



Drywall Clips - Code Notes

Metal or plastic drywall clips can be used to replace a third stud at a corner, at a partition intersection backing stud, or in the ceiling to replace a nailer. The reduced attachment (wood to drywall) resulting from the use of dry wall clips allows small movements without drywall cracking and nail pops. Small movements are normal as wood responds to changes in temperature and moisture content over time.

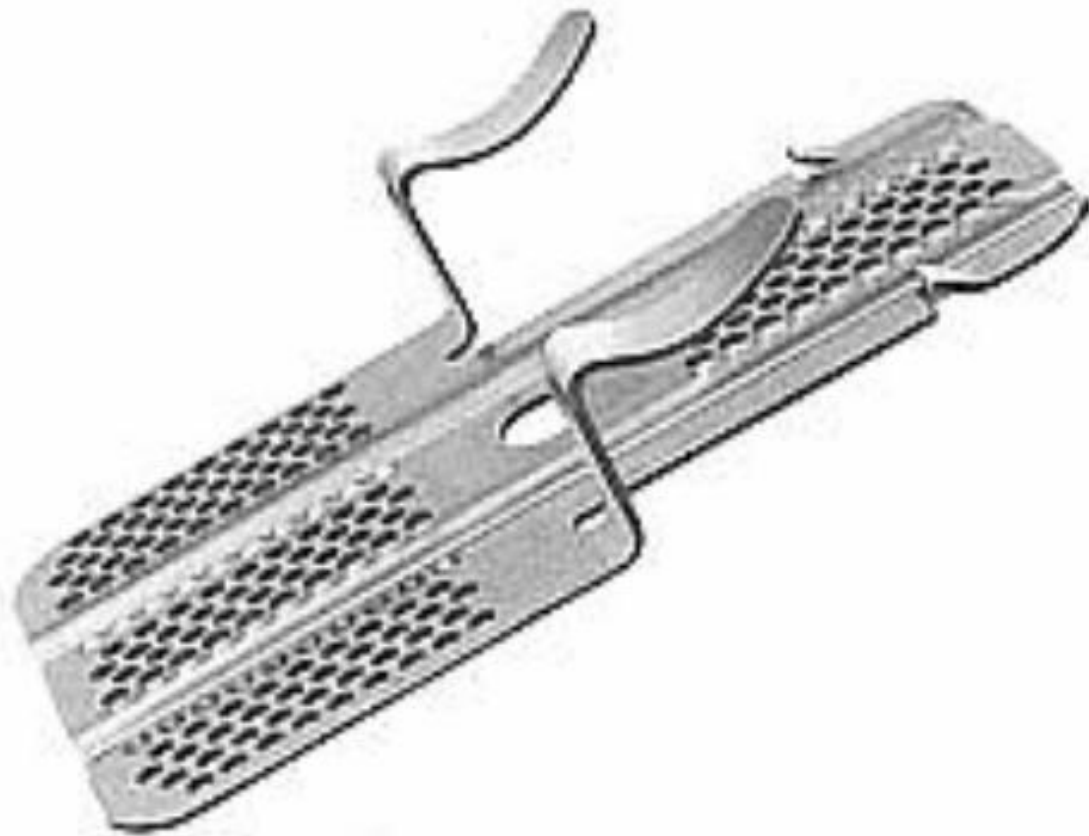
Eliminating unnecessary wood framing within walls can increase the thermal efficiency of the wall system. Less framing allows more insulation to be installed and also eliminates hot and cold spots (from thermal bridging through the frame) within the wall system.

Nails and screws are used only to fasten the clip to the stud; they are not used to fasten the drywall to the clips.

Two-stud corners and drywall clips are often used in combination with airtight drywall, where the drywall and well sealed gypboard seams provide an effective interior air barrier.



Drywall clip.



Drywall fastener.

Code Citations*

IRC 2000 and 2003, Section R602.3 Design and Construction

Exterior walls of wood-frame construction shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and Figures R602.3(1) and R602.3(2) or in accordance with AF and PA's NDS. Components of exterior walls shall be fastened in accordance with Table R602.3(1) through R602.3(4). [Excerpt]

IRC 2000 and 2003, Figure R602.3(2)

Note: A third stud and/or partition intersection backing studs shall be permitted to be omitted through the use of wood back-up cleats, metal drywall clips, or other approved devices that will serve as adequate backing for the facing materials.



*Copyright, 2000, [International Code Council](#) (html,), Inc. Falls Church, Virginia. *2000 International Residential Code*; and
Copyright, 2003, [International Code Council](#) (html,), Inc. Falls Church, Virginia. *2003 International Residential Code*.
Reproduced with permission. All rights reserved.