

**Allegany County Division of Permits  
and Land Development Services  
Residential Information Graphic #71  
March 7, 2001**

## LATERAL SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR BEARING MASONRY WALLS (with stable and well drained soil)

Provide supports at maximum distance either vertically or horizontally – methods to use working vertically are cross walls, pilasters, buttresses, structural frame members – methods working horizontally are floor systems and roof structures properly fastened, known as diaphragms

RATIO -- Length to thickness or height to thickness:	Solid or solid grouted	=	20
	All Other	=	18

### Wall Width

### Max. Wall Length if Bracing is Vertical

### Max. Wall Height if Bracing is Horizontal

*Hollow Core Block Walls:*

### Formula

8"	(.67 x 18 = 12)	12"
10"	(.833 x 18 = 15)	15"
12"	(1 x 18 = 18)	18"
16"	(1.33 x 18 = 24)	24"

*Fully Grouted Block and Plain Concrete Walls:*

8"	(.67 x 20 = 13.4)	13.4'
10"	(.833 x 20 = 16.7)	16.7'
12"	(1 x 20 = 20)	20'
16"	(1.33 x 20 = 26.67)	26.7'