

SIZE, HEIGHT AND SPACING OF WOOD STUDS

Stud Size (inches)	Bearing Walls				Nonbearing Walls	
	Laterally Unsupported Stud Heights ¹ (feet)	Supporting Roof and Ceiling Only	Supporting One Floor, Roof and Ceiling	Supporting Two Floors, Roof and Ceiling	Laterally Unsupported Stud Height ¹ (feet)	Spacing (inches)
		Spacing (inches)				
2 × 3 ²	—	—	—	—	10	16
2 × 4	10	24	16	—	14	24
3 × 4	10	24	24	16	14	24
2 × 5	10	24	24	—	16	24
2 × 6	10	24	24	16	20	24

Utility grade studs shall be spaced no more than 16 inches on center, or support more than a roof and ceiling, or exceed 8 feet in height for exterior walls and load-bearing walls or 10 feet for interior nonbearing walls.

¹Heights are distances between points of lateral support placed perpendicular to the plane of the wall. Increases in unsupported height are permitted where justified by an analysis.

²Shall not be used in exterior walls.