PICTURED GOOD AND POOR PRACTICE IN FRAME HOUSE CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

The following sketches, which are self explanatory, were taken from U. S. Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin No. 1756, "Selection of Lumber for Farm and Home Building," which can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., for 5 cents per copy.

![Poor Practice vs. Good Practice Diagram]

**Figure 1.**—Good and poor practice with foundation sills.

![Poor Practice vs. Good Practice Diagram]

**Figure 2.**—Good and poor practice for foundations of temporary buildings.
Figure 3.—Good and poor practice with window sash and frames
POOR PRACTICE

- Poor miter joints permit entrance of water and result in paint peeling
- Siding in contact with ground favors decay
- No drainage for downspout results in damp cellars and paint peeling

GOOD PRACTICE

- Protected by tight, well-made miter joints
- Siding at least 1 foot above ground reduces decay hazard
- Gutter to take water at least 4 feet from foundation

Figure 4.—Good and poor practice with siding and downspouts.

POOR PRACTICE

- Bottom of beam rests on column and obstructs ventilation
- No flashing favors paint peeling and decay
- Inadequate ventilation favors paint peeling and decay
- Direct contact with wood or concrete favors decay

GOOD PRACTICE

- Bottom of beam raised off column to provide good ventilation
- Protected by metal flashing
- Base well ventilated
- Asphalt paint retards absorption of moisture at base of column

Figure 5.—Good and poor practice with porch columns.
FIGURE 6.—Good and poor practice with porch steps.
Figure 7.— Good and poor practice with girders embedded in concrete or masonry.

Figure 8.— Good and poor practice with drip caps.
Figure 9.—Good and poor practice with posts.

**Poor Practice**
- Posts with high decay hazard at base
- Posts within load-bearing post results in settling
- Post in contact with soil absorbs moisture

**Good Practice**
- Posts with low decay hazard at base
- Post above floor level and protected from moisture by asphalt paint or other waterproof coating
- Footing under load-bearing post prevents settling

Figure 10.—Good and poor practice with garage doors.

- Unputtee glass with wood cleats allows moisture to collect and favors decay
- Moisture collects at point of contact of exterior braces with panel and favors decay
- Panel set into bottom rail permits moisture to collect and favors decay
- No drainage away from floor under door favors decay
- No window
- Bracing on inside of door
- Shiplap, boards, siding, or ceiling
- Concrete threshold provides drainage away from door
- V-foistic siding or drop siding the full length of door eliminates water pockets
**Figure 11.**—Good and poor practice with water pipes.

**Figure 12.**—Good and poor practice with window glass.
For additional illustrations and explanation of the above and other construction details see U. S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Publication No. 358, "Use and Abuse of Wood in House Construction," which can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at ten cents per copy.