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Stud spacing and seating in track verified**
On-center spacing measured on a run, studs seated fully into track and plumb, no gap at the track leg. 1 photo required

Bridging and heads

- ☐ **Bridging rows and clips installed at the required spacing**
Every bridging row present through the wall height with clips or straps fastened both sides, none skipped mid-run. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Deflection track and slip connection at wall heads**
Deflection or slotted track at the head where the wall meets structure above, screws set to allow the designed movement and not pinning the stud solid. 2 photos required