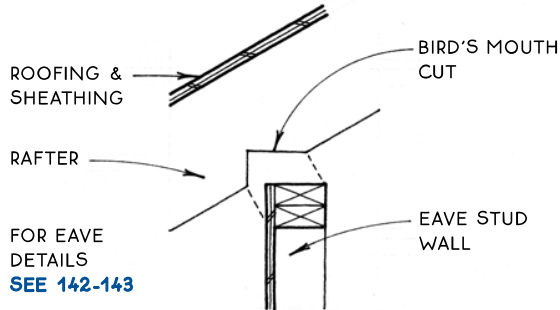
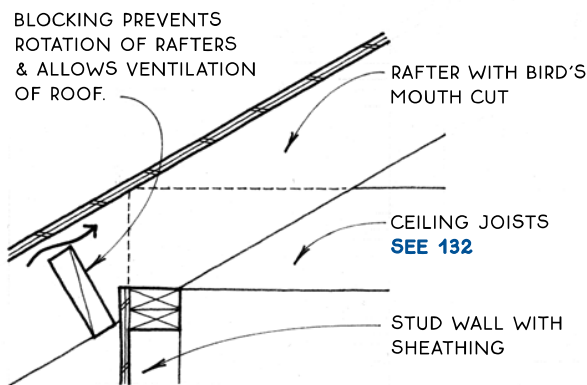


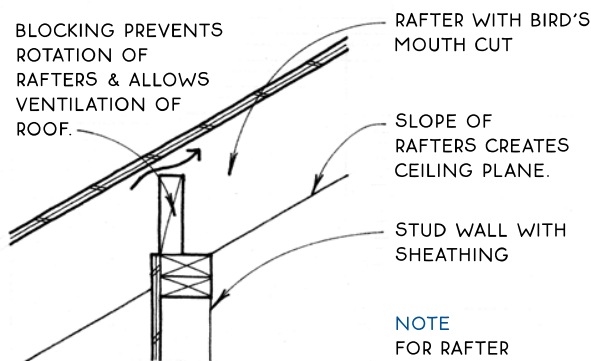
At walls or beams that support them at the eave, rafters are cut at the point of support with a notch called a bird's mouth.



The width of the bird's mouth is equal to the width of the sheathed stud wall (or unsheathed wall if sheathing is to be applied later). The underside of the rafters should meet the inside corner of the top of the wall. This is especially important if the ceiling is vaulted and a smooth transition between wall and ceiling is desired (see below).



Flat Ceiling

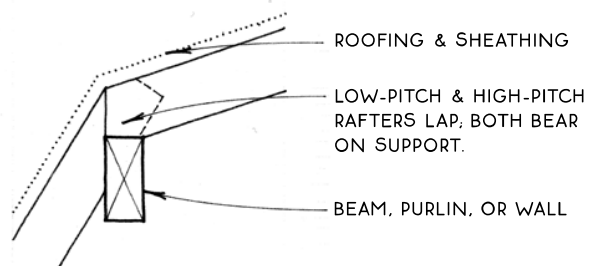
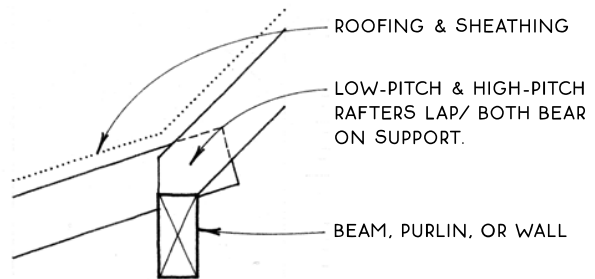


Vaulted Ceiling

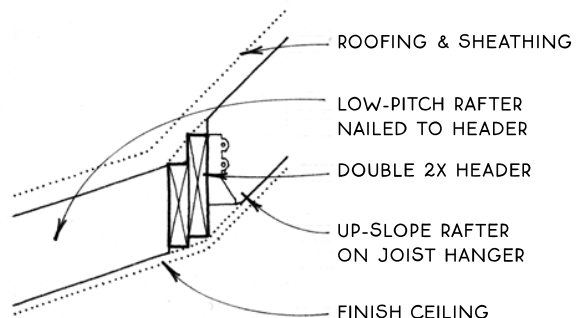
NOTE  
FOR RAFTER  
SUPPORT AT RAKE  
WALL, SEE 134C.

Wherever the pitch of a roof changes from shallow to steep (as in a gambrel roof) or from steep to shallow (as in a shed dormer) the two ends of the rafters must be supported. If the pitch change occurs over a wall, the wall itself will provide the support.

If the pitch change does not occur over a wall, the support will have to be provided by a purlin or a beam (header).



Pitch Changes with Support Below



Pitch Changes without Support Below

**A** RAFTER/EAVE WALL  
Bird's Mouth Cut

**B** ROOF PITCH CHANGE