GABLE FRAMING USING LADDER-PANELS ON ROOF TRUSSES

INSTRUCTION SHEET #11

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Gable Trusses

For each gable of the house, modify one roof truss in the following way:

1. Cut off the peak-run in line with the outside of the wall framing.
2. Provide an even nailing surface on one side of the gable truss. On truss-plated trusses, this is accomplished by omitting the plywood gussets from the exterior surface.
3. Insert horizontal 2" x 4" nailers two feet up and parallel to the bottom chord to support the gable sheathing. (If horizontal bevel siding is to be used without sheathing, vertical nailers are needed.)

The sheathing on the gable trusses should be applied before they are put into place. In applying the sheathing, allow space on the bottom chords of the trusses so that the wall sheathing can be lapped and nailed on the truss for adequate anchorage.

The design of the gable trusses requires that the sheathing be at least 24 inches wide if it is to be applied horizontally. Narrower sheathing can be used if it is to be applied vertically.

Two ladder-panels are needed for each gable. Both the side-rails and rungs of these panels, which resemble ladders, are made of 2" x 4" pre-cut members. The panels can be assembled on the floor of the house or in the attic.

The rungs of the ladder-panels should be spaced the same as the truss look-outs; therefore, the usual spacing is 24 inches on center. In order to nail the top rungs of adjoining panels together at the peak of the roof, the rungs must be long enough to extend beyond the peak of the truss. To prevent Shop drawing.

Ladder-Panel

Two ladder-panels are needed for each gable. Both the side-rails and the rungs of these panels, which resemble ladders, are made of 2" x 4" pre-cut members. The ladder-panels are adjustable and can be adapted to conventional roof framing. This gable design offers the following advantages:

• The ladder-panels provide an air path for the ventilation of an attic. This path is long enough to minimize rain infiltration.
• It can be used with most wall systems.
• Roof trusses of the same design as those used for the rest of the roof can be used as gable trusses with slight modifications.

Wall Framing

Place the roof trusses in the usual manner. Set the gable trusses on the end walls so that they line up with the outside of the framing, then proceed with the gable framing. In pre-assembled panel construction, replace the continuous 2" x 8" headers with a plate and shores of the necessary thickness.

The eave soffit-liner, which is installed last, encloses part of the ladder-panel. The eave soffit-liner is installed last to form a transition from the horizontal eave soffit to the sloping gable soffit. Vent openings are cut near the outer edge of the soffit and the screen mesh applied to the back of the soffit.