



## HOW TO PROPERLY DESIGN AND ENGINEER AN OPENING FOR AN ACTIVWALL UNIT

When designing the rough opening to support an operable wall system, a number of criteria must be taken into consideration. If the unit is top-hung, which means the weight of the door or window panels are supported by the overhead structure, the structure must be designed to carry the entire weight of the unit with very limited deflection due to the addition of live loads (never more than 1/4" during live loading and unloading). The structure will also need to support the unit laterally when doors are open, as much of the weight will be pulling away from the opening perpendicularly.

The supporting rough opening header should be designed by a qualified engineer to support the full live and dead loads with the vertical deflection of the ActivWall Unit header, the lesser of L/720th of the span and 1/4", whichever is less. When there are no live loads added, the unit header should be perfectly level across the opening.

Most ActivWall units include a recessed structural sill. This usually requires a recessed pocket in the floor and structure below the sill to support the whole system. When the subfloor system is made from framed floor joists and plywood, some wood blocking may be required for fastening and support.

**ActivWall will not be held responsible for the costs associated with improperly prepared openings.**