

Chapter 12 - Exterior Dow Board

Things to Consider

- 2" Dow board will be installed from the 2" Dow board installed below grade up to the bottom of the trusses.
- The seams of the panels of the DOW boards will be offset from the seams of the OSB. The offset will improve the thermal break and prevent air loss.
- To allow installation of the 2" Dow board, the windows and doors have been trimmed out with 2" lumber.

Components

Dow Board

Timing & Prerequisites:

- Typically the roof trusses and sheathing will be installed prior to Dow board installation.
- The House/Project Lead will work with the Habitat Supervisor to co-ordinate these volunteer activities.

Materials Needed

Water Plane

2" Dow Board
 Cap Nails 3 ½"
 Tyvek Tape
 4" Home Guard Tape

Phase Specific Tools Needed

Description:

Quantity:

Dow Board

- Drywall Tee (1 per crew)
- Extension Ladders (2 per crew)
- 8' Step Ladder (2 per crew)
- Hand Saw to cut the Dow Board

Activities

Apply Dow Board to Exterior

Critical Issues

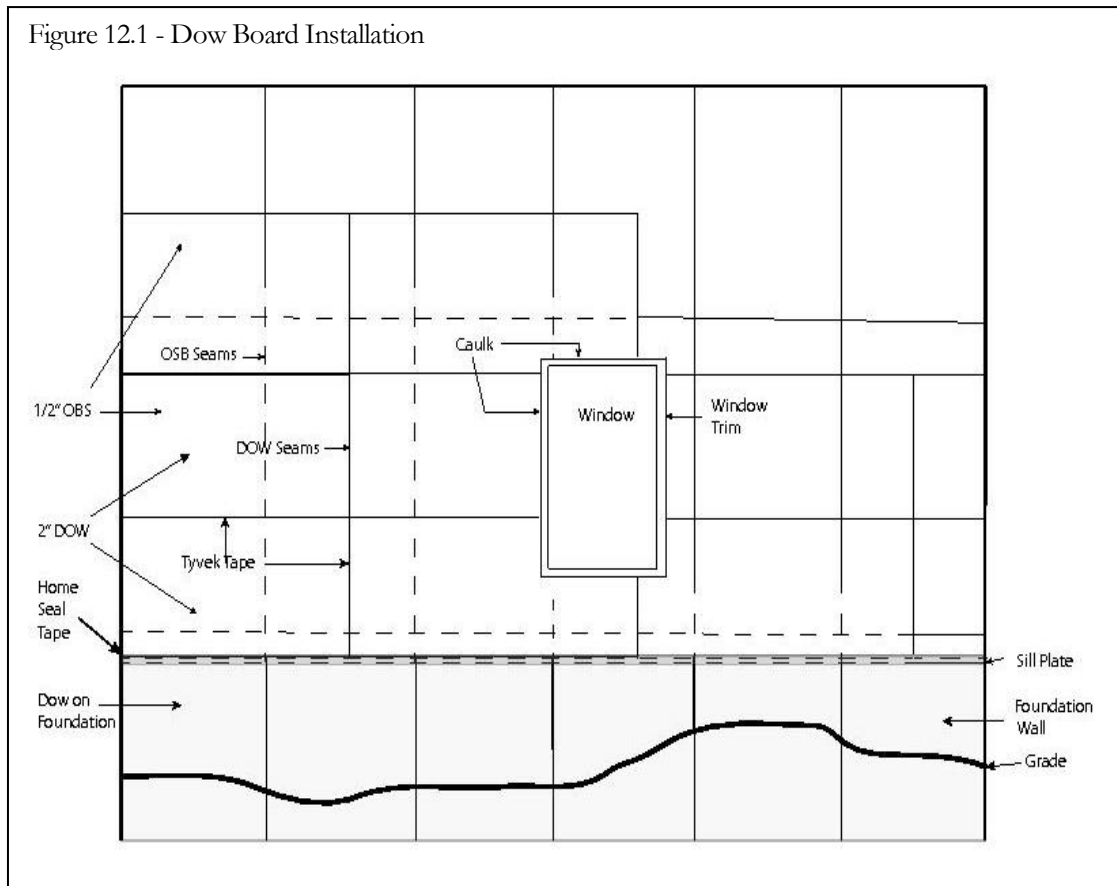
- ◆ Do not allow Dow board seams to coincide with OSB seams

- ◆ **Fit Dow panels snugly together. There should not be voids between panels.**
- ◆ **Cap nails must align with stud to facilitate installation of the siding.**
- ◆ **Ensure the window and door build out trim has been caulked before installing the Dow board.**

Notes regarding activity overall:

- Apply the boards horizontally over the vertical OSB. (See the Figure 12.1).
- Install the boards printed side out
- Use cap nails every 16" vertically.
- Nail into the studs. (Use the nail heads in the OSB as an indicator of the stud's location).
- Begin at the Dow board below grade and work up to the bottom cord of the common trusses or the spacers on the gable end trusses.
- Apply Dow up tight to the edges of the trim boards around the windows and doors. No Voids.

Figure 12.1 - Dow Board Installation



Tape the Seams

Critical Issues

- ◆ All of the Dow board seams must be covered with Tyvek seam tape to prevent air loss.
- ◆ Use 4" Home Guard tape to tape all of the corners and across the seam between the foundation Dow and the wall Dow. Note- this is the same tape used in the windows frames.

- When installation of external Dow boards is complete, add the Home Seal tape over the joint between the foundation Dow boards and the wall Dow boards. Hold the bottom of the Home Seal tape 2" below the seam. Make this edge as straight as possible; it will be used to guide the installation of the Tuff-II coating.
- Apply Tyvek tape to each Dow board joint; ensuring the tape covers the entire joint.
- Extend the tape 3" past each joint including down over the Home Seal.
- Unroll the tape as it is being applied to the Dow board.
 - Unroll the first 6" of tape and stick to the Dow.
 - Continue to unroll the tape and stick it to the Dow.
 - Cut the tape after it is attached to the Dow board.
- Cover the seams at the corners of the house with 4" Home Guard tape.
 - If more than one length of tape is used, start at the bottom and work up so that the upper piece overlaps the lower by 2".
- Cover the seams between foundation Dow and wall Dow with 4" Home Guard tape.

Tips & Techniques / Safety Notes

- ✓ Utility knives should have blades withdrawn when not in use.
- ✓ The surface of the Dow Board can be very slippery.

Quality Assurance Checklist

- Check for voids between panels.
- Check for missing tape.