Chapter 7: Skirt Boards

Most Common Mistakes:

1. Failure to install re-bar hairpins prior to skirt boards.
2. Not setting skirt boards to a level point.
3. Placing skirt boards across door holes (other than entry doors).

Establishing Skirt Board Height

Measure, on each column, from grade to the previously established grade marks. In the event your plan is to pour a concrete slab greater in thickness than a nominal 4" (actual 3-1/2") thickness. Subtract any thickness greater than 3-1/2" from the least measure. Using this distance, measure down each column and draw a mark on the outside of the column, with a pencil, parallel to ground. This mark will be the bottom of each skirt board.

IMPORTANT! If this step is not done correctly, we can pretty much guarantee challenges throughout the entire construction process.

If a future concrete slab installation is contemplated, read and do the next step "re-bar hairpins" ***before*** nailing skirt boards in place.

Re-Bar Hairpins

After marking skirt board bottom location on columns, determine rebar hairpin hole locations for drilling.

See Figure 7-1 & Figure 7-2 &**Figure 7-3 on following pages.**

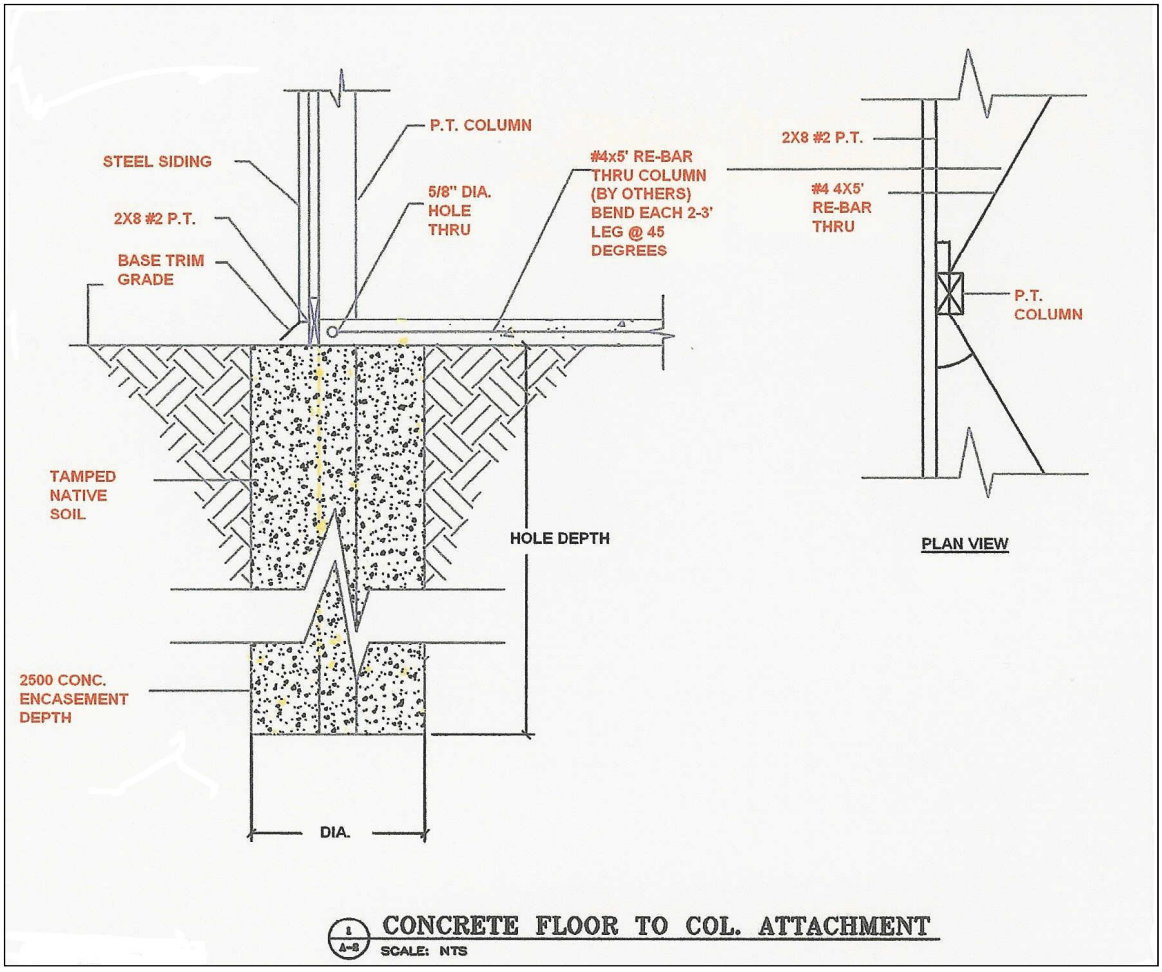
STEEL SIDING
P.T. COLUMN
2X8 #2 P.T.
5/8" DIA. HOLE THRU
#4x5' RE-BAR THRU COLUMN (BY OTHERS) BEND EACH 2-3' LEG @ 45 DEGREES
BASE TRIM GRADE
TAMPED NATIVE SOIL
HOLE DEPTH
2500 CONC. ENCASEMENT DEPTH
DIA.
2X8 #2 P.T.
#4 4X5' RE-BAR THRU
P.T. COLUMN
PLAN VIEW
CONCRETE FLOOR TO COL. ATTACHMENT
SCALE: NTS

Figure 7-1


03/06/2009

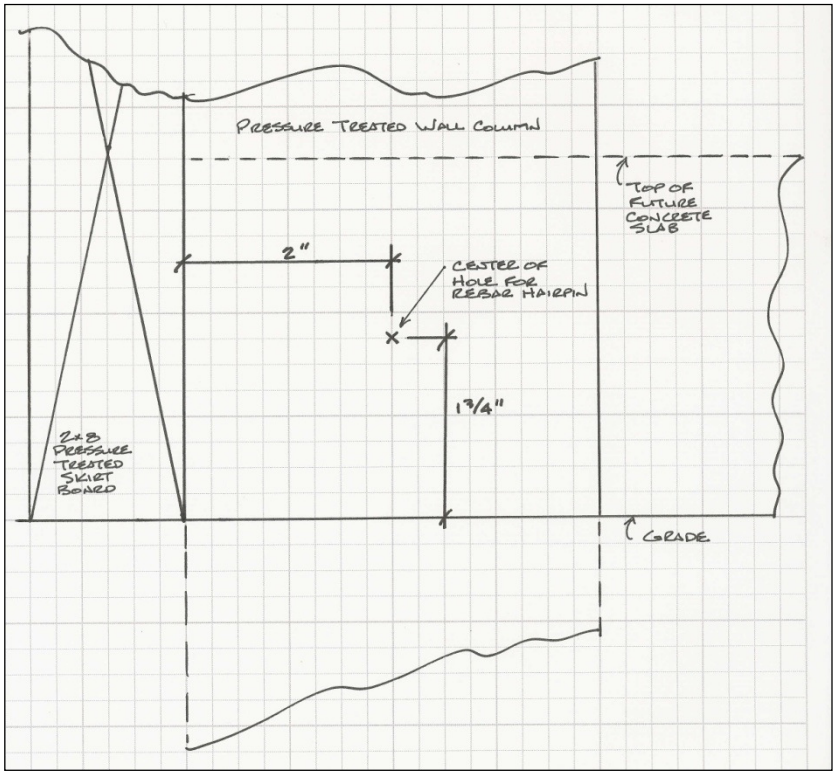
PRESSURE TREATED WALL COLUMN
TOP OF FUTURE CONCRETE SLAB
2"
CENTER OF HOLE FOR REBAR HAIRPIN
1 3/4"
2x8 PRESSURE TREATED SKIRT BOARD
GRADE

Figure 7-2

After properly marking holes on every column, drill each one using a 5/8” bit. Galvanized re-bar is recommended. If not available, coat rebar penetrating column with an asphalt emulsion, or similar, to isolate re-bar from pressure treated wood. NOTE: #4 re-bar is ½” diameter. Cut re-bars (not provided with Hansen Buildings’ kit) into 5’ long segments and insert one through each column, centering the five foot length in hole. Bend rebar legs, by hand, to a 45 degree angle with skirt boards. **See** Figure 7-3**.** Seal rebar, into bored holes, at each column edge with silicone caulking.

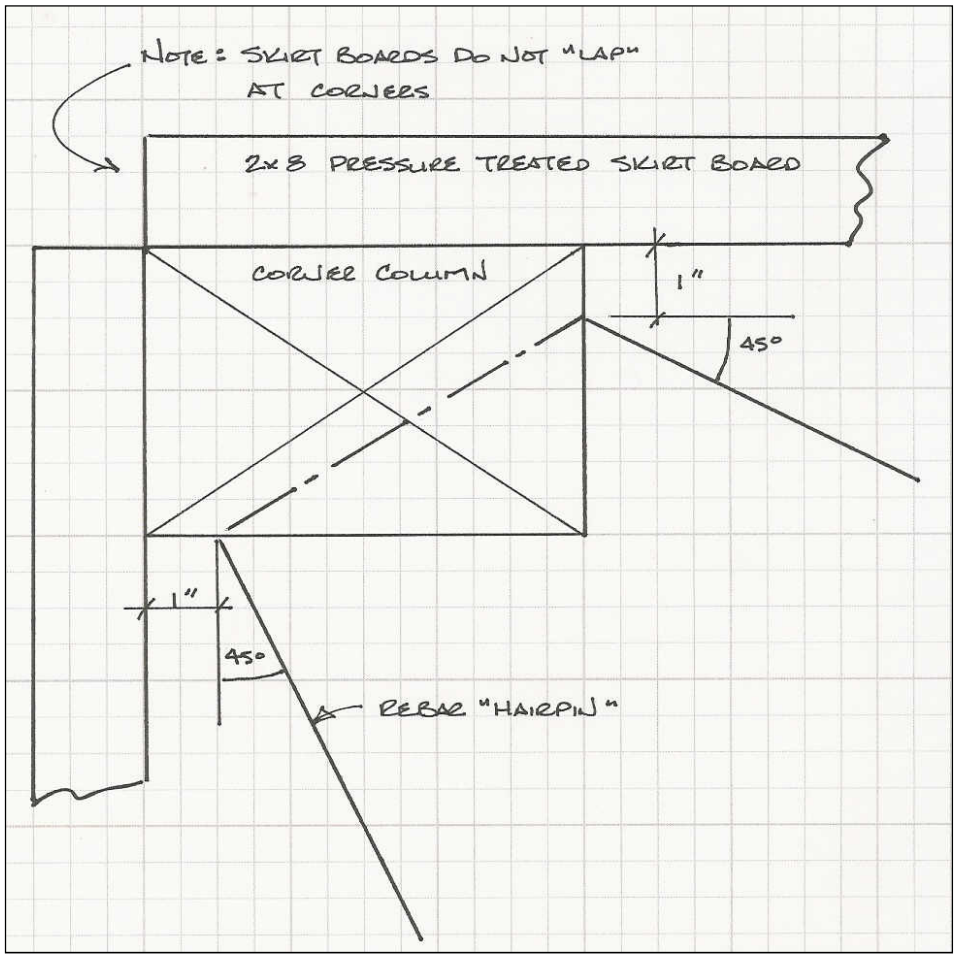

Figure 7-3

Install Skirt Boards

The bottom of each skirt board will be even with the marks placed on the outside of each column. **See Figure** 7-4

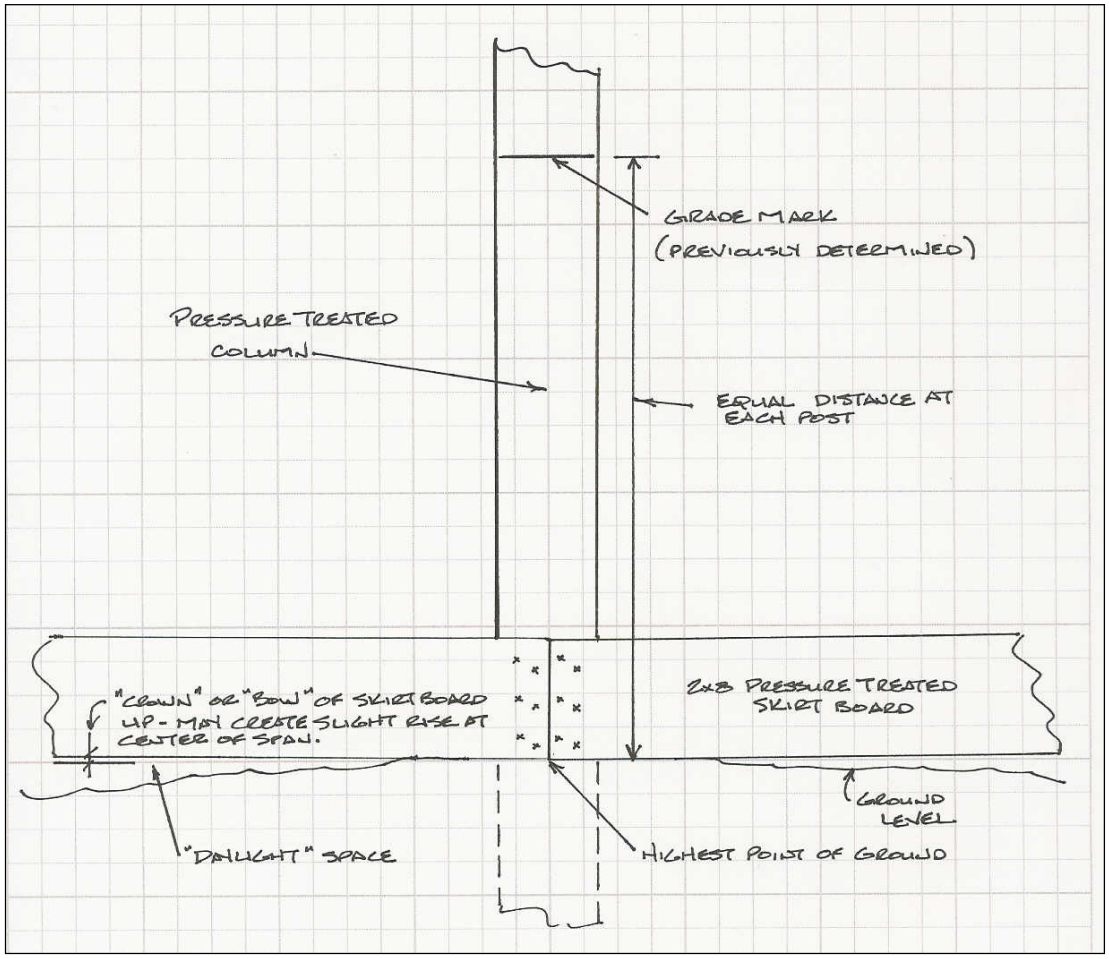

Figure 7-4

If building site is not perfectly level, this means there will be daylight showing beneath some skirt boards.

Place any crowns up and nail according to building plans.

Usually there are six 10d galvanized common nails in each skirt board. **See Figure 7-5**

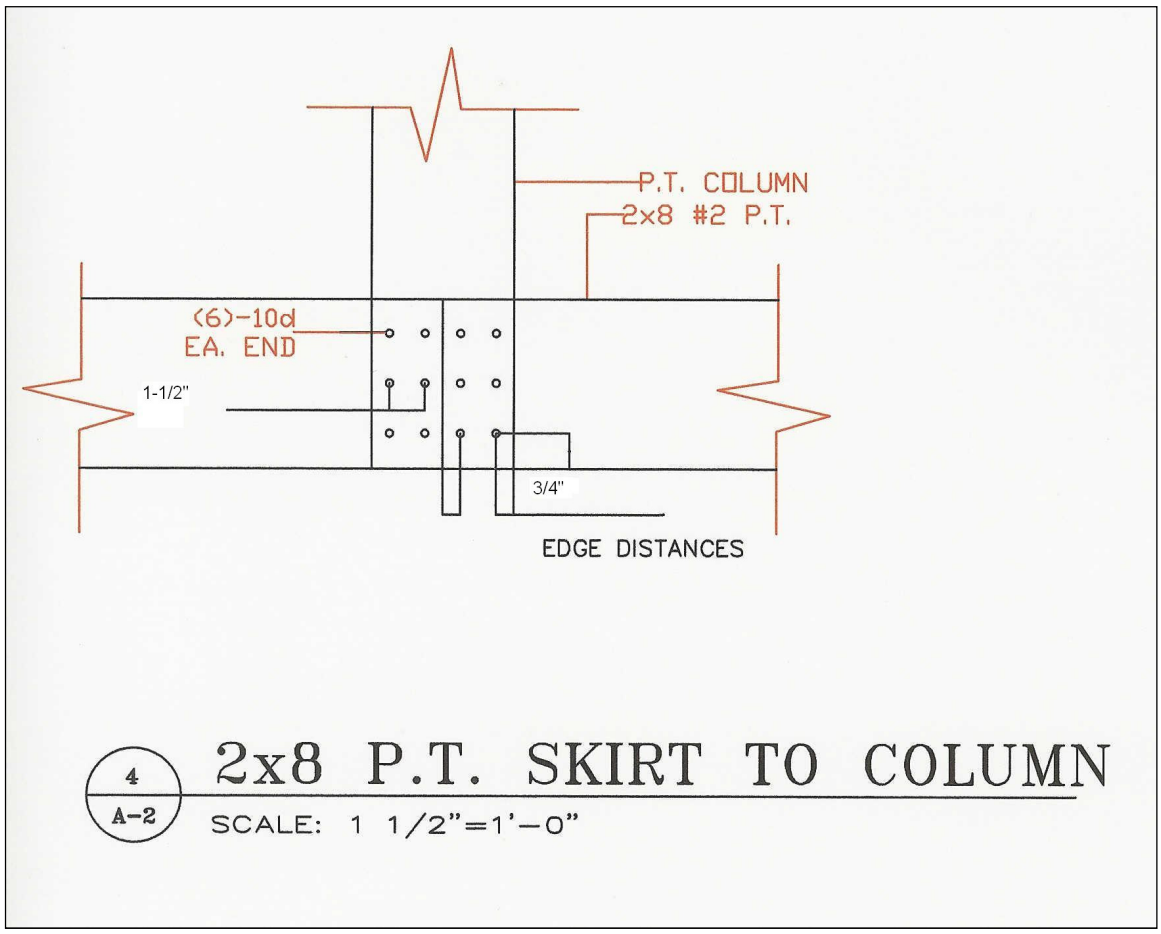

Figure 7-5

Leave skirt board solid at any entry door locations, trying to use a board free from large knots or checks at the future door opening location. The cut for entry door will be made in skirt board at a later time.

No skirt board will be across overhead or sliding door locations.

Why not skirt board across these openings? Because it would be in the way! If a concrete floor is being poured, skirt board top would be 3-3/4" higher than the top of the slab.

When forming to pour a future concrete slab, a 2x4 will need to be placed temporarily across these openings.

In most cases building dimensions and dimensional lumber lengths will allow skirt boards to extend from corner column edge to corner column edge. If building dimensions and skirt board lengths provided allow, skirt boards may be installed so they will extend 1-1/2" past corner columns. **See Figure 7-6**

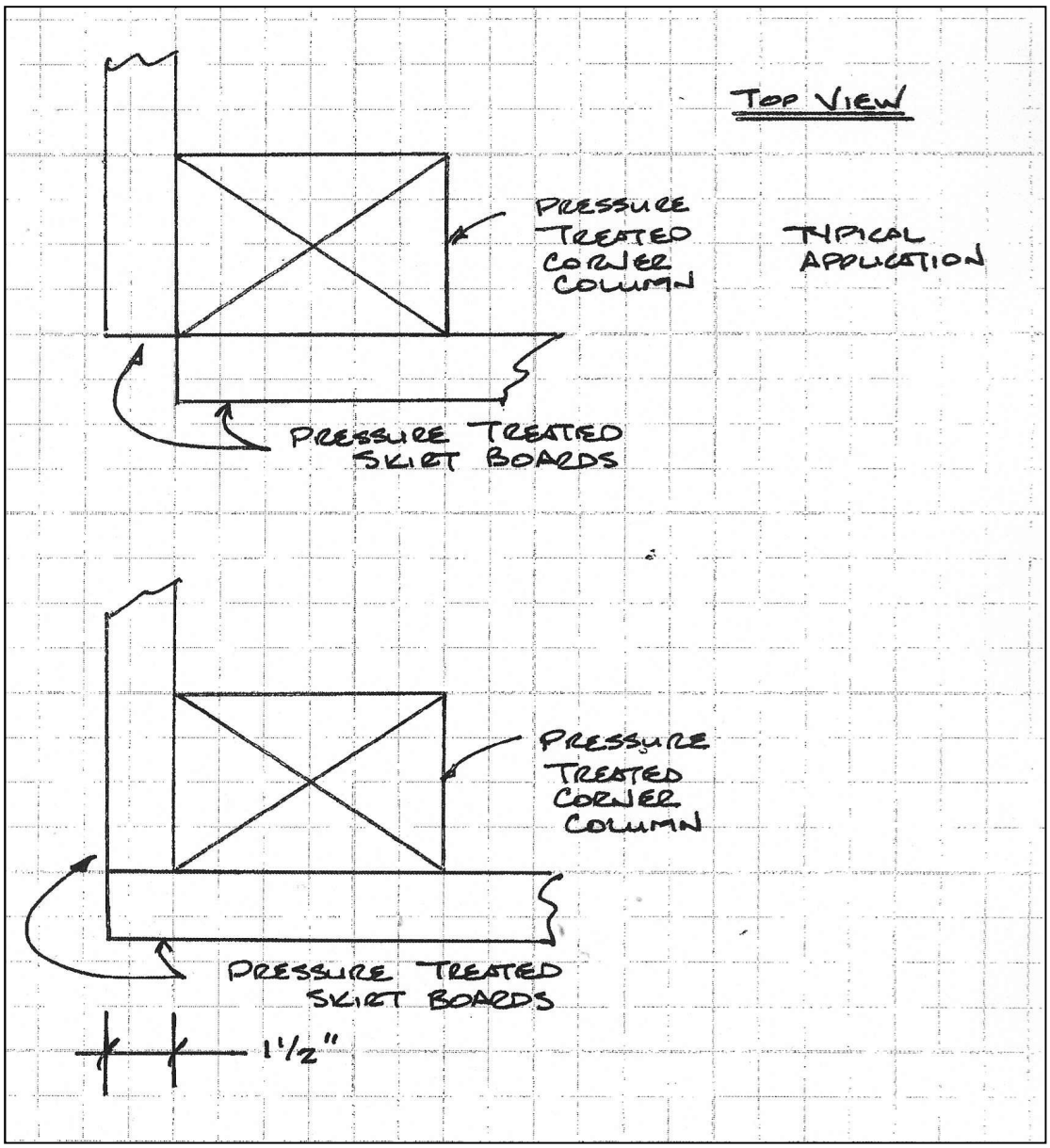

Figure 7-6