



## EXCAVATOR'S CHECKLIST

Rev: 01/2025

For use by excavators to ensure accuracy of excavation, efficiency in foundation installation, and proper backfilling and grading. All page references made below use the Superior Walls of America Builder Guideline Booklet (Revised JAN 2025) and the 2024 International Residential Code. Additional copies of this checklist are available for download at [www.superiorwalls.com](http://www.superiorwalls.com).

### 1. Builder Guideline Booklet

- ☐ Obtain your personal copy of the Builder Guideline Booklet

### 2. Site drawings

- ☐ Confirm you are working from the approved drawing before you dig
- ☐ Drawing date: \_\_\_\_\_ Drawing Rev: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Building placement

- ☐ Obtain required benchmark elevations from builder
- ☐ Excavate per set pins from builder

**For additional technical information,  
please see the Technical Resources  
section of our website:**

<https://www.superiorwalls.com/resources/documents-center/>

### 4. Excavation (Pg. 7)

- ☐ Trench dug below frost line
- ☐ Verify with builder either: \_\_\_\_ sump pump or \_\_\_\_ daylight drain
- ☐ If sump pump, number of accumulation tanks \_\_\_\_
- ☐ Provide minimum 2'-0" over-dig at base of foundation (both sides of wall) (Pg. 7 & 13)
- ☐ Properly bench banks (for excavations more than 5'-0" deep, bench or slope in accordance with OSHA Standard 1926.652)
- ☐ If excavating for a Crushed Stone Trench Footing, dig trench 36" wide (Pg. 15)
- ☐ Provide ramp for access to hole if required
- ☐ Pile soil a safe distance from hole
- ☐ Excavate for column pads as required
- ☐ Prepare access driveway, trailer location pads, and crane pad(s)

### 5. Crushed stone footing (Pg. 9)

- ☐ Obtain required stone depth from builder (\_\_\_\_ inches)
- ☐ Dig footing per required stone depth (Table 2 on Pg. 6)
- ☐ Use 4 inch (min. dia.) perforated pipe (Figure 2 on Pg. 6) and locate pipe (Foundation Drainage on Pg. 8)
- ☐ Place drain pipe (Figure 2 on Pg. 6 and Foundation Drainage on Pg. 8)
- ☐ Clean crushed stone (1/2" Max; Pg. 9)
- ☐ Consolidate stone in a maximum of 8" lifts with plate vibrator
- ☐ Direct drain pipe to accumulation tank(s) or daylight (Foundation Drainage on Pg. 8)
- ☐ Evenly grade the stone to within +/- 1 inch of level
- ☐ Leave enough stone behind for use in final grading by the wall installation crew
- ☐ Install filter membrane on top of stone footing prior to backfill

### 6. Concrete floor (Pg. 18)

- ☐ Provide clean 4" base (R506.3.2)

Allowing heavy equipment to operate near backfilled walls may adversely affect the Superior Walls panels. Keep heavy equipment at a safe distance.

7. Backfilling (Pg. 40)

- ☐ Get approval to backfill from builder

**NOTE: To comply with building code and Superior Walls of America, Ltd. requirements, the framing / decking connection at the top of the Superior Walls panels and the floor slab or other restraint method to resist the total lateral loads exerted at the bottom of the Superior Walls panels MUST be completed prior to backfilling.**

8. Final grading (Pg. 40)

- ☐ Slope the final soil grade a minimum of 6" fall within the first 10'-0" to divert ground water away from foundation (Pg. 40 and R401.3)
- ☐ Finished soil grade must be at least 6" below top of the Superior Walls panel (Pg. 40)