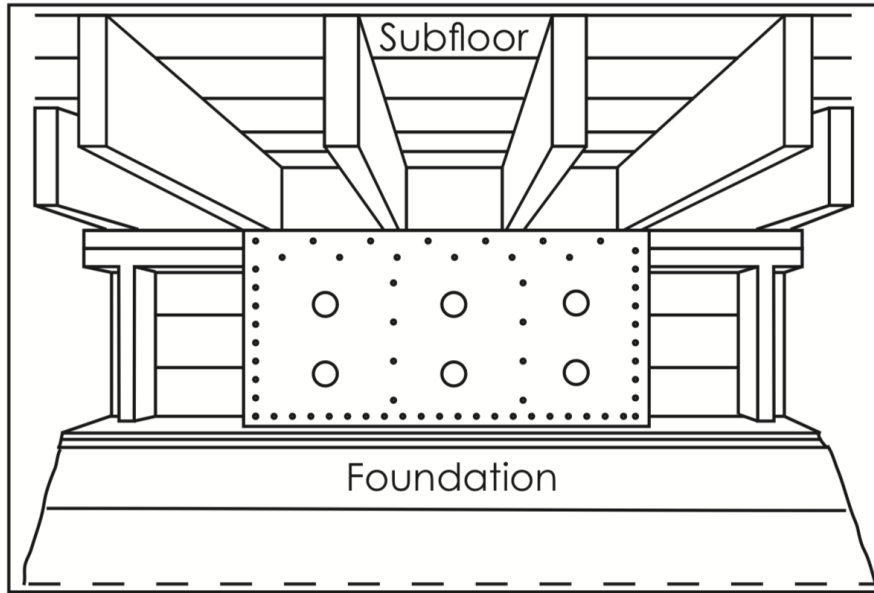


## What is a Cripple Wall?

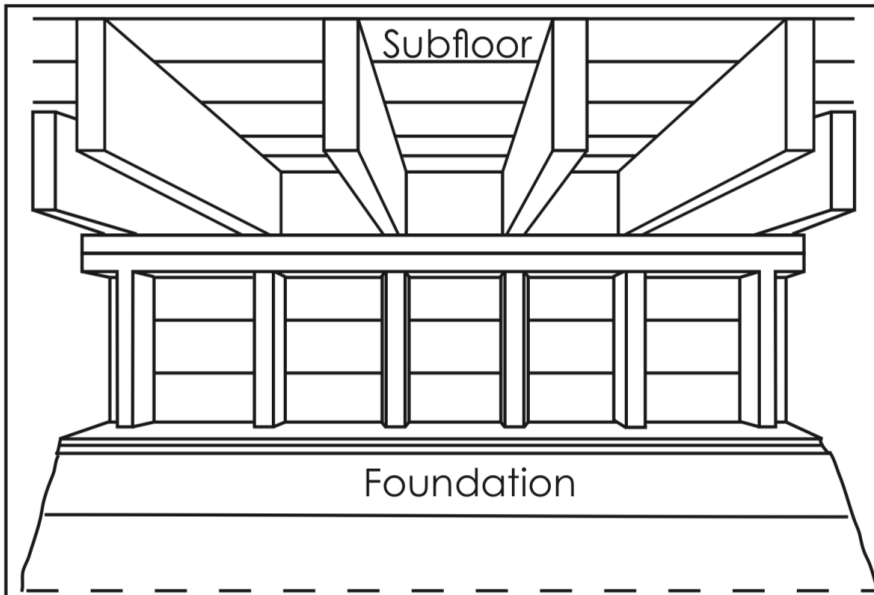
Cripple walls are the short wood stud walls that enclose a crawl space under the first floor. Cripple walls are used to support a dwelling between the concrete foundation and the floor of a dwelling and to elevate the dwelling above ground to allow access to the utility lines or to level a dwelling built on a slope. Crawl space is the area created underneath the floor. The height of a cripple wall generally ranges from 14 inches to 4 feet. Typically, buildings with a “cripple wall” have 3 or more steps to the first floor. Cripple walls are typically found on dwellings built prior to 1960.

Many newer dwellings utilize concrete perimeter walls to elevate or level the dwelling. These are not cripple walls. A dwelling built on a flat concrete slab without a crawl space beneath it will not have cripple walls.

CRIPPLE WALL WITH BRACING

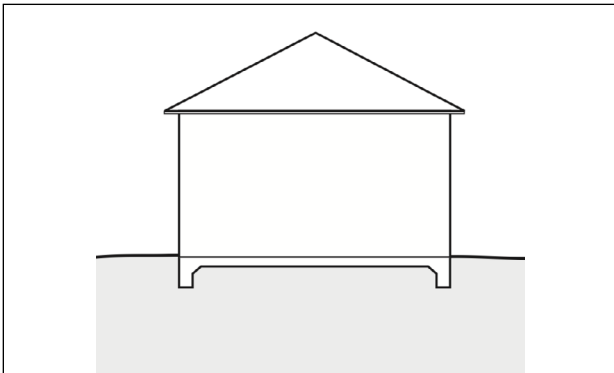


CRIPPLE WALL WITHOUT BRACING



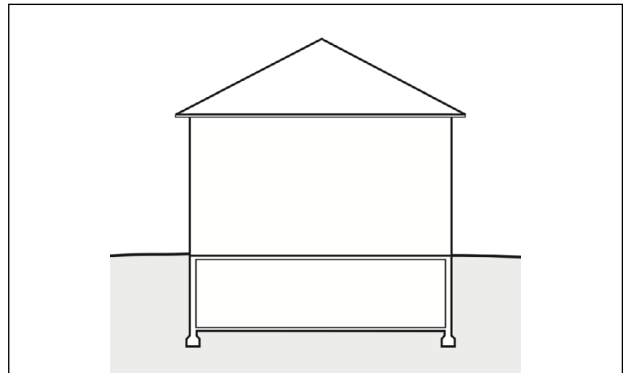
# Foundation Information

**FOUNDATION: SLAB**



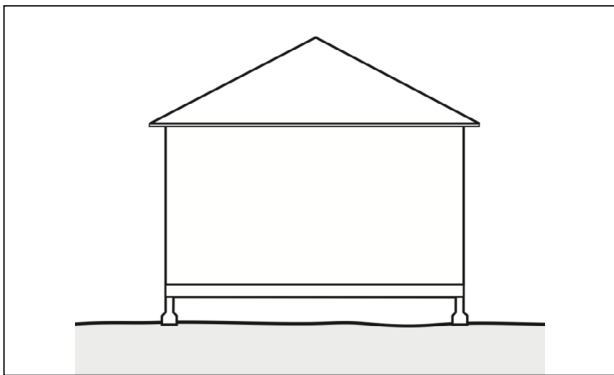
A slab foundation is where the dwelling is built upon a continuous cement surface.

**FOUNDATION: BASEMENT**



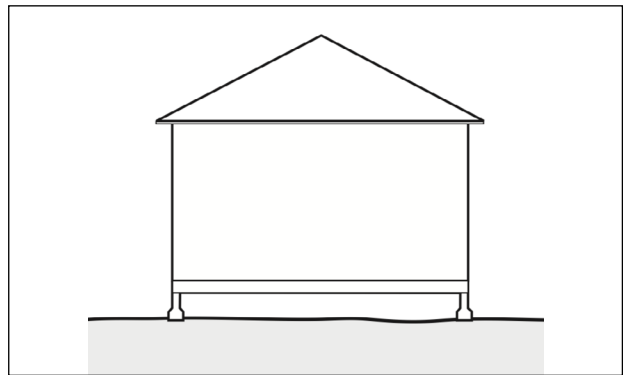
The dwelling is built directly on a concrete basement foundation providing living space below the dwelling, partially or fully below ground level.

**FOUNDATION: CRAWLSPACE**



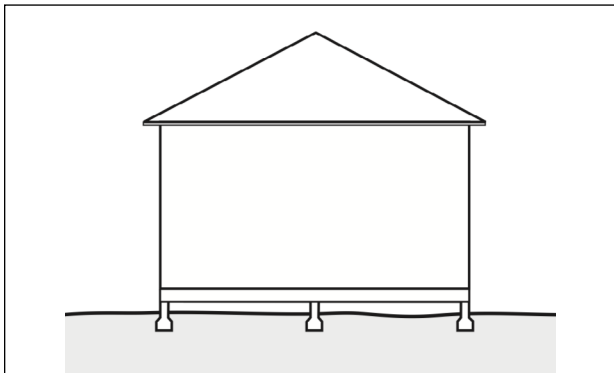
**Crawl space with closed concrete perimeter foundations** are also known as continuous (stem wall) foundations.

**FOUNDATION: CRAWLSPACE**



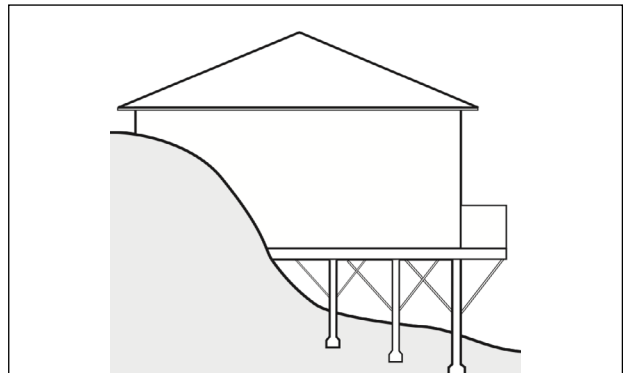
**Crawl space with wooden perimeter** may have a small, wood- frame wall that surrounds the crawl space between the flooring of the dwelling and the foundation, also known as a cripple wall.

**FOUNDATION: POST & PIERS**



Made of wood posts supporting the dwelling structure along its perimeter walls. The wood posts are set on top of individual concrete pier pads or blocks.

**FOUNDATION: CAISSONS**



A shaft of concrete placed under a building column or wall and extending down to hardpan or rock.

# Slope Definitions

