

Temporary Expansion Joints with AdvanTech® Subflooring

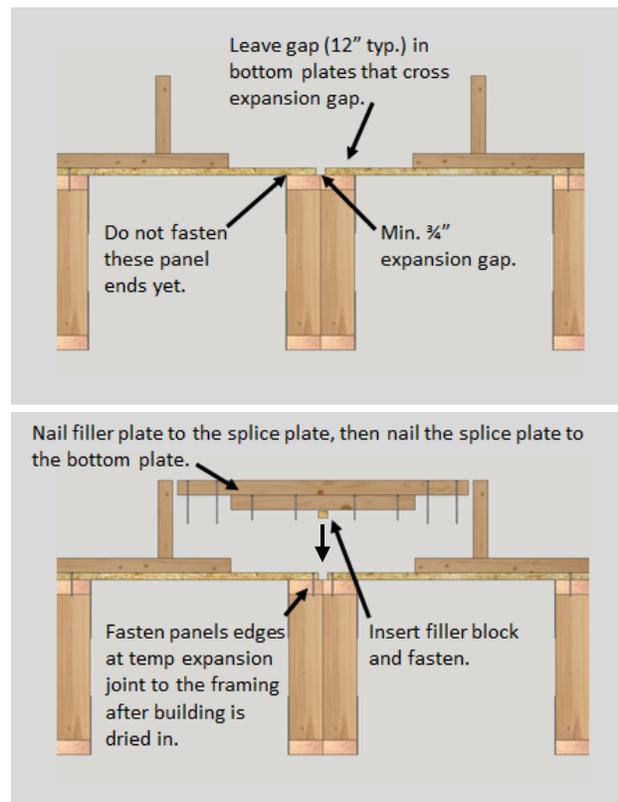
To minimize the risk of potential end wall displacement caused by the subflooring and framing members expanding as a result of weather exposure during construction, temporary expansion joints should be installed for every length of continuous uninterrupted subfloor that is 80-feet or longer. This helps prevent the possibility of accumulative linear growth of the floor system which can lead to walls becoming out-of-plane. Temporary expansion joints are not designed to replace or supplement permanent expansion joints which are designed to allow the structure to account for dynamic movement throughout the service life of the structure. The remaining portions of this Tech Tip will go into greater depth about detailing temporary expansion joints with AdvanTech® subflooring.

AdvanTech® Subflooring

AdvanTech subflooring panels should be spaced $1/8''$ on all panel edges¹ which should accommodate for most building expansion/contraction needs; however, for longer buildings a minimum $3/4''$ expansion joint should be provided for every 80-feet of continuous uninterrupted length.

Some temporary expansion joints specify floor joists to be fastened together. Refer to engineer-of-record for any design requirements to fasten floor framing members together at the expansion joint. Do not fasten the panel edges at expansion joints until the building has been dried-in², but nail and glue the remaining portion of the panels to framing members.

Once the building is dried-in, attach panel edges to the framing at the expansion joint. Fill the expansion joint gap with strips of AdvanTech® subflooring. Attach the filler block to the splice plate then install into the gap between the sill plate as shown.



1. The 8-foot ends of AdvanTech subflooring panels are Tongue and Groove (T&G) which are self-spacing approximately $1/8''$.
2. Dried-in is defined as having the roof and wall coverings, windows, and doors fully installed.