

over to the other rim joist. Draw Xs on the other joist, as well. Separate the joists and remove the nails.

Step B: Assemble & Square the Frame

1. Check the two end joists for crowning, then nail them between the rim joists so their outside faces are flush with the rim joist ends and the top edges are flush. Drive two 16d galvanized common nails through the rim joists and into the ends of the end joists, positioning the nails about $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the top and bottom edges.

2. Install the remaining joists, making sure the crowned edges are facing up.

3. Check the frame for squareness by measuring diagonally from corner to corner: when the measurements are equal, the frame is square. To adjust the frame, apply inward pressure to the corners with the longer measurement.

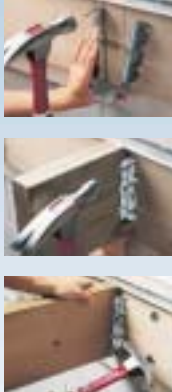
4. If you're building the floor over skids, secure each joist to the outside skids with a metal anchor and toenail the joists to the internal skid(s) with 16d galvanized nails.

Step C: Install the Plywood Floor

1. Lay a full sheet of $\frac{3}{4}$ " tongue-and-groove exterior-grade plywood over the

TIP: INSTALLING JOIST HANGERS

Mark the joist layout onto the header or beam and use a square to draw parallel lines that represent the outer edges of the joist. Position the hanger with one side flush to a joist outline, and fasten it with joist hanger nails ($1\frac{1}{2}$ " or 10d or 16d galvanized common nails (top). Using a scrap piece of joist as a spacer, close the hanger around the spacer. Check the position of the spacer's top edge, then nail the free side of the hanger in place (middle). To install the joist, set it completely into the hanger and fasten it through the hanger holes with joist hanger nails (bottom).



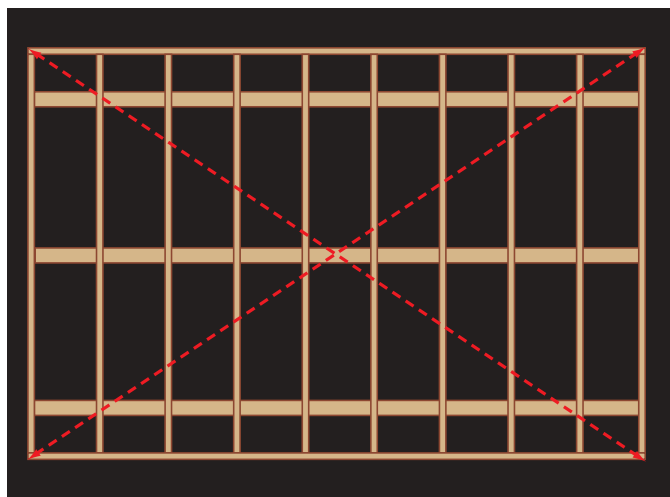
frame so the groove side is flush with a rim joist and one end is flush with an end joist. Fasten the plywood to the joists with 8d galvanized nails driven every 6" along the edges and every 8" in the field of the sheet. Do not nail along the tongue edge until the next row of plywood is in place.

2. Cut the second piece to fit next to the first, allowing for a $\frac{1}{8}$ " gap between the sheets. Install the second sheet with

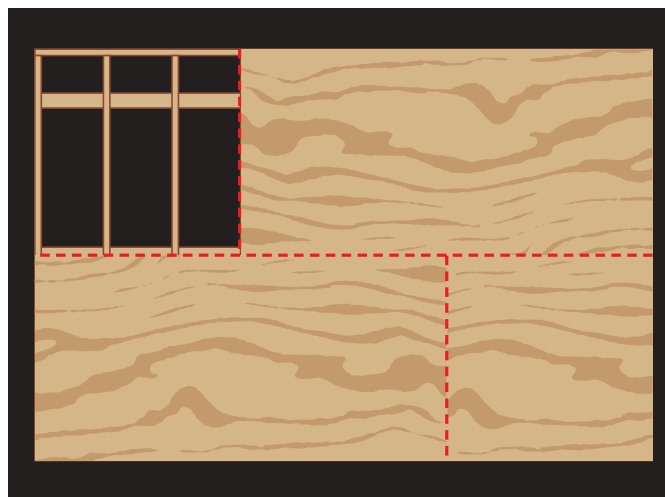
its outside edges flush with the frame.

3. Start the next row with a full sheet (ripped to width, if necessary). Install the sheet starting from the corner opposite the first sheet, so the joints between rows are offset. Make sure the tongue-and-groove joint is tight; if necessary, use a wood block and a sledgehammer to close the joint.

4. Cut and install the remaining piece of plywood.



B. Measure diagonally from corner to corner: if the measurements are equal, the frame is square.



C. Install the plywood perpendicular to the joists. Start each row with a full sheet and stagger the end-joints between rows.