

# Adding Waterproofing Drainage to your Superior Walls

Changes with the water table or with the condition of a house's foundation drainage system could necessitate the addition of a new drainage system. When the landscaping or exterior features prevent fixing or adding to the drainage on the exterior side of the house, a new drainage system can be added beneath the basement floor slab on the interior side of the foundation walls.

Most Superior Walls systems are installed on a footing of crushed stone and rely on the framing/decking connection at the top and the floor slab at the bottom of the Superior Walls panels to prevent movement from the installed position. Because of this, any modifications to the basement floor slab and to the crushed stone under the floor slab must be done in a way that does not compromise the integrity of the crushed stone footing, and be done in a way that continues to brace the base of the walls to prevent them from being pushed in by the backfill pressure.

To keep the wall panels properly braced and supported, here are a few recommendations.

1. When cutting out portions of the floor slab around the perimeter of the basement, leave a 12" portion of the existing floor slab against the wall panels approximately every 10 feet. Leave a foot wide portion in between the full slab and the base of the walls when cutting out sections of the slab, every 10' or so and at panel joints, to brace the wall until the new drain pipe can be installed and removed portions of the slab are replaced with new concrete.

**NOTE:** 12" concrete support pieces should be spaced at the panel joints and corner wall joints. Spacing between these supports should not exceed 10'. See details below.

2. Keep the new drain pipe system a minimum of 12" away from the interior edge of the Superior Walls panels, tunneling it under the 12" wide portions of slab that were left in place. It is important to *not* dig too deeply and also to *not* place the new drain pipe within the load bearing area of the crushed stone footing beneath the wall panels. See details below and pages 4-9 of the Superior Walls Builder Guideline Booklet for more information (<https://www.superiorwalls.com/resources/documents-center/>).

As with most construction related projects, each job should be individually reviewed or performed by a person competent in applying and understanding the structural design principles involved.

