



Troubleshooting Framing Issues in Home Designer

Reference Number: **KB-00401**

Last Modified: **September 24, 2025**

This article also applies to the following legacy products:
Pro

DESCRIPTION

Some walls, floors, ceilings, and roofs are not generating framing. Why is this, and how do I resolve this issue?

RESOLUTION




In Home Designer 2026 and newer, as well as in Home Designer Pro 2025 and prior, there are a few settings that may cause incorrect or no framing to generate.

Floor framing for the first floor will not generate without the presence of a foundation. If a foundation has been generated, floor and ceiling framing may not generate if certain attributes located within the Room Specification dialog are not checked or if the Floor and/or Ceiling Structure is defined incorrectly.

Wall framing will not regenerate if Retain Wall Framing is turned on or if the framing layer of the wall is not specified as framing.

Roof framing will not regenerate if Retain Roof Framing is turned on.

To ensure that floor and ceiling framing generates properly

1. If you're unable to create floor framing for your first floor, you likely have not generated a foundation. Navigate to **Build> Floor> Build Foundation**  and generate a foundation for your structure.
2. If you're encountering other issues with floor and/or ceiling framing and a foundation has been created, determine the area or room in which your structure is not framing correctly. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click to select the room, then click on the **Open Object**  edit tool.
3. On the **STRUCTURE** panel of the **Room Specification** dialog that displays, ensure that **Roof Over This Room** and **Flat Ceiling Over This Room** are checked, as well as **Floor Under This Room**.


If **Flat Ceiling Over This Room** is unchecked, the ceiling will follow the pitch of the roof, unless custom ceiling planes have been created.


Room Specification


General
Structure
 Deck
 Deck Support
 Moldings
 Wall Covering
 Fill Style
 Materials
 Components

Absolute Elevations


Floor Above:


Ceiling: 


Floor: 


Floor Below: 


Relative Heights

Rough Ceiling: 

Finished Ceiling: 

SWT To Ceiling: 

Ceiling Below: 

Stem Wall: 

SWT = Stem Wall Top

Ceiling

☒ Roof Over This Room
☒ Flat Ceiling Over This Room
☐ Shelf Ceiling
☐ Use Soffit Surface for Ceiling

Ceiling Structure: ☒ Default

Ceiling Finish: ☒ Default

Floor

☒ Floor Under This Room
☐ Floor Supplied by the Foundation Room Below
☐ Monolithic Slab Foundation
☒ Build Foundation Below

Floor Finish: ☒ Default

On Structure Resize: ☒ Lock Floor Top ☐ Lock Floor Bottom

Floor Structure: ☒ Default


- Next, verify that the Floor Structure and Ceiling Structure are defined correctly by selecting the **Edit** button.


Room Specification


General
Structure
 Deck
 Deck Support
 Moldings
 Wall Covering
 Fill Style
 Materials
 Components

Absolute Elevations


Floor Above:


Ceiling: 


Floor: 


Floor Below: 


Relative Heights

Rough Ceiling: 

Finished Ceiling: 

SWT To Ceiling: 

Ceiling Below: 

Stem Wall: 

SWT = Stem Wall Top

Ceiling

☒ Roof Over This Room
☒ Flat Ceiling Over This Room
☐ Shelf Ceiling
☐ Use Soffit Surface for Ceiling

Ceiling Structure: ☒ Default

Ceiling Finish: ☒ Default

Floor

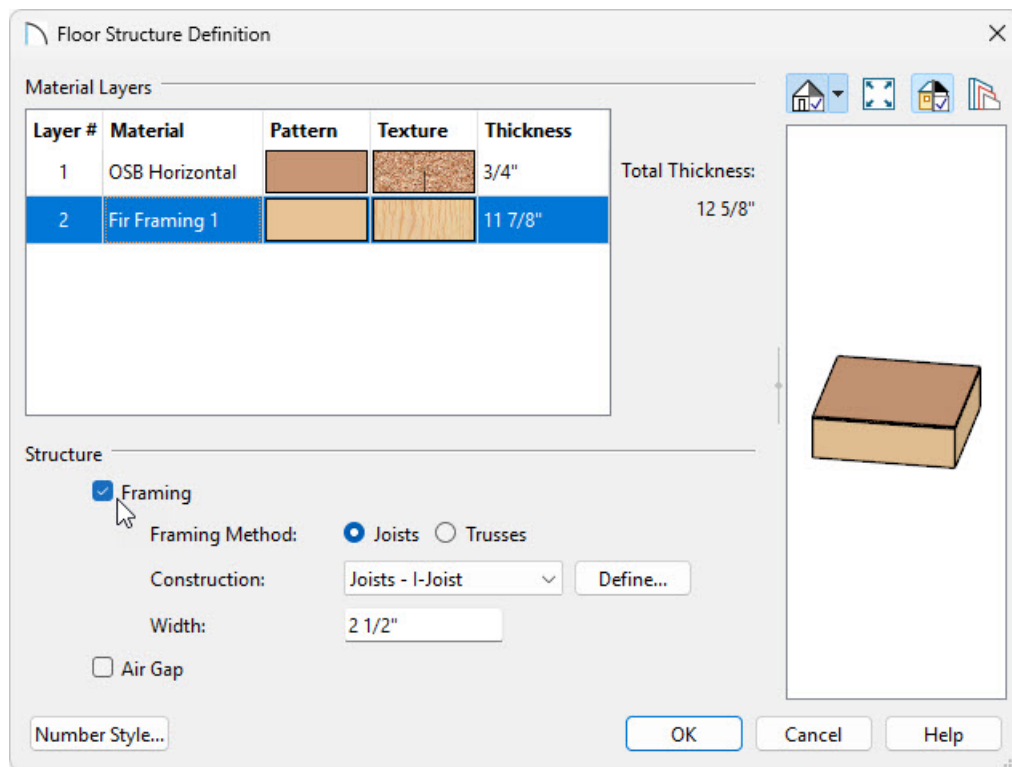
☒ Floor Under This Room
☐ Floor Supplied by the Foundation Room Below
☐ Monolithic Slab Foundation
☒ Build Foundation Below

Floor Finish: ☒ Default

On Structure Resize: ☒ Lock Floor Top ☐ Lock Floor Bottom

Floor Structure: ☒ Default

5. In the **Floor/Ceiling Structure Definitions** dialog(s), ensure that a framing layer is present with the **Framing** box checked, and that the correct **Thickness** is set.



Note: If floor and ceiling framing is not generating correctly for specific room types, an entire floor, or for the entire plan, it's possible that the Floor and Ceiling Structure were set incorrectly within the Default Settings. Navigate to Edit> Default Settings and expand the Floors and Rooms category to adjust the Floor and Ceiling Structure for the appropriate room type, floor level, or entire plan.

Changes made to the Floor and Ceiling Structure defaults are dynamic and will apply to the plan automatically as long as the "Default" box is checked in the Room Specification dialog for the Floor/Ceiling Structure setting(s).

- Click **OK** to confirm the changes, then navigate to **Build> Framing> Build Framing** to rebuild your floor and ceiling framing.

For more information on generating framing in Home Designer, please see the appropriate resource in the [Related Articles](#) section below.

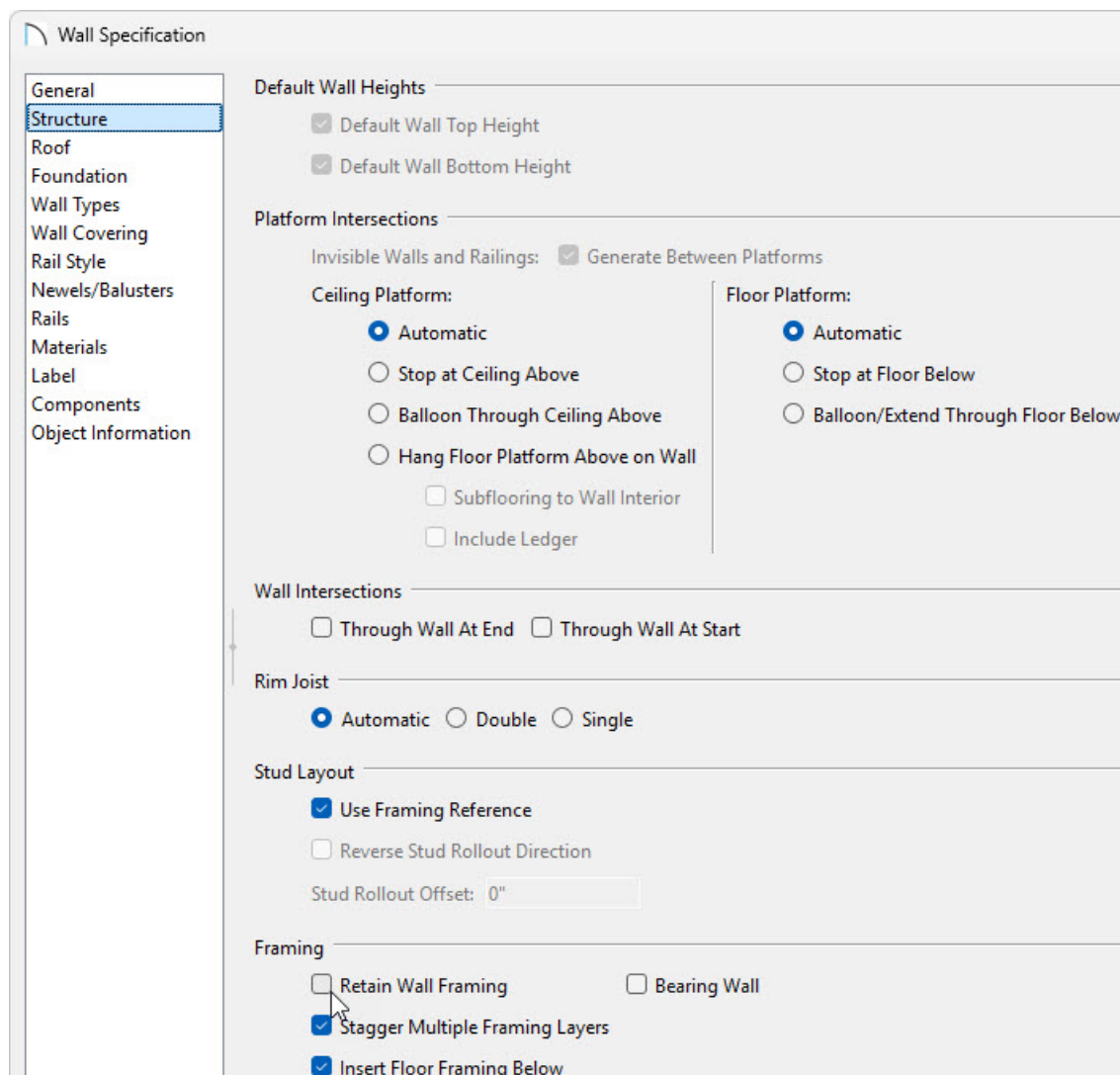
To ensure wall framing generates properly

- Using the **Select Objects** tool, select the wall that is not generating framing properly, then click the **Open Object** edit tool.

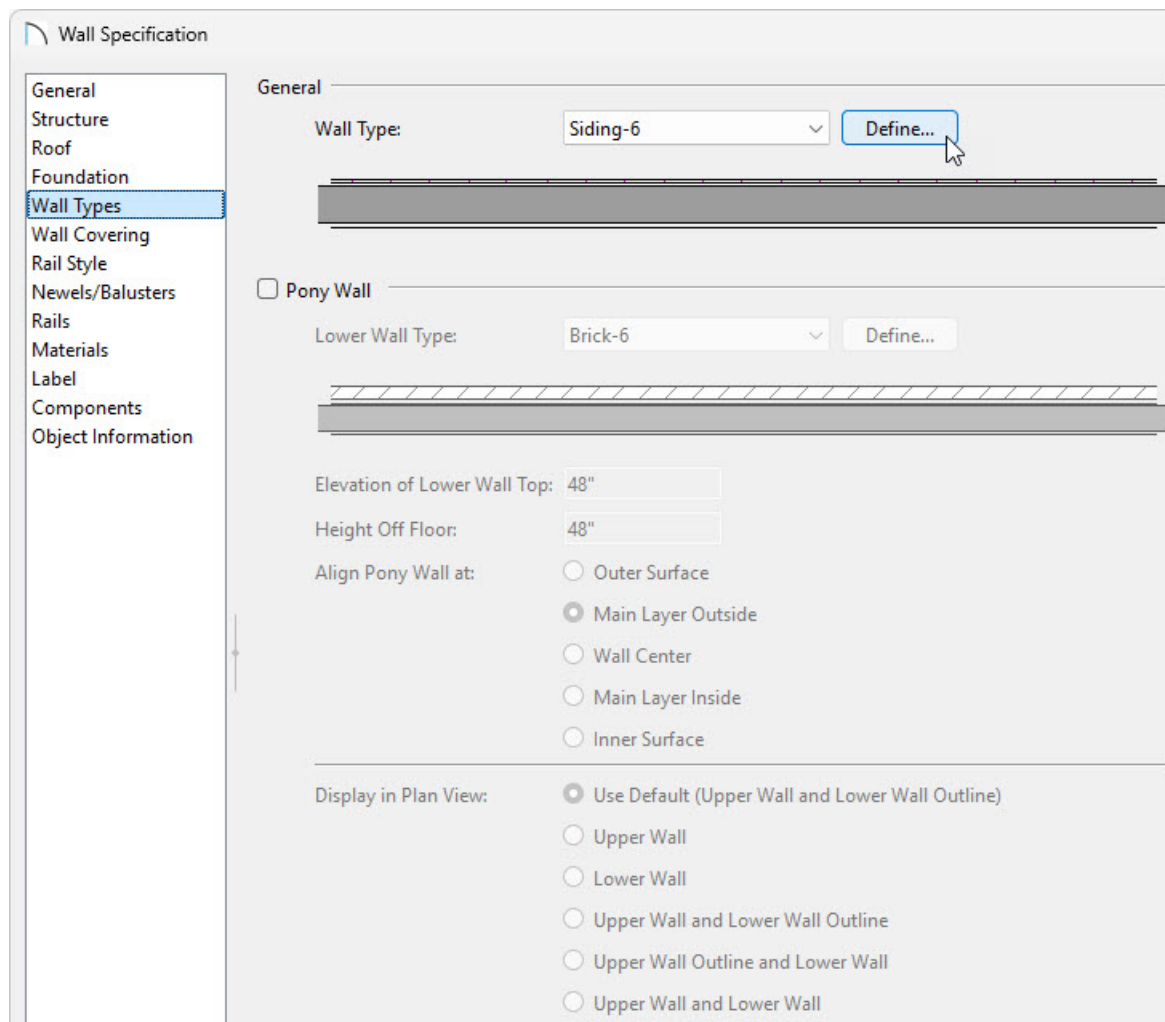
2. On the **STRUCTURE** panel of the **Wall Specification** dialog that opens, verify that **Retain Wall Framing** is not checked.

If this box is checked, the program will not update the framing for this particular wall when framing is rebuilt.

Retain Framing is also a checkbox you can find in a Roof Plane Specification. If you're having trouble with your roof framing not rebuilding, open your Roof Plane Specification, go to the Structure panel, and verify that Retain Roof Framing is not checked.



3. Switch to the **WALL TYPES** panel and click the **Define** button next to the Wall Type drop-down menu.



4. In the **Wall Type Definition** dialog that displays, select the framing layer of the wall and verify that the layer has the **Framing** box checked on the Material Properties tab or within the Material Layer section.

Wall Type Definitions

Siding-6 New Copy Rename Delete Delete All Unused

Wall Layers

Layer #	Line Color	Line Style	Weight	Material	Pattern	Texture	Fill	Thickness
Exterior Layers								
1			1	Fiber Siding ...				1/2"
2			1	Housewrap		Chief Arch		0"
3			1	OSB Horizontal				7/16"
Main Layers								
4			35	Fir Framing 2				5 1/2"
Interior Layers								
5			1	Drywall		No Texture		1/2"

Insert Above
Insert Below
Move Up
Move Down
Delete
Total Thickness: 6 15/16"

Material Properties Layer Properties Wall Properties

☒ Framing

Stud Construction: Wall Framing Define... ☐ Horizontal Framing

Stud Width: 1 1/2" 🔧 Bottom Run Elevation: 0" 🔧

Stud Spacing: 24" 🔧 On Center ☐ Max Girt Length: 144" 🔧

Top Plate Construction: Match Stud Default Define...

Top Plate Width: 1 1/2" 🔧

Top Plate Count: 2 🔧


Bottom Plate Construction: Match Stud Default Define...

Bottom Plate Width: 1 1/2" 🔧

Bottom Plate Count: 1 🔧



☐ Max Plate Length: 144" 🔧

☐ Air Gap

- Click **OK** on both dialogs to confirm the changes, then navigate to **Build> Framing> Build Framing**  to rebuild your wall framing.

ADVANCED TROUBLESHOOTING

If framing still fails to build after following all of the steps above, then please contact Chief Architect Technical Support using the Technical Support Center.

- If the issue only seems to occur in one particular file, use the **Export Plan/Layout as Project**  tool, **Backup Entire Plan/Layout**  tool, or one of the other supported Export functions to create a backup of your project with all referenced files.

See Knowledge Base article: [Exporting Projects and Disconnected Files](https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-03212/exporting-)

(<https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-03212/exporting->

[projects-and-disconnected-files.html](#)).

See Knowledge Base article: [Using the Backup Entire Plan/Layout Tool](#)
(<https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-00987/using-the-backup-entire-plan-layout-tool-to-send-files-to-another-user.html>).

2. Sign in to the [Technical Support Center](https://support.chiefarchitect.com/) (<https://support.chiefarchitect.com/>) and create a new support case to send to Technical Support.

See Knowledge Base article: [Using the Technical Support Center](#)
(<https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-00717/using-the-technical-support-center.html>).


3. Give the case a short but descriptive title.


In the text of the case, type a detailed description of the problem. The more detailed you are, the more likely we will be to reproduce the issue and identify the problem.

Click the **Browse** button and attach your project to your case, then **Submit** it.

Related Articles

 [Deleting Framing \(/support/article/KB-00197/deleting-framing.html\)](/support/article/KB-00197/deleting-framing.html)

 [Generating Framing in Home Designer \(/support/article/KB-00462/generating-framing-in-home-designer.html\)](/support/article/KB-00462/generating-framing-in-home-designer.html)

 [Manually Drawing Framing Members \(/support/article/KB-00727/manually-drawing-framing-members.html\)](/support/article/KB-00727/manually-drawing-framing-members.html)