DRILLING AND NOTCHING OF STUDS
2019 CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE R602.6

**Notching**

1. **Notching.** Any stud in an exterior wall or bearing partition may be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of its width. Studs in nonbearing partitions may be notched to a depth not to exceed 40 percent of a single stud width.

2. **Drilling.** Any stud may be bored or drilled, provided that the diameter of the resulting hole is no more than 60 percent of the stud width, the edge of the hole is no more than 5/8 inch (16 mm) to the edge of the stud, and the hole is not located in the same section as a cut or notch. Studs located in exterior walls or bearing partitions drilled over 40 percent and up to 60 percent shall also be doubled with no more than two successive doubled studs bored. See Figures R602.6(1) and R602.6(2)

**Exceptions:** Use of approved stud shoes is permitted when they are installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.
DRILLING AND NOTCHING OF STUDS IN INTERIOR NON BEARING WALLS
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R602.6(2)

For 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

FIGURE R602.6(2)
NOTCHING AND BORED HOLE LIMITATIONS FOR INTERIOR NONBEARING WALLS