

Fine Homebuilding

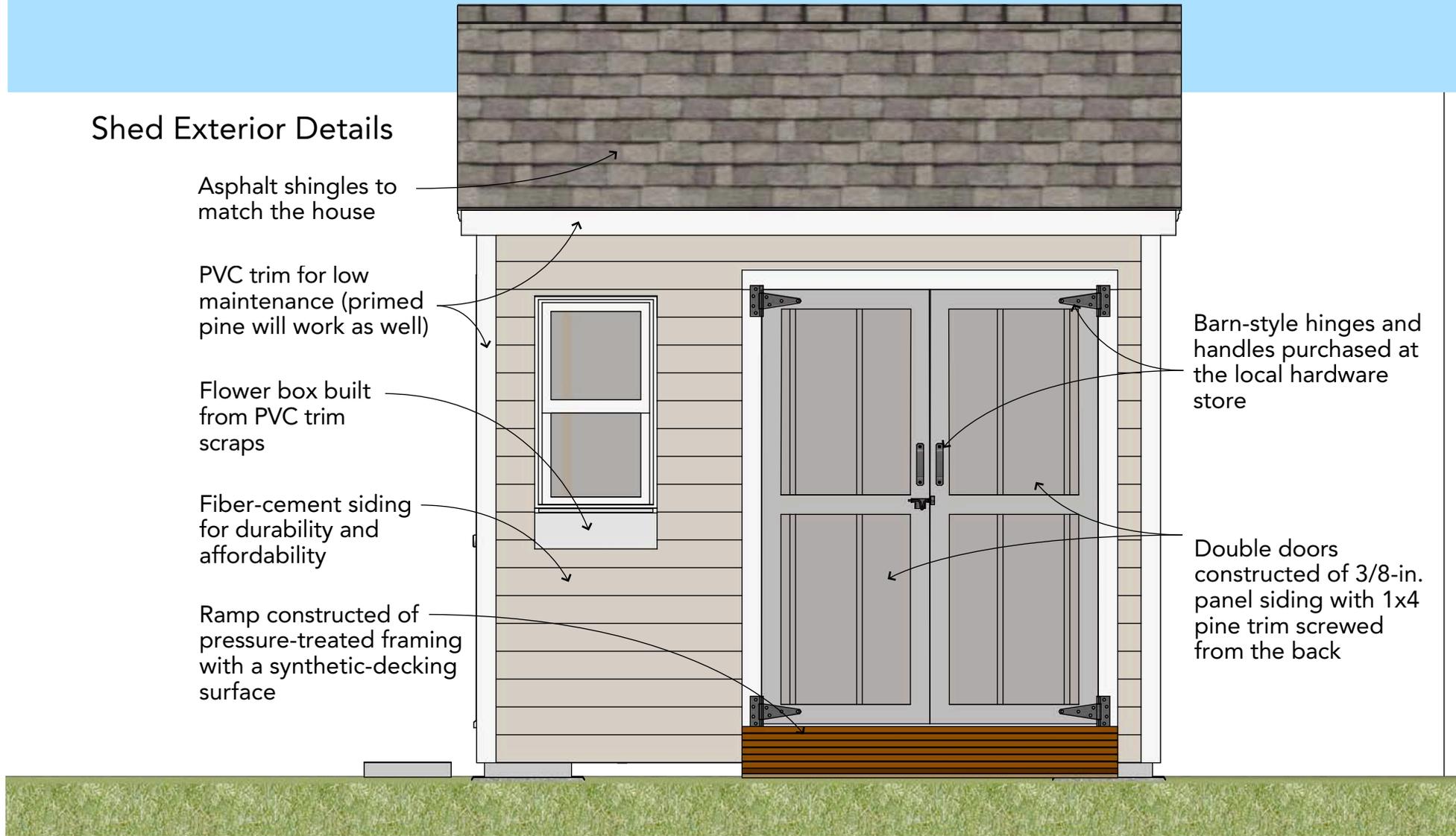
Cottage Shed Plans



Front Elevation

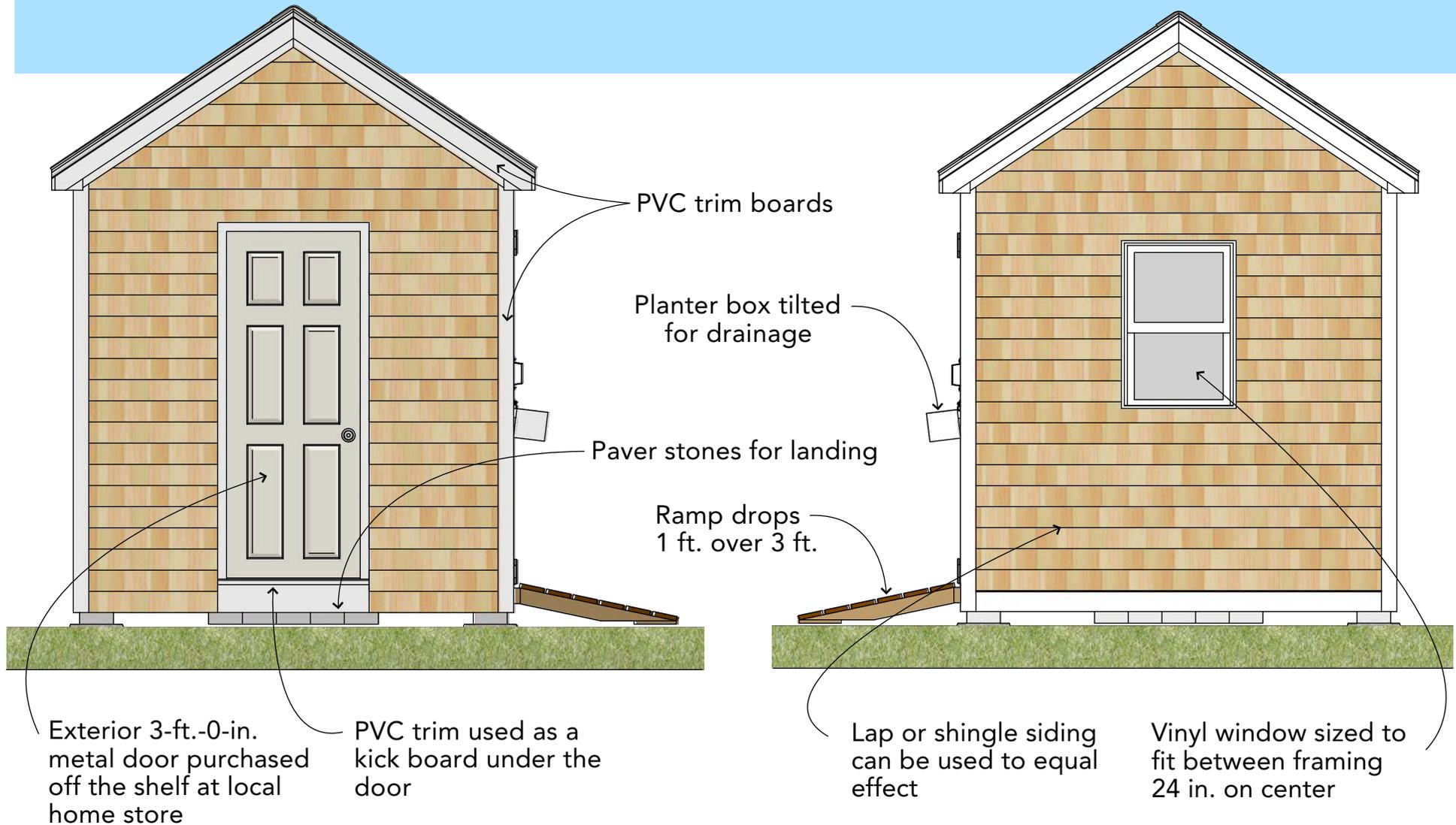
Designed with a cottage look, this small shed has clapboard siding on the front, a double door, a ramp to allow access for motorized yard equipment, a window to provide light, and a flower box for decoration.

Shed Exterior Details



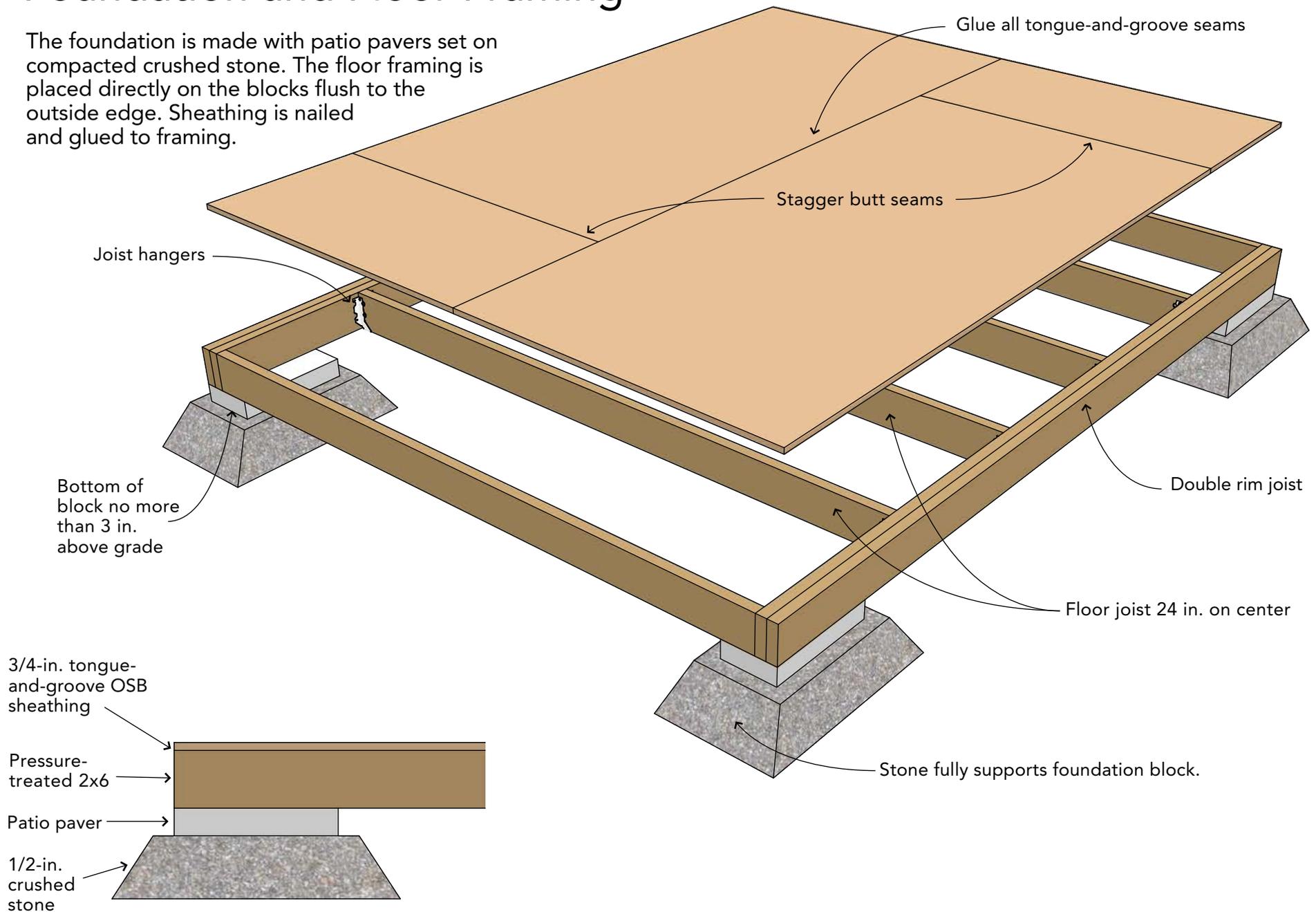
Side Elevations

The two gable-end walls look nearly identical with white-cedar shingles, an overhanging eave, and PVC corner-board trim. One wall (below left) incorporates a metal utility door instead of a window and has a stone-paver landing outside the door. While the walls may look similar, they were constructed using different methods. See the gable-wall framing detail for more information.



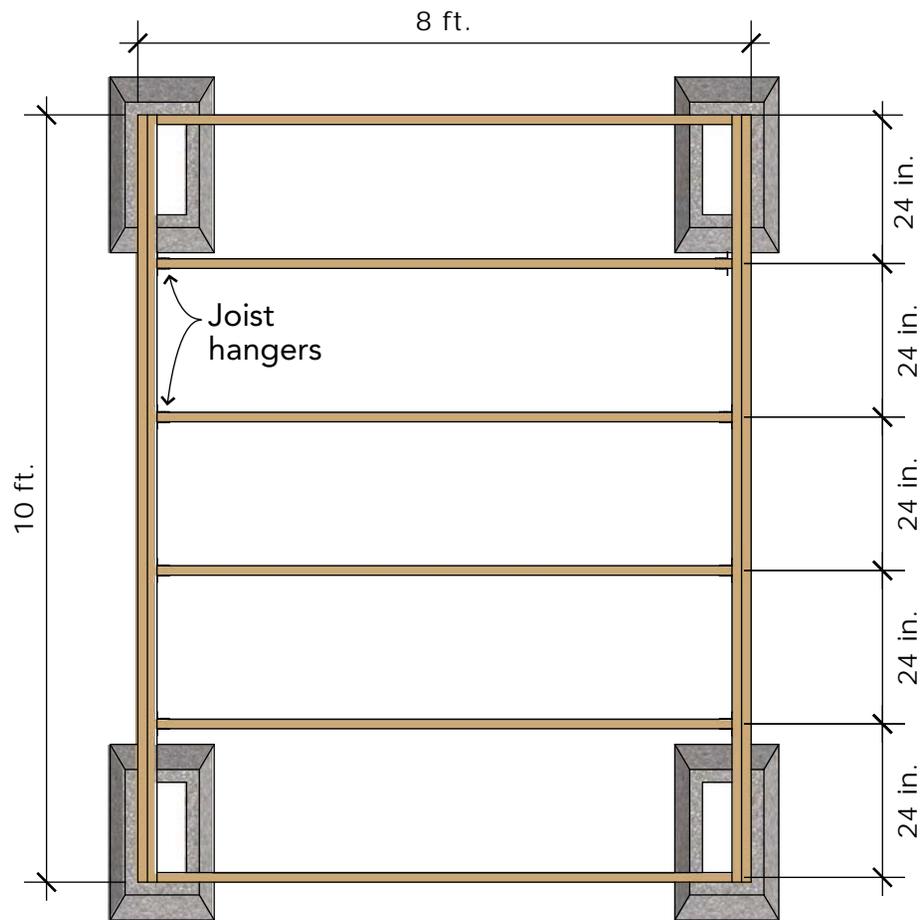
Foundation and Floor Framing

The foundation is made with patio pavers set on compacted crushed stone. The floor framing is placed directly on the blocks flush to the outside edge. Sheathing is nailed and glued to framing.

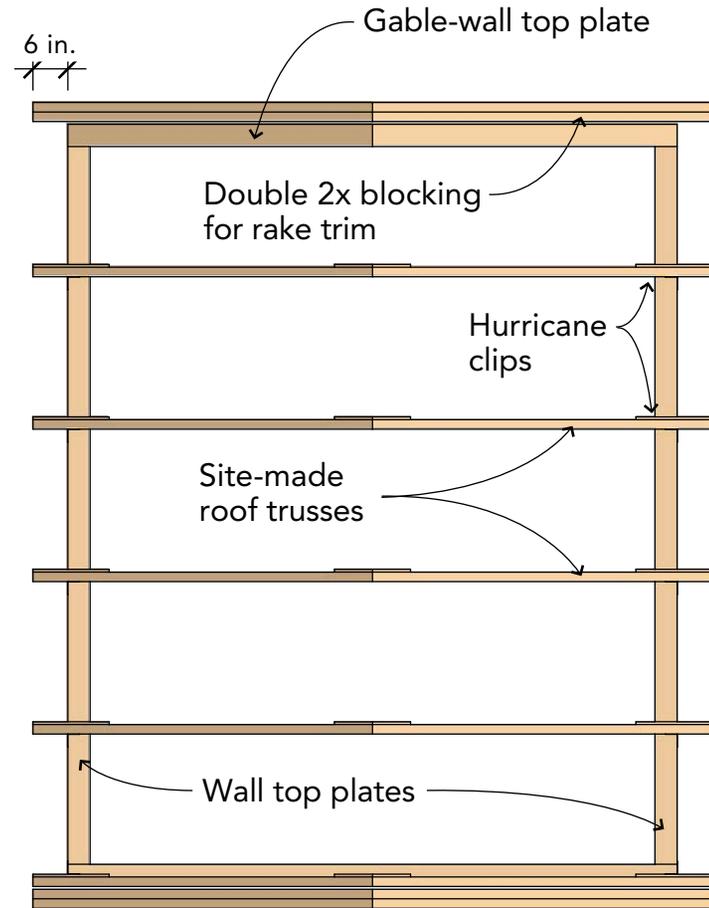


Floor and Roof Framing Detail

The floor-joist framing and the roof-truss framing are nearly identical when looked at from plan view, and both have an outside perimeter of 8 ft. by 10 ft. Both have infill framing 24 in. on center.



Floor framing

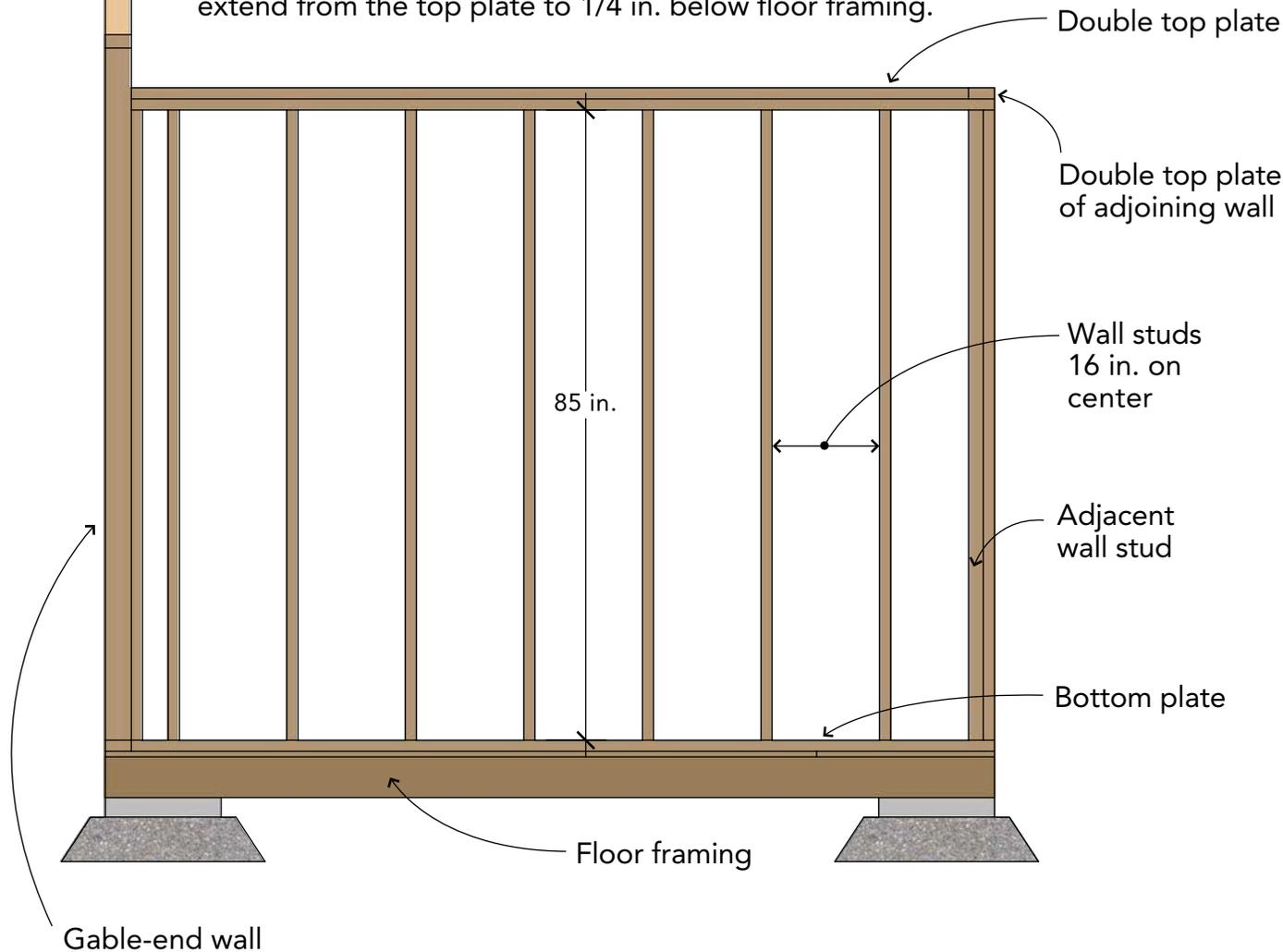


Roof framing

Rear Wall Construction

Framing Detail

The back wall is framed with 2x4 framing 16 in. on center. There are now windows or doors to interrupt the framing layout. There is a double top plate to help support the roof load and a single bottom plate to connect the wall to the floor framing. Studs are 85 in. to allow wall panels to extend from the top plate to 1/4 in. below floor framing.



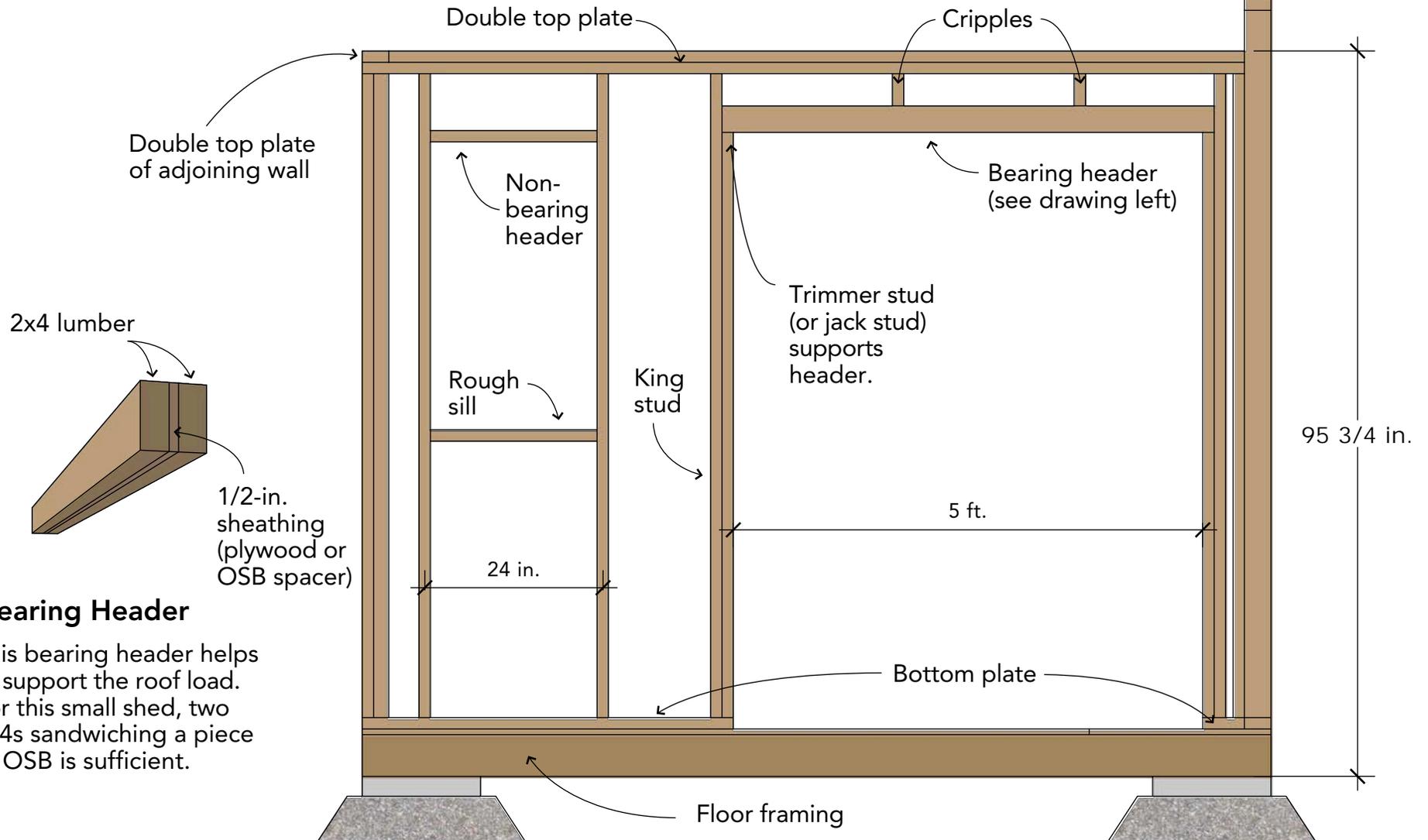
Siding Detail

The rear siding consists 3/8-in.-thick OSB (oriented strand board) panels. The panels help to give the shed its shear strength while the exterior of the panel is textured with a barn-style rustic channel and is primed for painting.

Front Wall Framing Detail

Framing for the front wall has to accommodate an opening for the double doors and a window. The double-door opening gets a bearing header (see detail lower left). The window is sized to fit between studs 24 in. on center. This allows the window opening to use a non-load-bearing header and sill.

Gable-end wall

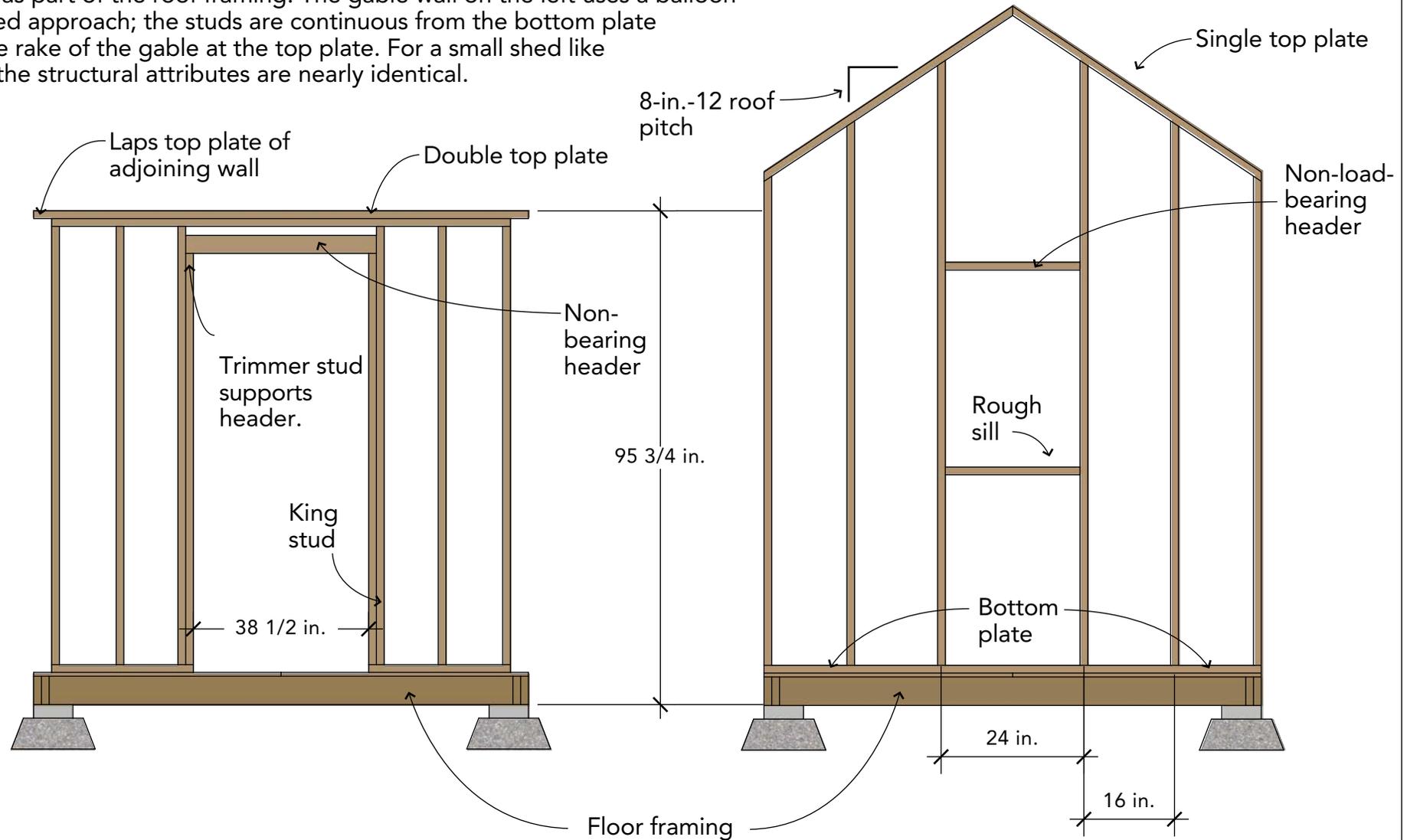


Bearing Header

This bearing header helps to support the roof load. For this small shed, two 2x4s sandwiching a piece of OSB is sufficient.

Gable-Wall Framing Detail

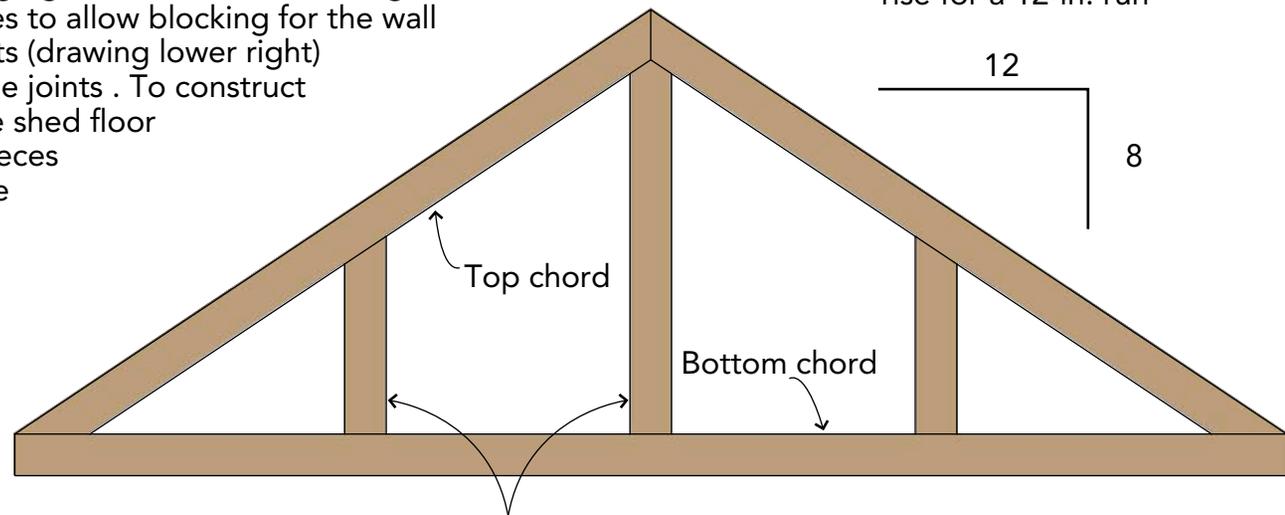
While the exterior of these gable walls looks similar, the framing varies considerably. The traditionally framed wall on the left incorporates a double top plate that overlaps the adjacent walls. Studs are 16 in. on center, and there is a non-load-bearing header above the door. The gable will eventually be made from a truss as part of the roof framing. The gable wall on the left uses a balloon-framed approach; the studs are continuous from the bottom plate to the rake of the gable at the top plate. For a small shed like this, the structural attributes are nearly identical.



Truss Framing Detail

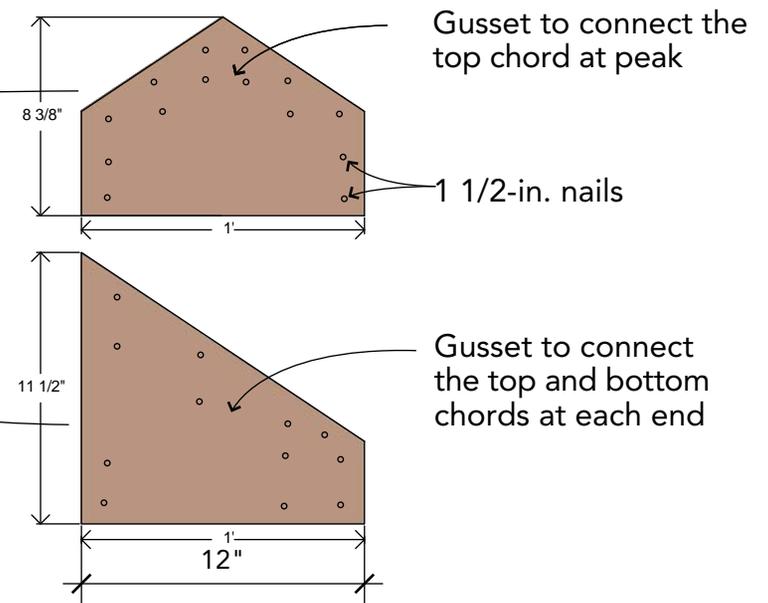
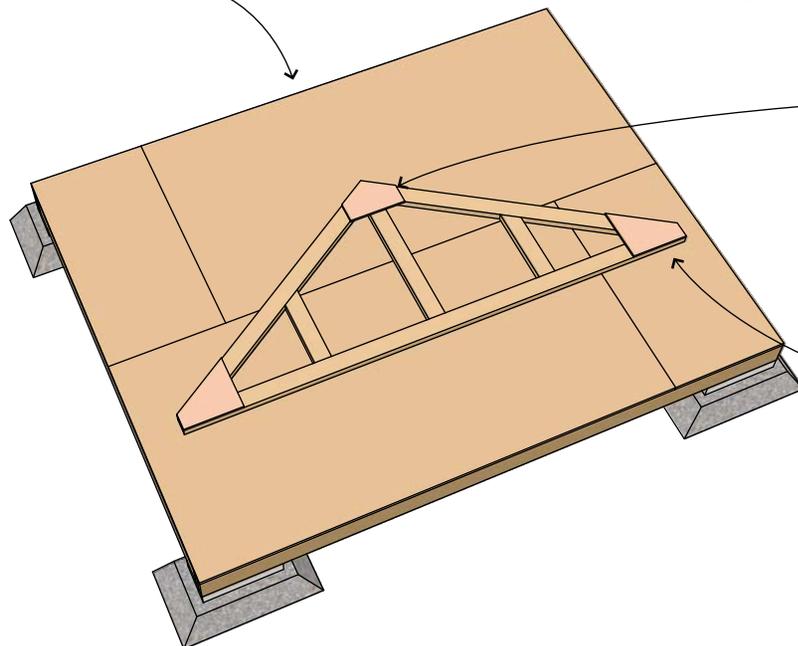
The roof trusses are constructed with 2x4 lumber to make up the bottom chord and two top chords (drawing right). The vertical blocking is necessary for the gable-end trusses to allow blocking for the wall sheathing. Plywood or OSB gussets (drawing lower right) are screwed to the 2x chords at the joints. To construct the trusses, draw the shape on the shed floor before the walls go up. Cut the pieces to fit on the shape, then fasten the gussets to make each truss rigid.

Roof pitch equals a 8-in. rise for a 12-in. run



Assemble the truss on the floor deck before the walls are assembled.

Blocking required only on gable-end truss

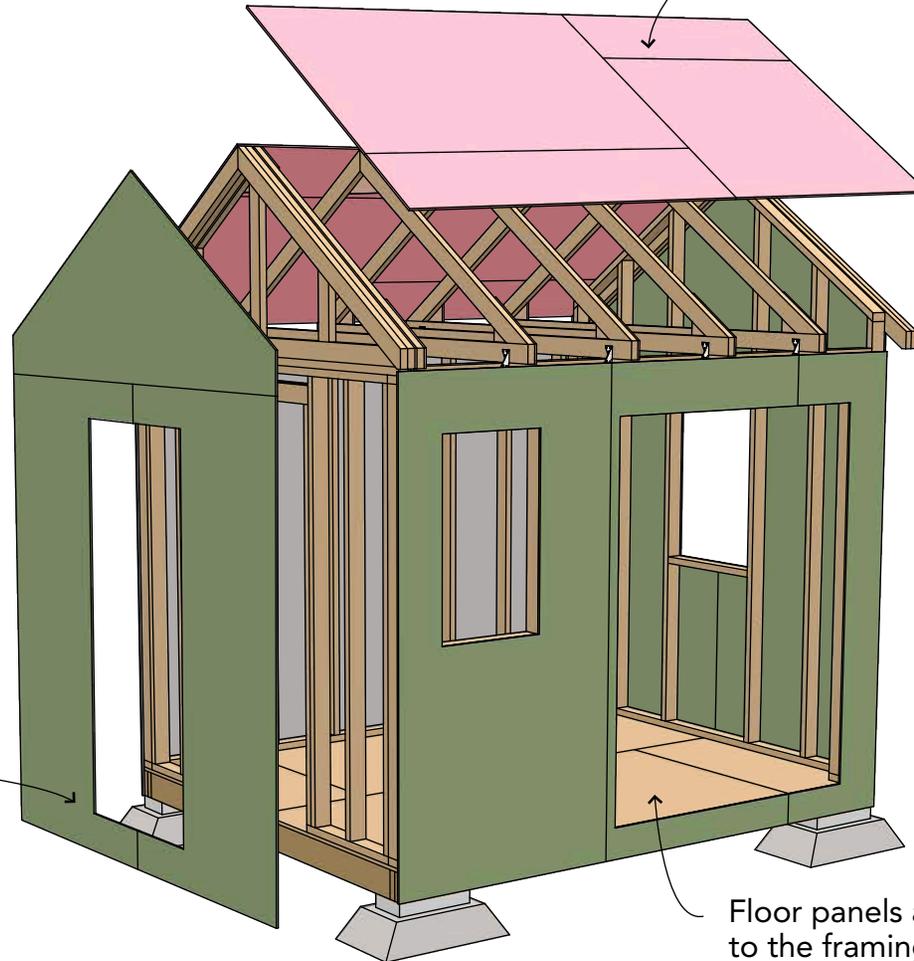


Sheathing Detail

With traditional 2x framing, plywood or OSB (oriented strand board) panels provide most of the strength to resist shear forces such as wind or the weight of the structure itself. To maximize the the strength, panels are staggered at the seams, fastened to the framing lumber at regular intervals such as 12 in. to 16 in., and are glued to the framing under the floor panels.

Stagger seams to prevent a weak configuration of so-called railroaded seams.

Doors and windows are cut out of full panels.



Floor panels are glued to the framing with subfloor adhesive.