

Interior Light Gauge Metal Stud Framing JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A framing crew will install non-load-bearing light-gauge metal tracks and studs for an interior ground-floor partition. Overhead track work uses a suitable protected work platform. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- Partition layout, anchorage and overhead service clearance are released before fastening.
- Studs are cut at a guarded designated station with the appropriate cold-cutting equipment.
- Structural cold-formed framing, elevated exterior work, drywall hanging and powder-actuated fastening are excluded.

Questions before work

- What establishes permitted anchor locations near concealed services?
- Which cutting and fastening equipment suits this stud system?
- How will the partly assembled partition remain stable?

Task Hazard Control

1 Release the partition layout

Hazard: Anchors can strike services or conflict with a required building movement detail.

Control: Foreperson confirms the partition design, fixing locations and service investigation. Mark permitted drilling and depth and refer uncertain substrate or movement details before work.

Verification: Installer compares the layout with the released drawing and service information.

Reasoning: A nonstructural wall still depends on correct anchorage and interfaces.

2 Stage metal components

Hazard: Sharp edges and springing bundles can cut or strike workers.

Control: Store tracks and studs on stable supports, open bundles under control and use assessed hand and eye protection. Keep long members out of occupied walkways and separate scrap.

Verification: Material lead checks restraint, access and exposed edges.

Reasoning: Thin metal can have severe cutting edges.

3 Cut at the designated station

Hazard: A moving blade, flying chips or unsupported stock can injure the operator.

Control: Use inspected guarded cutting equipment approved for the material, support and secure the stud as instructed, and keep hands outside the cutting path. Control sparks or fragments according to the selected method.

Verification: Operator verifies blade, guard and support before cutting.

Reasoning: Wood-saw practice does not automatically suit thin metal.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Fix tracks from protected access

Hazard: Falls, dropped tools and anchor drilling exposure can injure the crew.

Control: Use the selected work platform for overhead track fixing; protect workers below. Drill only released locations with the applicable dust controls and use the specified fasteners; do not stand on a loose stud or improvised support.

Verification: Foreperson checks access and fixing locations before overhead work.

Reasoning: Safe access and permitted drilling are separate checks.

5 Install and restrain studs

Hazard: An unsupported assembly can tip; screws can puncture fingers or protrude into access.

Control: Install studs and required temporary restraint in the planned sequence. Keep hands out of fastening paths and complete specified track connections before the partition is used by the next crew.

Verification: Lead verifies stability as each section is assembled.

Reasoning: The unfinished wall may need restraint before sheathing adds stiffness.

6 Hand over the partition

Hazard: Unfinished anchorage or sharp offcuts can expose drywall installers.

Control: Remove scrap and sharp debris, mark unfinished fixing and communicate movement-head details that must remain functional. Release the partition only after the designated anchorage and stability check.

Verification: Receiving drywall lead confirms the wall status and restrictions.

Reasoning: Drywall handover must not hide incomplete framing work.

Pause and reassess

- Unexpected service, unsuitable substrate or changed anchorage.
- Guarded cutting or safe overhead access cannot be maintained.
- Stud stability, movement details or unfinished fixing is unresolved.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Work carefully and wear PPE.

More useful: Use inspected guarded cutting equipment approved for the material, support and secure the stud as instructed, and keep hands outside the cutting path. Control sparks or fragments according to the selected method.

Needs improvement: Check that everything is ready.

More useful: Foreperson confirms the partition design, fixing locations and service investigation. Mark permitted drilling and depth and refer uncertain substrate or movement details before work.

Decisions that change the analysis

Does the existing drywall JHA include metal framing?

No. It starts with board installation in a prepared room. This example covers sharp metal stock, cutting, track anchorage and stability before the drywall crew receives the partition.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Identify the actual equipment and work boundaries, responsible people, applicable criteria, inspection findings and open actions. Resolve changes with affected crews and obtain required project authorization before work.

Training needs

- Actual metal cutting and fastening equipment, sharp-edge handling and partition stability.
- Suitable platform or lift instruction and silica controls for applicable anchor drilling.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

References and adaptation

OSHA 1926.300 Hand and power tools

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.300>

OSHA 1926.501 Duty to have fall protection

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.501>

OSHA 1926.21 Safety training and education

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.21>

References reviewed October 9, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This instructional example supplies no actual inspection results, signatures or work approval.