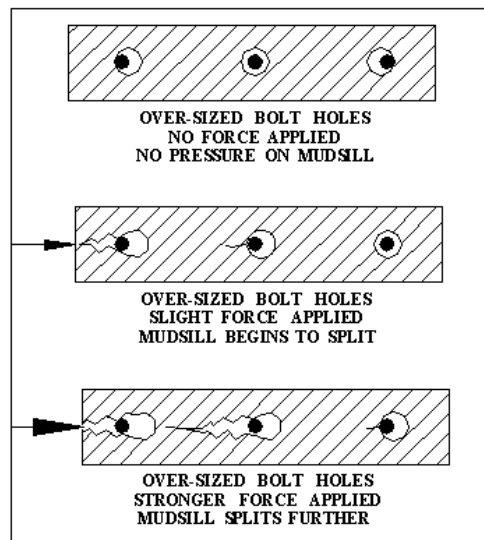


Oversized Holes

Most homes that are bolted to the foundation are installed in holes that greatly exceed the 1/16 of an inch tolerance allowed by the International Building Code. This weakness greatly diminishes the bolts' ability to function properly in an earthquake and causes the mudsill to split. Tests have shown that this structural deficiency can weaken a bolt connection by over 50%. In addition, these older bolts use round-cut washers that are no longer permitted. Instead, large plate steel washers are used based on observed damage after the Northridge Earthquake. This makes additional bolting necessary in many newer homes.



Mudsills split when they have oversized holes.

