# HALO EXTERRA CORNER BRACING

Like most rigid insulation products Halo Exterra are not designed to resist lateral loads on wall assemblies. This would be addressed using structural sheathing or diagonal bracing. Many builders install rigid insulation over wood sheathing to meet code for lateral strength, and it makes it easier to comply with building codes when the entire home is covered in wood sheathing. But with the rising costs of building materials, reducing the amount of wood sheathing could have a positive impact not just on resources but on overall costs.

The International Residential Code 2015 (IRC) and the National Building Code of Canada 2015 (NBCC) permit intermittent bracing where having only sections of the wall with wood sheathing can effectively act as wall bracing to provide the needed resistance to wind and seismic loads. Sections R602.10.4 of the IRC, and 9.23.13 of the NBCC, provides prescriptive options for numerous wall bracing methods, which is typically installed at corners, and sometimes at regular intervals along longer walls.

Wood or metal let-in braces can be used to replace wood sheathing altogether. However, the capacity of these braces may require engineering or may not always be adequate in areas of higher wind and/or seismic activity. As a result, wood structural sheathing, such as OSB or plywood, is commonly used as wall bracing with continuous exterior rigid insulation.

Other wood structural sheathing products are available that provide multifunctional benefits, such as the Zip System™ Sheathing and Zip System™ R-Sheathing. Both products work well with Halo Exterra and are often used to provide the code required corner bracing.

Zip System Sheathing are laminated OSB sheathing that make the OSB water and air resistant eliminating the need for house wrap. The Zip System R-Sheathing comes with a layer of EPS insulation bonded to the inside face of the Zip System Sheathing. Since both Zip System products are made with OSB as the structural sheathing panel, they can comply with the prescriptive requirements for wall bracing under the IRC and NBCC.

Always refer to the manufacturer's recommend installation practices when using equivalent proprietary products.

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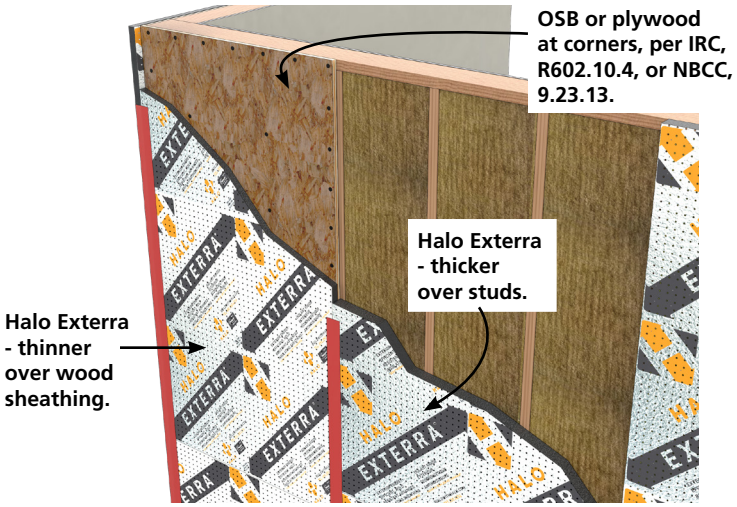
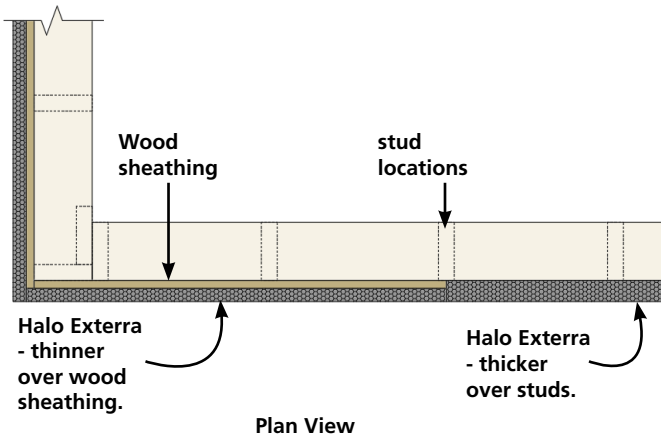
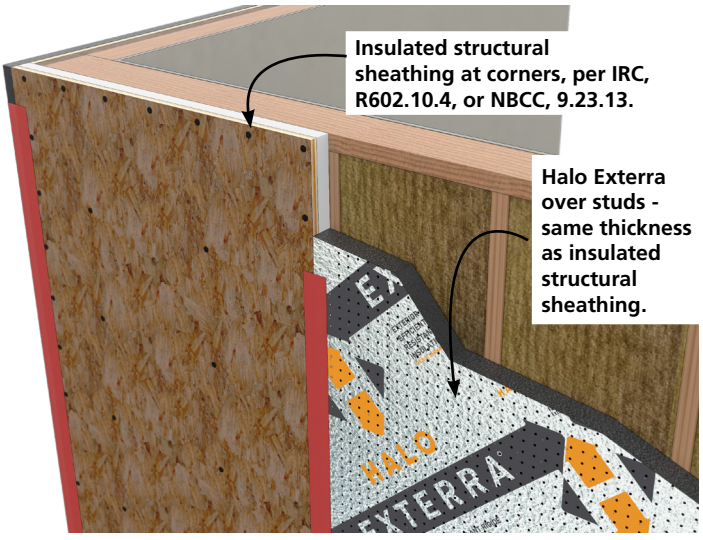
## INSTALLING HALO EXTERRA WITH CORNER WALL BRACING

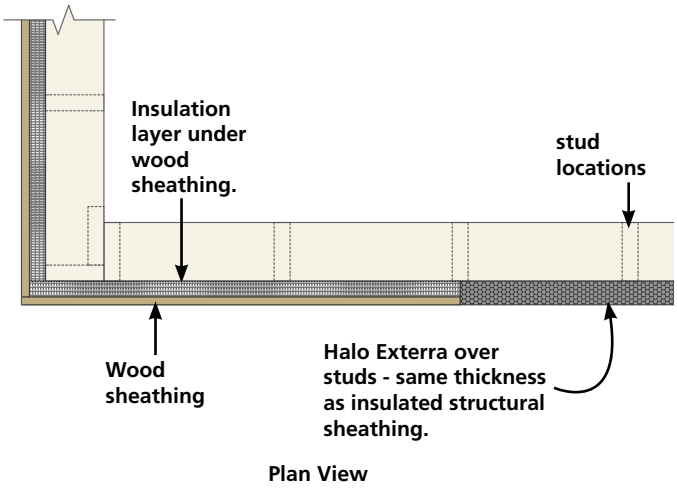
Exterra is installed over the entire home after the structural sheathing are installed as corner bracing. The panels add thickness to the framed wall at the corner regions so Exterra will be thinner over the sheathing than areas without sheathing. This ensures the exterior face of Exterra remains flush along the walls.




Insulated wood structural panels, such as Zip System R-Sheathing, used as corner bracing offers continuous insulation built into the structural sheathing. In this case, Exterra is not required over the structural panel but should be thick enough to match the thickness of the structural sheathing and its underlying insulation layer throughout the entire wall.




For more information refer to the Halo Exterra Install Guide. Or contact us at 855-350-4256(Halo) or info@buildwithhalo.com.